



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we wrap up this term, I just wanted to take a moment to express how incredibly proud I am of all our children for the amazing work they've done. Again, this newsletter is only a snippet of the learning that goes on at Calton. It would be great to see more families attend the next open day after the Christmas break, so that you can see your child in action!

A massive congratulations to Phillip in Year 2 for his fantastic Christmas card that's been sent out to the whole community—be sure to look out for it in your email! I can't forget Asma in Year 4, who created such a beautiful verse to accompany it.

A further congratulations to Emily in Ks1 and Amber in KS2 for winning the Bake Off cake competition, with Maggie and Bruce as the runners up. What a sweet achievement!

By the time you read this our youngest children in the school would have showcased their nativities. I am sure that you will agree, they were amazing!

I'm sincerely grateful for the kind gestures from our community, too. A big thank-you to the grandparents of Yousra and Soufyan for their generous donation, and to Mr Flemming for treating the children to hot dogs at the Hartpury Vs Gloucester rugby match over the October Half Term. It was a real highlight for those children to be 'guards of honour'!

The Christmas Market was a wonderful success too, with plenty of prizes to be won. A big well done to Dan in Year 6 who won a hot drink and biscuits with me—who knew we shared a love for coffee, rich tea biscuits and connect four!

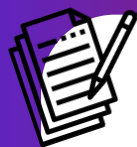
As we approach the festive break, I'd like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Enjoy the holidays!

Mrs Barker-Doe

HEAD'S WELCOME



SCHOOL NOTICES & KEY DATES



Housekeeping & Reminders

Nut Free School

We are a nut free school, please ensure that your child does not bring any food items containing nuts for their snack or lunch. We have staff and students with severe nut allergies.

Uniform Naming

Uniform - Please ensure that uniform, PE kits, lunch boxes, water bottles and hats are clearly labelled. Children do move around classrooms during the day and items are sometimes left in the wrong class.

Lost Property

Lost property is located in the school office and should be checked regularly. Due to the volume of lost property, items are disposed of on a fortnightly basis.

Signing your child in

The school day starts at 8:45am. If you need to bring your child in through the office, please can you ensure you always sign them in on the system. The office team are happy to provide assistance.

Absence Guidance

Sickness - If your child is absent from school due to them being unwell, please can you either phone or email school before 9:30am, to let us know.

Appointments - Where possible please try to arrange dentist, doctor, and optician appointments outside of the school day. Where this is not possible, please ensure you either phone or email school to let us know in advance, and to order a hot dinner option, if required. Hot dinners MUST be ordered by 9:30am.

Holiday Requests - If your child will be absent from school due to a family event or holiday, please complete the 'Absence Request' form, which can be found on the school website under the 'Parent Info' tab.

Medication

Please follow the below process for medication:

- Pass the medication directly to either the school office or your child's class teacher.
- Send an email to admin@calton.sandmat.uk informing them of the medicine's name, required dosage and the time it is needed.

We kindly request, that you NEVER leave medication in your child's school bag.

Collection Arrangements

If your child is being picked up by another parent, family member, or friend, you need to contact the school office and provide a password.

PE Kit

KS1 - Children should bring their PE Kit into school at the start of each term. The kit will then stay in school until the end of each term.

KS2 - Children should attend school on their PE day, wearing their PE Kit. PE days can be found on eSchools under your child's class.

Parent Pay

Please remember to regularly check your child's Parent Pay account for dinners and educational trips.

If you are unsure of your login details, please contact the school office for assistance.



Key Dates

2024/25 Academic Year

20/12/24 - Last day of Term 2

06/01/25 - Inset Day (School closed to children).

07/01/25 - Start of Term 3

17/01/25 - Young Voices Concert (Year 5's & Y.V Club)

20/01/25 - Reception & Year 6 School Nurse Vision, Height, & Weight Check

24/01/25 - Young Voices Performance

31/01/25 - Topaz Class Assembly

03/02/25 - Children's Mental Health Week

07/02/25 - Emerald Class Assembly

11/02/25 - Safer Internet Day

12/02/25 - Year 4 'In the Net' performance.

13/02/25 - Year 5/6 Wonderdome

13/02/25 - Last day of Term 3

14/02/25 - Inset Day (School closed to children).

24/02/25 - Start of Term 4

27/02/25 - International Mother Language Day

28/02/25 - Sapphire Class Assembly

07/03/25 - Diamond Class Assembly

14/03/25 - Amethyst Class Assembly

18/03/25 - Year 5 K'Nex Challenge

21/03/25 - Ruby Class Assembly

28/03/25 - Indigo Class Assembly

04/04/25 - Orange Class Assembly

10/04/25 - Last day of Term 4

11/04/25 - Inset Day (School closed to children).

