CALSHOT PRIMARY SCHOOL

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February 6th

NEWSLETTER

www.calshot.bham.sch.uk

At Calshot Primary School we are always AIMING HIGH!

School Dinner Price Increase

We have been notified by Dolce that from 28th March 2026 the cost of a paid school dinner is to go up to £2.95. They have assured me that this is the last thing they wished to do. However, due to increases in inflation and the National Living Wage, they have no choice. I wanted parents to have as much notice as possible, so there were no surprises, and give you the opportunity to change to sandwiches if you wished. This price increase will not affect pupils that receive universal free school meals.

Lunchtime Supervisor

I wanted to see if any parents know anyone that maybe interested in a Lunchtime Supervisor role in school. The role is for 5 hours per week, in Key Stage 2. If anyone is interested, please contact Mr Walker in the main office for an application pack.

Togetherness

Birmingham City Council's Family Hub programme funds local access to Togetherness, enabling parents and carers to benefit from high-quality NHS-developed emotional health and wellbeing content at no cost.

Togetherness is an online learning platform created by psychologists and health practitioners. It provides accessible, evidence-informed learning designed to support emotional wellbeing, strengthen relationships, and positively influence behaviour.

Parents can contact the Togetherness team here: Togetherness - An update on wellbeing for every school parent.

Measles

We have been asked by Birmingham Health Protection team to continue making sure parents are aware that there is an increasing number of people in Birmingham with measles. Measles is a very infectious disease that

can spread rapidly - outbreaks can happen when not enough people have been vaccinated. Birmingham Education Department have asked that we promote vaccinations and make parents aware of the symptoms of measles.

MMR VACCINE

The best way to protect against measles is to get 2 doses of the MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccine. If parents are not sure if they or their child has been vaccinated, they can check the personal child health record (the Red Book) or speak to their GP surgery. Anyone can catch up with missed MMR vaccinations at any age by contacting their GP surgery.

For families that avoid pork, an MMR vaccine is available that does not contain any pork products.

MEASLES SYMPTOMS

If children develop symptoms of measles, parents should contact their GP surgery or 111. They should NOT go to the GP, to A&E or any other setting without calling ahead. Staff will make special arrangements to see patients so that if they have measles, they won't pass it to others.

The first signs of measles are:

- high temperature
- runny or blocked nose
- sneezing
- cough
- red, sore, watery eyes
- rash usually appears a few days after cold-like symptoms (sometimes starts around the ears before spreading to rest of the body)

Friends Of Calshot

A huge plea for parent support. We have always had a wonderful PTA that supports school in organising events and raising much needed funds. However, parent numbers are low and there are more staff members than parents. If you are interested and can offer some time to join our PTA please contact Mrs Webb, in the main office on 0121 6751059.

30 Hour Funding for Nursery

We are pleased to announce that from Monday 23rd February 2026 we will be offering 30 hours of funded childcare and education for **eligible** Nursery age children. Nursery hours will remain the same as they currently are, and for parents who use the 15 hours per week nothing changes. However, for parents that are entitled to 30 hours, we will offer both morning and afternoon sessions. The structure for 30-hour pupils will be:

Morning Session – 8.40-11.40am
Lunch Session – 11.40am-12.30pm
Afternoon Session – 12.30-3.30pm
Lunchtime is not covered by the funded hours. The cost is £5 per day (£25 per week) and parents/carers will need to supply a packed lunch. Payment for lunchtime will need to be paid in advance via IRIS ParentMail.

If you believe you are eligible for the 30 hours funding, please visit https://www.gov.uk/free-childcare-if-working/check-youre-eligible or scan the QR code for more information.

If you are eligible for the funding and would like to extend your child's Nursery place to a full-time place, please contact the main office and we will send you a letter explaining how to apply.

The Waiting Room

On occasions we all need some support to help us manage. The Waiting Room is a website with links to various support networks that covers a range of things such as: mental health, housing and homelessness, disability support, employment and welfare (plus much more). The website is the-waitingroom.org and is free for everyone. I recommend that you save it into your web browser, you can then share it with family or friends that you think may benefit from any of the services offered.

Message from Chair of Governors

Parking Around Calshot School

As I've been driving past the school during drop off and pick up times, I've become increasingly aware of some irresponsible and dangerous, and in fact illegal, parking outside our school. I know Mr Wingrove has written about this in previous newsletters.

Parking in this manner could put your child in danger, it can sometimes be a nuisance to the community around us, and it could hamper emergency services. I recently saw Dudley Fire Station put out a social media post and I thought it would be useful to share as it's appropriate to the situation here at Calshot.

THINK ABOUT HOW YOU PARK,

Irresponsible parking doesn't just slow us down BUT is also dangerous to pedestrians including school children. Zig-zag lines outside schools, known as 'School Keep Clear' markings, are critical safety zones where parking or stopping is strictly prohibited during specified times (usually school hours) to ensure children have a clear view of the road and oncoming traffic, preventing accidents, with fines and towing for violations.

Let's set a good example to our children about obeying the law and being safe for ourselves, those around us and the community we live in.

School Fund

This week £28.10 was collected in School Fund this week. 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)