



Calow Church of England (V.C.) Primary School

Newsletter

'Aiming High

Together'

September 2011

Issue 74

School Website: <http://calowschool.createprimary.net/>

It's been a very busy Summer!

During the six weeks' holiday lots of things have been happening in School! A 'Butterfly House' has been installed in the School grounds (see picture opposite) so that pupils will be able to follow the progress of varying species of butterflies. New P.E. large apparatus has been fitted in the hall to enhance the quality of pupils' apparatus work. Six new 'state of the art' computers and projectors have been purchased and installed. Additional finger guards have been fitted to various doors in School to maximise safety for children. Improvements have been carried out to buildings such as the boiler house and to School security. A new notice board has been erected close to the main entrance of the School building. The board by the pedestrian gate will now be used for community notices.

During the holidays Miss Drabble got married and is now Mrs. McDonald. We wish her and her husband every happiness together. Congratulations are also extended to Mr. and Mrs. Freeman who have a baby daughter. Mrs. Freeman hopes to return to work after Christmas. Mrs. Jones is currently providing maternity cover.

Communication with Parents

Calow Primary communicates with parents in several ways including letters and newsletters. In addition, information is put on the Parent Hotline including special announcements and emergency messages. To access the Hotline, telephone 08447 70 75 76 and input the School ID number 66125. The Hotline number may be shared with others who pick your child up from School, enabling them to access relevant information. The School also sends email messages on a range of topics. This is particularly useful when there are documents that would not ordinarily be sent out because photocopying for 200 families is not cost effective e.g. parents who have email addresses were sent the revised School Prospectus comprising of 22 pages in full colour! Please ensure the School Office has your email address and then you won't miss out!

School Council Polling Day

The views of pupils are taken very seriously at Calow Primary. Two pupils from each year group are elected to the School Council to represent their class for the year. The Council is consulted on a range of issues and has a significant input in some of the decisions made in School. The polling day to elect members of the School Council is Friday 23rd September. The work of last year's School Council was recognised in the form of a certificate from the Speaker of the House of Commons as part of his awards scheme for School Councils across the nation.

Community News

The Institution and Induction Service for the Reverend Kevin Ball, newly appointed Rector for Calow, is Monday 19th September at St. Peter's Church. Father Kevin is now a Governor of the School and will be leading Collective Worship in School each Wednesday. Representatives of Severn Trent Water Authority will be in School on 28th September to talk with children during Assembly about water safety. They will then work with Classes Four and Five that morning. The M.A.S.T. team (Matlock Area Schools' Trust) will continue to lead Collective Worship from time to time. The children particularly enjoy Mr. Fentem's story telling through magic and Mr. and Mrs. Briddon's Bible stories using puppets.

The Chair of North East Derbyshire District Council, Councillor Brian Wright, will be visiting School on 14th October to talk with Year Six pupils as part of Local Democracy Week. County Councillor David Chapman will also be visiting that week.

Review of the School Aims

At the beginning of each new academic year the School Aims are reviewed. This is to ensure that our aims are up to date, relevant and reflect what we think is important for the education of all children at Calow Primary. In reviewing our aims we carry out consultation with a range of stakeholders including staff and Governors. Parents/Guardians are part of the review process. As such, we are interested in your feedback on the School Aims, which are printed on the reverse of this newsletter. Please let Mr. Thacker have your comments by Friday 16th September at the latest.

Just a reminder!

Children in Key Stage Two are able to purchase an item of fruit or vegetable on a daily basis from our School's Healthy Tuck Shop. Key Stage One pupils receive a piece of fruit each morning for free as part of a national initiative.





Aims of the School

Our School aims to serve its community by providing a high standard of education for every pupil in partnership with home and church within a context of Christian belief and practice.

School aims for children to be able to:

- Develop a lively enquiring mind through an environment which fosters enthusiasm, curiosity, the ability to observe, question and discuss.
- Read with understanding material appropriate to their ability. To develop a love of reading and an early awareness of its purpose as a means of finding information, retrieving previously known facts, receiving messages and above all as a source of pleasure.
- Convey meaning clearly and accurately through speech and be able to listen and observe with concentration and understanding.
- Achieve basic Literacy skills appropriate to their own level and be able to write for a variety of purposes and audiences.
- Achieve basic Numeracy skills appropriate to their own level and be able to apply them to solve problems and real life situations.
- Express themselves through various art forms e.g. painting, music, drama and movement and generally develop an aesthetic awareness.
- Develop an ability to observe explore and ask questions about living things, materials and phenomena.
- Use I.C.T. to find, explore, analyse, exchange and present information in a number of ways.
- Have an understanding of how their bodies work, recognize the importance of a healthy lifestyle and experience a wide range of physical skills and activities.
- Develop awareness of values and social skills, sharing concern for other people, while developing self-discipline, high standards of behaviour and endeavour, and positive attitudes towards themselves and others.
- Develop an awareness, understanding and respect for the local, national and global environment.
- Develop moral values based on Christian ideals, including relationships based on tolerance and consideration of other religious beliefs and cultures.
- Develop confidence in their capacity to learn and work independently and collaboratively.

These aims are the heart of our every day work and are achieved in an environment of praise and recognition.

By taking in to account the needs of individuals and fostering an environment where individuals are valued, feel secure and have a sense of inclusive community.