28/04/2025 - Start of Term 5

02/05/25 - Turquoise Class Assembly

09/05/25 - Magenta Class Assembly

16/05/25 - Green Class Assembly

19/05/25 - Walk to School Week

23/05/25 - Red Class Assembly

23/05/25 - Last day of Term 5

02/06/2025 - Start of Term 6

06/06/25 - Purple Class Assembly

24/06/25 - Non Competitive Sports Day

25/06/25 - Class Photos

08/07/25 - KS1 & KS2 Sports Day

16/07/25 - Year 6 Leavers Production

18/07/25 - Last day of Term 6 & 2024/25 Academic Year

21/07/25 - Inset Day (School closed to children).



Reading & Writing Café

Reading cafés are an opportunity for you to come into school and read with your child in a comfy and calm environment. There will be lots of books available and a snack will be provided.

Writing cafés are an opportunity for you to spend time with your child in their classroom and to see what writing is all about at Calton. A writing stimulus will be provided and you can spend time with your child enjoying writing a calm and exciting environment.

Reading & Writing Café Dates:

Pre-school

Reading café – Thursday 23rd January 2025

Writing café – Thursday 22nd May 2025

Reception

Reading café – Wednesday 5th February 2025

Writing café – Wednesday 18th June 2025

Year 1/2

Reading café - Wednesday 29th January 2025

Writing café - Wednesday 21st May 2025

Year 3/4

Reading café – Thursday 27th March 2025

Writing café – Thursday 19th June 2025

Year 5/6

Writing café – Thursday 30th January 2025

The reading cafe's will take place in the halls and writing cafes in the classrooms from 9-10am. If you are planning to attend please come to the school office where a member of staff will come to meet you.





CALTON
PRIMARY & PRE-SCHOOL

**Open Day for new
Reception children
2025**

Our School Vision

**A nurturing, inclusive,
learning community that
enables everyone to be
their best. We teach
everyone to be STARS.**



Skills



Togetherness



Aspiration



Resilience



Success

**We are very excited to invite
you to our Open Days -**

**6th November 2024 - 9.30-
10.30am**

**27th November 2024 - 9.30-
10.30am**

8th January 2025 - 5.00-6.00pm

**Please follow the link to our website
to learn more about our school**

<https://calton.sandmat.uk/>



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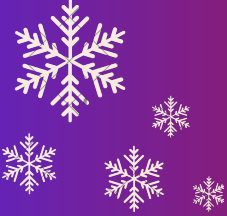


admin@calton.sandmat.uk

Pre-School



This term we have been learning all about Winter and we were really lucky to have a great introduction to this topic when it snowed! This was the first snowfall that many of the children had seen and they were so excited to play outside and make snowballs.



We continued our exploration of ice and snow indoors, painting with watercolours on ice cubes. The children loved watching as the colours swirled and mixed together. "I need more paint" "It's all getting mixed up." "Now it's a bit purple!"



We have been teaching the children about money and finances this half term. Though this sounds very grown up, we know that it is important for children to learn age-appropriate skills, knowledge and attitudes towards money such as knowing that we can spend money and save money for later; and that there are different coins and notes we can use to pay for things. We added tills, play money and money boxes to our role play area, which the children enjoyed adding to their play.

"Mummy bought me one of these for me when I was a baby. You put money in it".

"I can see some numbers on it (the coins)". "Two". "pound Two".



"I put all the money in there; you can fill them all the way up." "There's thousands!"

We have continued with our weekly cookery sessions this half term. The children have made a range of healthy foods, which they have enjoyed for snack time. One of the favourite snacks was a trio of dips including a salsa of mango, tomato, cucumber, sweetcorn and lemon juice.

The children have really developed their fine motor skills during these activities through chopping and mixing; filling and pouring. They are more confident to try new foods at snack times, especially when they know they have made it themselves.





Start your
child's Calton
journey at our
Pre-School



Limited
spaces
available –
contact us to
arrange a
visit.

Get in touch to find out more or to
add your child to our waiting list:

preschool@calton.sandmat.uk

01452 527689



RECEPTION CLASS NEWS



Wow, it is nearly Christmas already, what a busy second term it has been. The Reception team have really enjoyed seeing friendships continue to grow and personalities shine through. Each day the children are becoming more independent and confident with the school routine. We even had snow, some of us for the first time. Thank you for your continued support.

