



Calmore Infant School

Spring Newsletter – Friday 10th January 2025

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See Diary of Events on school website, parent tab, Calendar of Events



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Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back for the Spring Term. We hope that you had a good holiday with your children, we have noticed how settled and well behaved they have been coming back to school. Thank you for your support in making sure they are in school on time.

You may have noticed the stage being built in the playground, over the old sandpit. This has been undertaken in order to encourage the children to create their own plays and narratives. This is part of our school improvement plan of improving 'Oracy' (spoken language) in school, learning through and learning to talk.

We hope that the stage provides an additional opportunity to develop children's confidence with speaking and listening. We are grateful for the support of the FCIS in helping us to apply for grants and fundraise to complete this work.

RSPB Schools Bird Watch

Mrs Richman has spoken to the children about the national RSPB Bird Watch that is taking place. We would love the children to have a try doing this at home and join in with some of the activities that we will send out with the newsletter. Please do not forget to send in photographs of the children doing these activities at home for our noticeboards in school.



Tax Free Childcare

Did you know that there is a lot of support available to reduce the cost of your childcare? For more information look on the childcare choices website to see the support available.

This can be used to fund Flamingo after school club and holiday care.

If you are a working parent, you can get a £2 top up for every £8 that you pay for childcare.



Supporting Families at Home

We have noticed a massive increase in the number of families requesting support for their child's behaviour at home. Whilst we do what we can to support families, we know that there is help available from professionals whose role is to do that solely and as a school we cannot do it all!

We are able to refer to several agencies for support. We have a mental health practitioner via our educational psychology service. To get advice from our mental health practitioner please speak to us.

Youth and Family Matters, YFM

Please speak to us or visit the YFM Website

<https://www.youthandfamiliesmatter.org.uk/group-work>

To look for groups that will support with behaviour, see the following link for managing your child's angry behaviour.

<https://www.youthandfamiliesmatter.org.uk/courses>

There are also support via the Barnado's courses:

<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/get-support/services/hampshire-healthy-families-0-19>

Other services that support include:

Hampshire Healthy Families

There is a dedicated website and support service.

<https://www.hampshirehealthyfamilies.org.uk/>

ChatHealth 5-19

<https://www.hampshirehealthyfamilies.org.uk/chathealth#chathealth>

The school nursing team supports parents with questions relating to a wide range of health and wellbeing issues including healthy lifestyles, toileting, behaviour, sleep, emotional wellbeing and health conditions. As well as giving advice, the team can signpost to appropriate services and other support.

Parents are able to request to see a school nurse face to face or receive support via a telephone call. Please text the number below for more information:

Text: 07507 332417



Water Bottles:

We have spoken to the children about making sure they do not have a large 'Stanley Cup' style water bottle in school.



As you can imagine, space is limited and we cannot fit 30 large bottles easily. They are also very heavy for 4-7 year olds to handle safely. The children have been really sensible about this.

We also know how expensive these bottles are and the additional peer pressure it puts on families and children, so hope that this helps the families that have spoken to us.

Well Done Certificates and Thank you Stars:



Ducklings : Leo, Mia & Jaxson

Penguins : George, Joseph & Orla

Owls: Sophie & David L

Goldfinches : Harry W, Lottie & Olivia

Robins : Rexy, Elsie & Cadence

Swallows : Paige, Sidney & Harrison



Biscuit Break Winners: The class with the best attendance this week was Owls with 99.2%.

They really enjoyed their biscuits. Well done Owls class!

Next week we have an Artist working in school. We will be working together on a whole school sculpture project and look forward to sharing the pictures with you after he finishes on Tuesday.

Have a good weekend, we look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Mrs Willes and Mrs Weaver

Message from the Junior School:

Miss Ingram, Head teacher at Calmore Junior School has asked us to add a weekly section to our newsletter to let you know what is happening in the Juniors.

We hope that this will help with transition to Junior School.

Here is our first weekly update:



Meanwhile at the Junior School.....

Year 5 have begun their swimming lessons at Totton Recreation Centre. It was a very chilly walk to the centre but all of the children enjoyed their first session and overcame some fears.

20 children have also had Young Leader training from staff at Testwood School. Young Leaders play a vital role at lunchtimes in supporting other children and teaching them new games to play. In the summer, they will be supporting the Infant School pupils at lunchtime too.

Year 4 have begun this term's Listen to Me. They are learning to play Samba drums. They all loved it....I am not sure the teachers did quite as much! Note to self....need to buy earplugs!

All year groups will start their new units of learning next week with their entry points.

Kind regards,

Cathy Ingram