



# Ducklings and Penguins Newsletter - Spring 2



We hope all the children had an enjoyable week off and we welcome them back for the second half of our Spring term.

This half-term is exciting, as it is full of the promise of longer and brighter days as we transition from winter to spring.

It is hard to believe that your children have been in school for 6 months - They are learning new things daily!

## Focus on Maths

Here at Calmore, we teach maths in a fun and practical way. We have four adult-led maths sessions a week. Each of these sessions start with a mental maths warm-up where we focus on counting, shape and time problems. We split into groups for our maths activities, and take turns to work with a teacher, an LSA or independently.

We focus on building a secure knowledge of numbers to 10 and understanding the value and composition of those numbers. We use this foundation to explore numbers beyond 20 and begin to solve mathematical problems.

Maths happens throughout all other areas of our learning too! We weigh and measure out our ingredients when preparing for cooking. We look at ways to solve problems and challenges when game playing. We add and subtract at snack time and teach the children how to share, halve and double when sharing toys. We are always thinking about number, pattern and shape!



## New Life



Our theme for this term is New Life. As the days become lighter and longer, we will be talking to the children about Spring, and new life. We are so excited to be going on our first school trip to Hillier Gardens to take our Forest Friday learning beyond the school grounds! We will be thinking about eggs and have a number of egg themed stories and egg-citing activities up our sleeves. We will finish off the half term thinking about the Easter Story and what it means to us!

Thanks for your support

The Year R Team

## Diary Dates for Spring Term:

\*Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February: First Day back - Spring 2

\*The week of 17<sup>th</sup> March - 21<sup>st</sup> March: Parents Evenings

\*Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Year R trip to Hillier Gardens

\* Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1.45 - 2.45: Year R Easter Workshops - parents and carers of Year R children are invited in to come and join in with their child in some Easter-themed activities (please see further details in separate letter)

\*Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April: Last day of term

## Reminders

### PE Days

Our PE days continue to be Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please make sure children wear their PE kits to school on these days. May we remind you that PE kits need to be clothes children can comfortable to move around in. **Please no skirts/dresses or tights on PE days!** Ensure you're your child is wearing shorts, jogging bottoms or leggings.

We ask that long hair is tied back and earrings are removed or taped up. The only earrings permitted in school are studs - no hoops or dangly earrings.

### Library Day

Our library day continues to be on a Monday. Please ensure children have their library book in school this day.

### Reading Folders

Please make sure you are hearing your child reading their school reading book at least 3 times a week. It makes a huge impact on the progress they make and we appreciate your support in this.

**Reading folders must be in school every day.**

Thank you

## Reading

Thank you to all parents who are reading regularly with their child.

We have a number of children who have nothing in their reading diary to show that they are reading regularly. Please can you check your child's yellow reading folder - they will either have a reading book, a ditty sheet or a sound blending book to read alongside a small booklet of sounds. Please share these with your child and sign in the diary to show that you have helped your child to practise at home.

If any parents are interested in coming in to school to hear readers we would really appreciate your support. You would need to complete a DBS which our office ladies can help you with.