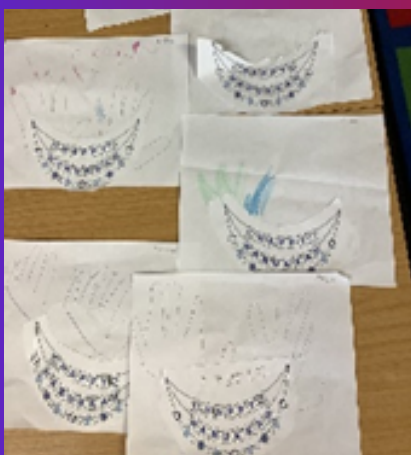


Physical Education

In our PE sessions this term we have been following a new scheme called 'Real PE', which has a focus on the key fundamental skills of PE. Following this scheme has taught us how to balance and use our footwork to travel around the hall. We really enjoyed moving around like we were on a bicycle and travelling like a captain pirate.

We have also been working really hard on being able to independently to take off and put on our shoes.

During our outdoor time we have loved playing football, catch, climbing on the big tyre, and using the balance bikes.



Understanding the World

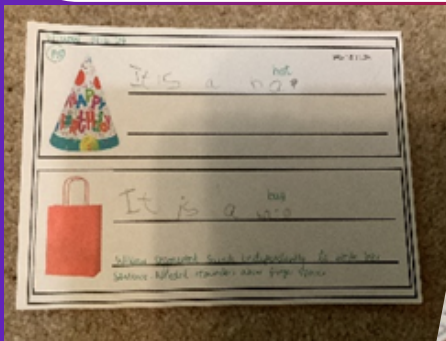
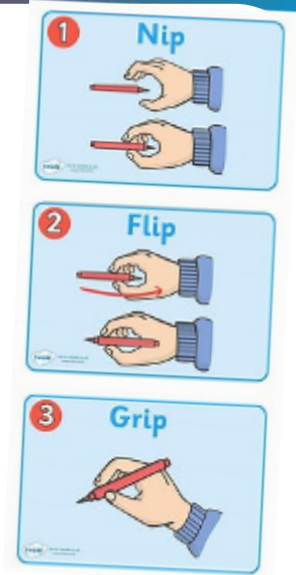
During Understanding the World, we have been learning about lots of different celebrations, including Diwali, Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Hanukkah and the Nativity story. We have learned about each celebration as a class and had an opportunity to share our own experiences and thoughts.



Literacy

In Literacy we have been continuing to work hard on our pencil control, ensuring we use the correct grip whilst holding the pencil to form our letters accurately. This term we also focused on writing lots of different CVC words.

We used 'Fred Talk' to help us hear the sounds in each word and to spell them. We have used our phonic knowledge to help us write simple sentences about what we can see - 'It is a cat.', what we can do - 'I can hop.' and simple descriptive phrases - 'A red hat.'



Fred Talk



Phonics

In Phonics we are now in ability groups where we have continued to develop our phonological knowledge using the Read Write Inc (RWI) scheme. In our groups we have recapped the Set 1 single sounds (m, a, s, d, t, i, n, p, g, o, c, k, u, b, f, e, l, h, r, j, v, y, w, z, x) and some groups have been exposed to the new special friend sounds (ch, th, sh, ng, nk, qu).

All children have been working hard on being able to orally blend simple CVC words and more complex CCVC words, and some have been using magnetic letter boards to support spelling.

Speed Sounds Set 1

m	a	s	d	t
i	n	p	g	o
c	k	u	b	f
e	l	h	r	j
v	y	w	z	x
sh	th	ch	qu	ng nk



Mathematics

This term in Maths we have been learning all about the numbers 1,2,3,4,5 and looking at different shapes, in particular circles, triangles and shapes with four sides.

During our numbers unit, we spent a lot of time looking at the composition of numbers and how each number can be represented with objects. We all really enjoyed the shapes unit as we became shapes detectives for the day!! In groups we were each given our own magnifying glasses and we were able to look around the classroom and see what shapes we could find.



Expressive Art & Design

Reception we have been extremely busy this term in Art and Design. We have used a wide variety of creative materials to create; rice pictures celebrating Diwali, painted poppies for Remembrance Day and made ourselves into snowmen for our Christmas decorations. We really enjoyed putting our Christmas tree decorations onto the school tree in the Garnet Hall.



