

CALSHOT PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

www.calshot.bham.sch.uk

Covid-19 Update

I want to update parents on how Covid-19 is affecting schools across the country and the measures we have in place to limit the risk of having an outbreak within school. The national picture now shows that children are increasingly infected and numbers have steadily risen since schools reopened in September; the data suggests that school age pupils are spreading the infection into the community, as they are often asymptomatic. We have seen a huge increase in staff members (myself included) who have tested positive and this has influenced the teaching provision we can offer as a school. There are limited supply teachers now available as they are also either ill or fully booked, so covering classes when staff members are not able to come to school is an increasing problem. We have managed to maintain cover in all year groups but it has been increasingly difficult and this is why you will have seen Miss Atterbury and myself also covering classes when required. I am very grateful to parents that report to us when their child has had a positive result as we can monitor and record the spread of the infection, in most cases the children have not been in school as they have been unwell. Whenever there is a positive case reported to school, we have to inform Public Health England, The DFE and BCC. We also have to contain the potential risk of it spreading through a deep clean of classrooms and of all touch points around school. At the moment, the Government are not allowing schools to close unless there is a severe outbreak and even that is only considered as a last resort.

I have seen that in children, the Covid symptoms seem to differ from the ones identified in adults and I have spoken to Public Health about this. They have released a new list of symptoms which children display when they have Covid that I want to share with you. The national Covid-19 campaign is advising those who are feeling unwell and have Covid or flu like symptoms to stay home and take a PCR test. Covid symptoms are:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

Wider symptoms include:

- Shortness of breath or unexplained fatigue
- Diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting

- A headache that won't go away
- Myalgia (muscle aches or full body pains)
- Sore throat
- Blocked or runny nose

Anyone who has any of the above symptoms should stay at home until they receive their negative PCR test result. If you still have symptoms, you should avoid mixing with others until you feel well. If a child reports any of these symptoms in school, parents will be contacted to come and collect your child and advised to take a PCR test before your child is allowed to come back into school.

Boy's Football Team

Last Thursday the Year Five and Six Boy's Football Team took part in the North Birmingham Football Tournament at Goals in Great Barr. I am so proud of how well they played; they came second as they beat so many of our nearest rivals and only narrowly lost in the final 1:0 to Perry Beaches. A huge thank you to Miss Trude and Mr Walker for organising and managing the team. Thank you to the parents who came along to support and cheer on the team, it made all the difference having your support along the touchline. Well done Omarion, Mubarak, Alfie P (Capt), Alfie A, Torian, George, Kyo, Louie-Joe, Aarav and Kieron.



'On Thursday Calshot Boy's Team went to Goals to try and win the league. We played loads of schools (including the really dirty ones) we drew one, won four games and then lost in the final with 30 seconds to go.' - Alfie P

'We had great fun and can't wait to try again. When we do we'll make sure we win!' - Louie-Joe

Nursery INSPIRE Workshop

Last week we had our first Nursey INSPIRE workshop for parents and it was superb to see how many of you who were able to come in a sit with the children and help them with their work. The children really enjoyed themselves and I want to thank Mrs Thompson and Mrs Sheargold for organising this fun and informative workshop.

'I liked playing with the toys and my Mummy.' - Meygan (NB)

'I liked the rockets.' - Oscar (NB)

'My Mummy worked with me.' - Esmæ (NL)

'I liked cutting and eating the banana.' - Noah H (NL)

Walking to School

Some children have asked me to put into the newsletter a suggestion that they feel will help alleviate the congestion around school due to the limited amount of parking. They have asked that parents consider walking children to school and even if they have to drive that they park further away to allow children to walk the remainder of the journey into school instead. They are correct in telling me it is better for the environment, promotes healthy lifestyles and will reduce the aggravation of parking which they are very aware of around our school.

Reception Applications - Sept 2022

To apply for Reception places for September 2022, parents must visit www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions and submit an online application by 15th January 2022 (final closing date). If you have any questions, please contact Children's Services on 0121 303 1888. Please note, **all parents** need to apply, even if your child is currently in our Nursery.

School Fund

This week £10.70 was collected in School Fund this week, which is superb! May I take this opportunity to thank all the parents who have paid. It does mean we can buy those 'extra' things for the children.

Mr. M. Wingrove

(Head Teacher)

