

CALSHOT PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

www.calshot.bham.sch.uk

Reception INSPIRE Workshop

On Wednesday, we had our Reception INSPIRE Phonics workshop for parents and it was lovely to see how many of you who were able to come in and join the children doing their work. The children were wonderful and I want to thank Mrs Aldridge and Mrs Buck for organising this informative workshop.

'I was happy Mommy came; I was cutting out the stuff that starts with 'm'' - Ayla (RS)

'I liked colouring and sticking with mummy.' - Sara (RW)

'I did the meerkat, m. Daddy said, Good boy!' - Adam (RS)

'I liked colouring with my mum.' - Mason (RW)

'My Aunty came, I cut the pictures out for Marvin the monkey.' - Kymani (RS)

'I sat with Mommy, I put an x on the ones that were the wrong sound!' - Alfie (RS)

Year 6 Parents - Secondary School Places

At this time of year, many Year 6 parents will be busy attending secondary school open days, which is a wise thing to do. Just a reminder that applications for secondary schools can be made online by visiting the Birmingham City Council website www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions and the deadline for applications is 31st October 2026. If you require assistance, please ring the Admissions and Appeals Department on 0121 303 1888. If you live outside of Birmingham, you have to apply directly to the Local Authority that you live in.

Harvest Celebrations

Next week, we will be celebrating and giving thanks for all the food that we have to eat. You are warmly invited to join our Harvest Festival celebrations. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will hold their Harvest Festival on the morning of

Thursday 8th October at 9:20am. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will hold their Harvest Festival on the afternoon of Thursday 8th October at 2:45pm. As in previous years, we are asking you to donate harvest produce, which will be distributed in our local community. Please send any produce into school from Monday onwards. If you would like to nominate anyone for a Harvest parcel, please complete the reply slip below or complete an application on Parent Mail and return it by Monday 5th October. The parcels will be distributed on Friday 9th October. Many thanks for your support.

Mental Health Awareness Day

Next Friday, we will be having a non-uniform day to raise awareness of mental health and how we need to look after ourselves. One in four adults and one in ten children suffer with a form of mental health illness every day and it is often overlooked or ignored. On the day, children will have a go at various age-appropriate activities such as mindfulness, relaxation and breathing and looking at techniques that help to deal with anxiety. All children can wear non-uniform, if you wish to make a donation then you can. Any money received will go to a children's mental health charity.

Attendance Matters

Regular attendance is critical not only for academic success but also for your child's social and emotional development. Being in school enables children to:

- Access the lessons needed to meet age-related expectations.
- Maintain friendships and develop important social strategies.
- Participate in social and sporting events.
- Explore potential careers.
- Develop good punctuality and other essential habits for a successful future.

To help put this in perspective, here's how different attendance rates affect missed learning:

Days Absent	Weeks Missed (approximately)	Lessons Missed
5 days	1 week	25 lessons
10 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
20 days	4 weeks	100 lessons

Persistent absence is when a pupil misses 19 days (10%), or more, of their possible school days over the year. If you wish to discuss any issues affecting your child's attendance, please contact school.

School Fund

Over the last few years, we haven't promoted the need for School Fund. However, our school fund account is nearly empty. There is no obligation to pay into it, however we ask that if you are able to make a 50 pence weekly contribution or pay in a termly lump sum, **now available** via Parent Mail, that would be brilliant. All funds are spent on providing the extra things that children need in school.

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.

Mr. M. Wingrove

(Head Teacher)