Personal, Social, Emotional Development

This term we have been learning all about the importance of celebrating the differences between people. We have discussed that it is ok to look different to someone else or to have differing hobbies or views.

We have talked about how we are all part of one team and we need to treat everyone how we want to be treated. We have done a lot of work recapping our class rules and developing our understanding of how everyone should be treated with kindness and respect. We celebrated Kindness Day and enjoyed sharing with and helping our friends.



Communication & Language

Communication and language is so important and we have continued to develop our vocabulary this term, exploring our Chatterbags and chatty Mondays. Chatty Mondays are a chance for the children to look at a picture and have a discussion with their classmates about what they can see and how it makes them feel.

We have also developed our communication and language through rehearsals for our Christmas nativity. All children have been given the opportunity to learn and practice a variety of songs and some children have learnt their own lines.

Next Term

Next term in Mathematics we will be learning about the numbers 5,6,7,8 and looking into mass and capacity. Our new theme will be Books, Books, Books! During this theme we will be learning all about different childrens books and becoming story tellers, retelling the story of Supertato and Goldilocks and The Three Bears.

In preparation for next term, please can all Reception children bring in their favourite book ready for the first week back.

YEAR 1 & 2 CLASS NEWS



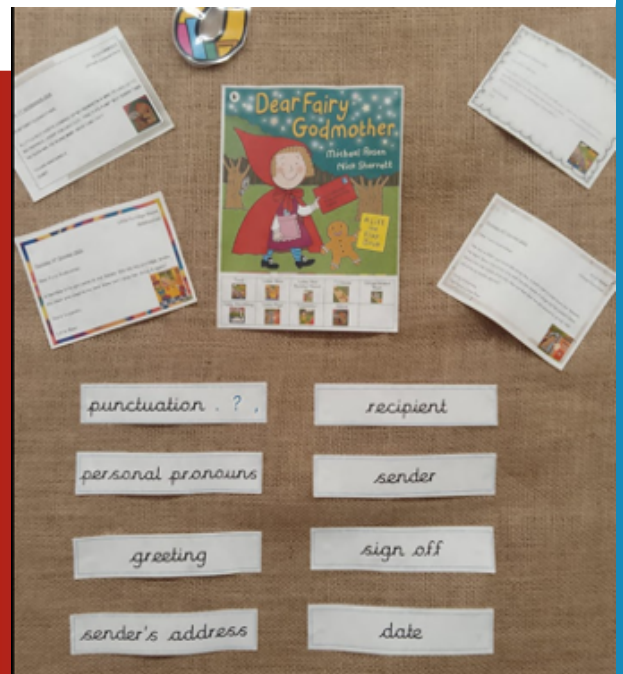
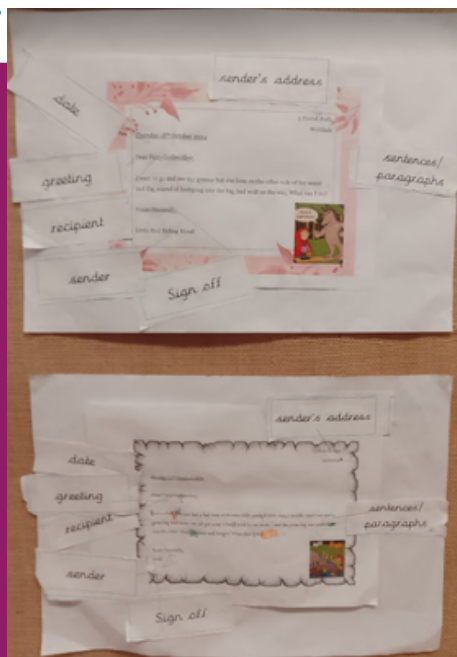
This term we have carried on learning about our theme 'Fairytale Frenzy'. We had lots of fun during our 'Castles Day' where we had the opportunity to do lots of craft. We have also been very busy practising our Christmas Play. We hope you enjoyed it!



English

In English we have been learning about letter writing. We read some letters that some fairy tale characters wrote to the Fairy Godmother asking for help with a problem. The Three Bears asked her how to stop Goldilocks from eating their porridge.

We looked at the different features included in letters. Then we have had a go at writing letters back to the fairy tale characters, trying to help them solve their problems.



Science

In science we have learnt all about the seasons and the rhythm of nature within them. We ordered all the months and learnt which months fall in which season. In groups we considered night and day and what we do with our time. Ask us what our favourite season is!



Mathematics



Year 1

Year one have continued to develop their knowledge of addition and subtraction by identifying the fact families using a part whole model and counting manipulatives.

