



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

'Aiming High

Together'

Newsletter

December 2015

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

Installation of Young Bishop

Calow Primary has always supported the age old tradition of the Parish's Boy Bishop. This year, for the first time ever, a girl has been elected to the role. The successful pupil is Kiera Smedley, who will be known as the Young Bishop. She was installed by the Reverend Kevin Ball at a ceremony in School on 4th December. There will be several duties carried out by the Young Bishop over the coming months. However, her first was to attend the blessing of the memorial in the School grounds in remembrance of Senior Mid-day Supervisor Mrs. Pat Hardy, in the presence of members of Pat's family.

Calow Primary twinned with Kaohsiung City, Taiwan!

Our School has developed a twinning link with a school in Kaohsiung City in south-west Taiwan. The city has a population of nearly three million people! Main landmarks of Kaohsiung city include the Tuntex Sky Tower and the ferris wheel of the Kaohsiung Dream Mall. Natural attractions include Shoushan (Monkey Mountain) and the Yushan National Park at the northeastern tip of the city. Calow Primary is delighted to be chosen as the partner to School Number 488. We have already received the first batch of letters for children in Years One to Six. We are now working on responses, which will be sent in due course. The pupils from the Taiwanese school have recently sent a video message to us, which can be viewed via the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqyJkXbSP-E> We are sure you will agree that this exciting project is a wonderful way to learn about another country and form new friendships.



Year Five Pupils Perform 2gether!

Year Five pupils have been involved in a singing project organised by the Derby and Derbyshire Music partnership. Our pupils joined with others from two schools in Chesterfield to perform at County Offices in Matlock. Their hard work over a number of weeks paid off with the children providing an excellent rendition of five songs for a very appreciative audience.

Attendance

The Governing Body set a target of 96% for pupils' attendance (schools should set a minimum of 94%). For Autumn Term One class figures are: Reception – 97%; Class 1 – 97%; Class 2- 96%; Class 3 – 98%; Class 4 – 98%; Class 5 – 98%; Class 6 – 96%. Parents are reminded of their duty to ensure children are on time for School, which **starts** at 8.55 a.m. The Governors wish to thank the vast majority of parents who get their children to School on time!

Applications for a School Place – Don't Miss Out!

If your child was born between 1st September 2011 and 31st August 2012 your child will be eligible to start School in September 2016. You can apply for a place online between Monday 16th November 2015 and midnight on Wednesday 15th January 2016. You can apply by telephone by contacting Call Derbyshire on 01629 533190 or apply by post but you need to request a paper form by emailing admissions.transport@derbyshire.gov.uk or ringing 01629 537499.

NAHT Aspire Programme

The National Association of Headteachers (NAHT) has produced a programme in partnership with Edison Learning to accelerate pupils' learning. This fast learning programme has already been implemented in classes on a daily basis for spellings and mathematical number facts. The children are very positive about the programme and are working to beat their personal best scores! We are also in the process of reviewing the School Calculations Policy. A copy will be sent via email to parents for their comments. Please let the school office know if you need to update your email address.

School closes at home time on Friday 18th December and opens on Monday 4th January, 2016.

Reminder: School has several times asked parents to park in a considerate way when dropping off or collecting their child. While we are grateful to those who do so, we are aware of dangerous parking by a minority. Alternative parking space can be found on Central Avenue or on side streets nearby. Please support Calow Primary by making sure that everyone parks in a safe way so we don't put our children in danger!