



'Aiming High

Together'

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

Newsletter

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

Calow Primary Achieves Religious Education Award

The School was pleased to learn that it had won a special commendation award in the #MyCofESchool competition organised by the National Board of Education for Church Schools. The Bishop of Oxford wrote to Calow Primary saying: "The Judging Panel were very impressed by the way you showed that the school prayer links into all aspects of your daily life in school...we had lots of entries in the competition which were of a very high standard but yours stood out particularly." The Bishop of Derby has written to the School to add his own note of congratulations.

Religious Education makes a powerful contribution to children's learning. It provides them with the chance to explore the big ideas of religion and belief and to think about what matters in their own lives. The R.E. Quality Mark recognises high quality R.E., particularly those schools which are providing their learners with authentic experiences and contributing to whole school outcomes. An assessor visited Calow Primary to talk to staff and children about R.E. in the School and analyse evidence of teaching and learning. The Assessor was very impressed with many aspects of R.E. and Calow Primary has been awarded Silver Quality Mark! This is brilliant when you consider that Gold level is usually given to secondary schools.



Thank you for your generosity!

This year's donations of produce to the Bishop of Derby's Harvest Appeal was overwhelming – thank you for your kindness. We are supporting the charity 'Guide Dogs for the Blind' on 6th October. There will be guide dogs in School, with their owners. Each class will find out more about guide dogs and have the opportunity to purchase merchandise in aid of a worthwhile cause. Every hour, another person in the U.K. goes blind, which means the charity needs to train more guide dog puppies. Our School is aiming to raise enough money to sponsor a puppy. We are also supporting the launch of the Poppy Appeal locally. A concert at St. Peter's Church on 24th October will be raising funds for the Appeal. The programme features Chesterfield Male Voice Choir and Harlequin Brass. Tickets are £5 from the school office.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

A recent email informed you that all schools have implemented a new Code of Practice from September 2014 for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Calow Primary has revised its policy in light of the Code of Practice, which has been sent out by email. Please let School know your views by 15th October. There will be a meeting for parents about the Code of Practice on Wednesday 15th October at 3.15 p.m. We will outline what this means for children and how our School is providing for them. A letter will be sent out shortly inviting you to this important meeting.

What's happening in School this October

All children are being treated to a pantomime production of 'Peter Pan' on 9th October. Local Democracy Week starts on 13th October when children will find out about the electoral process and meet some visitors involved in Local Government. Literacy Week starts on 20th October to promote creative writing and the theme is 'Dr. Who.' There will be a fancy dress competition on Thursday 23rd October when all pupils are invited to wear Dr. Who costumes for the day.

Travel Smart Week starts on 20th October when once again we ask pupils to consider travelling to School by walking, scooter or other appropriate means. We ask parents to support this initiative and reduce parking issues around School.

Calow Primary in the Community

In partnership with St. Peter's Church, the School hosted a community luncheon. The afternoon was an enjoyable one in which guests were entertained with music from the School Choir and a game of bingo! School will be the venue for a bingo night organised by the Church on Tuesday 14th October; doors open from 6.00 p.m. The Rotary Club of Chesterfield has once again asked Calow Primary to be the location of its annual verse speaking competition for all primary schools in North East Derbyshire. Our School will be entering the competition on 23rd October.

Dates for your diary

7th October – Reading Workshop for parents of reception aged pupils from 3.15 p.m.

21st and 22nd October – Parent Consultations (letters are to be sent out soon)

School closes at home time on Thursday 23rd October and re-opens on Monday 3rd November.