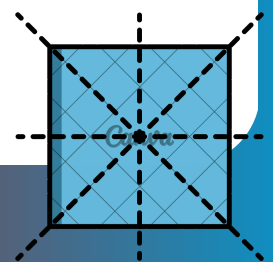
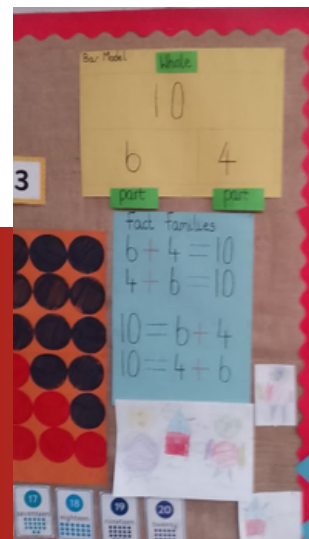
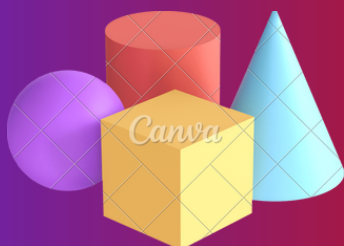
We have also started to find out different ways to subtract numbers by finding out how many are left and jumping backwards on a number line. Afterwards, we used resources to add and subtract 1- or 2-digit numbers from each other.

More recently, we have been recognising and naming 2D and 3D shapes. We had the opportunity to describe the shapes, make pictures using them and make patterns too.

Year 2

Year two have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes. We have counted the faces, edges and vertices on different shapes. We have compared the shapes looking at ones with curved edges and faces and those with straight edges and faces.

We have also learnt about lines of symmetry. We have drawn lines of symmetry on shapes and have learnt to recognise when a line of symmetry is not drawn correctly.



PSHE

In PSHE we have been talking about 'celebrating me'. We have thought about how we can make new friends. We have looked at how we are all special and unique but also thought about how we have some similarities. During anti bullying week we did two lessons where we looked at how we can prevent bullying and help people who are bullied. It was lovely to have parents in school, to join us for those lessons.

We have also had a lesson about road safety.



ART

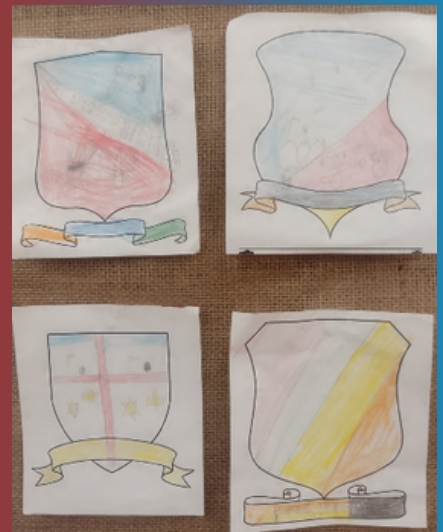
In art we have explored texture and depth using paint as a medium. We went on a texture hunt in our outdoor space and made sketches and rubbings. We've experimented with paint and printed with different objects in our classroom to build texture. We ended up looking at Romare Bearden and his work on collage. Ask us about Christmas collages!



History

In history we have carried on learning about castles. We have learnt about Berkley castle, as it is a castle close to where we live. We have found out about why castles changed through the years. Looking at things like why they changed from being made out of wood to being made out of stone. We learnt about what it was like to work as a knight for a king.

We had a fantastic 'Castles Day' where we could come dressed up as a fairy tale character who might live in a castle. We had a lovely time completing a number of activities - designing a shield, junk modelling a castle and making silhouettes of castles. We hope the children enjoyed the day as much as we did.



Geography

We have been learning about the seven continents and the five oceans. We have looked at the Northern Hemisphere, the Southern Hemisphere and the Equator.

We have found out that we are in the Northern Hemisphere and our climate is in the 'warm' zone. Even if it doesn't always feel like that!



Physical Education

We were really lucky this term to have dance teacher come in. She had a session with each class and we learnt a dance to the song, 'I just can't wait to be King' from the Lion King.



Next Term

When we come back after the Christmas holiday we will be starting out new theme of 'Under the Sea' We are looking forward to learning lots of new things!



Religious Education

In RE we have been learning about Christianity. We have been finding out about The Holy Trinity and how Christians believe that the Trinity is God in three different forms.

We have learned about the Bible and heard some of the parables (short stories with a message) that Jesus told.



