



'Aiming High
Together'

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

Newsletter

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

Sport Relief Generosity!

Sport Relief is a charity event from Comic Relief, which brings together the worlds of sport and entertainment to raise money to help vulnerable people in the UK and the world's poorest countries. Our Sport Relief Day during March was a fantastic event for all children (Neve is pictured participating in an obstacle course). We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of everyone and an amazing £1000 has been raised! Thank you very much for your kind support for those less fortunate.

Sports' Stars visit Calow Primary

Ritchie Humphreys visited School during March. Ritchie is a professional footballer who plays for Chesterfield. He is chairman of the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA). Ritchie started his career with Sheffield Wednesday in 1996 and has also won five caps for England at under-20 and under-21 levels. During his visit to Calow Primary, Ritchie spent time answering pupils' questions about his career. He then listened to some children read as part of the School's promoting reading programme.

Martin Mansell has been involved in disability sport since 1975. First as a competitor (last games 1988 Seoul Olympics in which he won 1 gold medal, 2 silver and 1 bronze for swimming) and later as a coach. In 1990 he was appointed as one of the first Professional Sports Development Officers for People with Disabilities within a Local Education Authority in England. He has been Chair of the British Paralympic Association Athletes' Committee and the International Paralympic Athletes' Commission and was a Director of the British Paralympic Association. Martin spent time with each class teaching them how to play the sport of boccia. He also shared inspirational stories about his time in the Paralympics.

E-safety for pupils

Safety of children when they are using electronic means of communication is paramount. You will be aware of difficulties that arise when children use emails, social networking sites and so on. Governors will shortly be considering the School's Policy for Safeguarding following a consultation process, which included invited comments from parents. The final version will be available on our School website. The Governing Body has appointed Mrs. Pattison (a community governor) as the designated E-safety Governor. For further information about e-safety you may also wish to visit the website www.parentsonlinesafety.com

Key Stage One Phonics Screening – Information for Parents

From an early stage, children develop an awareness of different sounds in spoken language. They develop an understanding that spoken words are made up of different sounds (phonemes) and learn to match these phonemes to letters (graphemes). Phonics is about children knowing how letters link to sounds (graphemes to phonemes), e.g. c as in 'cat', ll as in 'fell', ee as in 'sheep'. All children in Year One will be taking part in a national phonics screening check soon that checks their understanding. The phonics screening check comprises of a list of 40 words that children read one-to-one with their teacher. The list is a combination of both real and 'pseudo-words' (nonsense words). The expected standard is 32 or more out of a total of 40. Any children who have not achieved the expected standard will be given further support and have the opportunity of retaking the screening check in Year Two. Parents will receive information on a confidential basis about their child once the phonics screening is completed.

National Curriculum update

Parents will be aware that a new National Curriculum is to be implemented from September 2014 (except for pupils in Years Two and Six). A summary of the Government's main changes is given overleaf. A review of the curriculum at Calow Primary is being undertaken. We will be providing you with information in due course about how we will be teaching the curriculum for our pupils.

Dates for your diary

9th and 10th April – Parent Consultations. Please contact your child's teacher if you have not had an appointment.

11th April – Easter Service at St. Peter's Church, Calow starting at 10.00 a.m.

1st May – F.A. football coaching programme starts for pupils in Years Two and Three (for five weeks in total)

5th May – School is closed for May Day Bank Holiday

School closes at home time on Friday 11th April and re-opens on Monday 28th April. Have a good Easter break!



The table below summarises the main changes in the core subjects covered by the National Curriculum.

Subject	What's new?
English	<p>Stronger emphasis on vocabulary development, grammar, punctuation and spelling (for example, the use of commas and apostrophes will be taught in KS1)</p> <p>Handwriting – not currently assessed under the national curriculum – is expected to be fluent, legible and speedy</p> <p>Spoken English has a greater emphasis, with children to be taught <u>debating</u> and presenting skills</p>
Maths	<p>Five-year-olds will be expected to learn to count up to 100 (compared to 20 under the current curriculum) and learn number bonds to 20 (currently up to 10)</p> <p>Simple fractions (1/4 and 1/2) will be taught from KS1, and by the end of primary school, children should be able to convert decimal fractions to simple fractions (e.g. $0.375 = 3/8$)</p> <p>By the age of nine, children will be expected to know times tables up to 12x12 (currently 10x10 by the end of primary school)</p> <p>Calculators will not be introduced until near the end of KS2, to encourage mental arithmetic</p>
Science	<p>Strong focus on scientific knowledge and language, rather than understanding the nature and methods of science in abstract terms</p> <p>Evolution will be taught in primary schools for the first time</p> <p>Non-core subjects like caring for animals will be replaced by topics like the human circulatory system</p>
Design & technology	<p>Afforded greater importance under the new curriculum, setting children on the path to becoming the designers and engineers of the future</p> <p>More sophisticated use of design equipment such as electronics and robotics</p> <p>In KS2, children will learn about how key events and individuals in design and technology have shaped the world</p>
ICT	<p>Computing replaces Information and Communication Technology (ICT), with a greater focus on programming rather than on operating programs</p> <p>From age five, <u>children will learn to write and test simple programs, and to organise, store and retrieve data</u></p> <p>From seven, they will be taught to understand computer networks, including the internet Internet safety – currently only taught from 11-16 – will be taught in primary schools</p>
Languages	<p>Currently not statutory, a modern foreign language or ancient language (Latin or Greek) will be mandatory in KS2</p> <p>Children will be expected to master basic grammar and accurate pronunciation and to converse, present, read and write in the language</p>