Design Technology

In DT we have been looking at cooking and nutrition. We learnt about the different food group and have considered what makes a balanced diet.

We have designed healthy meals for a restaurant and a healthy wrap for school children. We also had the chance to chop and grate some fruits and vegetables.

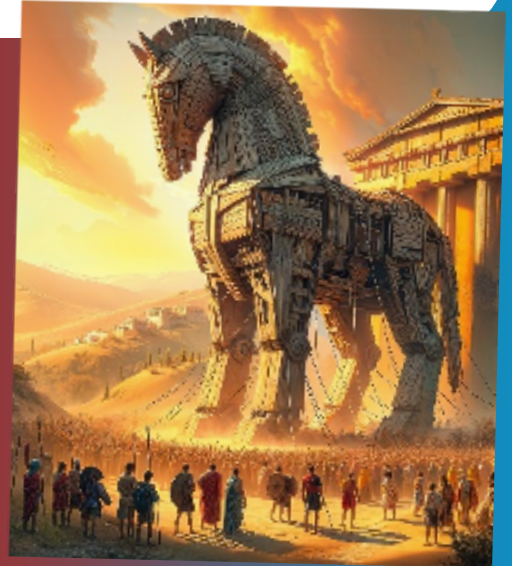




English

In English this term, we have been continuing with our learning about Ancient Greece. We gathered notes on the best things to do and see in Greece, before writing a persuasive travel brochure to encourage people to visit! We organised our writing into paragraphs using subheadings.

We then started a new unit of work: diary entries. Our diary entries were based on the ancient Greek legend The Trojan War. We wrote from the perspectives of two of the main characters in the story: Helen and Odysseus. We were initially intrigued by what the trojan horse was used for before discovering what a smart war tactic it was in order for the Spartan army to defeat Troy!



Music

In Music, this term, we have learnt the song 'Mamma Mia' by ABBA. We have compared 'Mamma Mia' to other songs by ABBA and discussed the similarities and differences.

The children have looked at finding the beat and pulse to the song. We have focused on improvisations to the song and clapping back the rhythm. We have really enjoyed learning this unit!

Religious Education

In RE this term we have explored Christianity, specifically looking at the baptism of Jesus and the Holy Trinity. The children have been able to understand who John the Baptist was, and how Jesus' baptism differentiated from baptisms we see today. They have shown their understanding through artwork, by creating stained-glass windows that represent the Holy Trinity and its significance to baptism.



The children have also explored the symbolism of water to Christians by creating acrostic poems.



Mathematics

Year 3

We have worked hard to develop our understanding of the 2, 3, 4 and 8 times tables, and introduced to the formal written methods of the division facts of these times tables, whilst also consolidating our understanding of sharing. We have identified patterns that help us remember the 2, 4 and 8's.

We then moved on to Length and Perimeter, where we identified Metres, Centimetres and Millimetres. We had great fun using metre sticks! We then looked at converting between these units of measure and then identified equivalent lengths before comparing them.

Please test us on our times tables.



Year 4

We started this term with a unit called 'measurement'. This was great fun and new learning for us all as we developed an understanding for the concept of 'area' - the first time we have met this!

We then moved on to further developing our knowledge of times tables, focusing on 3s, 6s and 9s, then 7s, 11s and 12s. We have been really promoting the use of Times Tables Rock Stars in school and at home as this is a great way for the children to practise their instant recall facts.

We are concluding this terms learning with a unit all about measuring in mm, cm, m and km, and learning how to find the perimeter of rectangles and rectilinear shapes! Ask and see if we can remember what a rectilinear shape is!

Physical Education

Our unit this half term has focused on 'Social' skills. We have identified different jumping and landing techniques, as well as seated balances. There needed to be control in these actions and some techniques were trickier than others! But we had great fun testing ourselves and working together.



Geography

This term we have focused on our understanding of maps. We have used maps to identify different mountain ranges and seas that are in and surround Britain. We have also used maps to locate cities that are close to where we live, such as Bristol, Birmingham and London.

We have enjoyed developing our map skills this term and we have used these skills to identify the physical features of Greece.

History

This term we have continued to explore Ancient Greece and have investigated where the Olympic Games originated from and the different types of sport they played.

We were able to understand what we had the Ancient Greeks to thank for... it was wonderful for the children to be able to recognise that the alphabet we use now originated from the Greeks, and how democracy in Greece changed the democratic views of the world today. The children have also been able to explore a range of festival that the Greeks used to perform, such as music, dance, theatre and sporting events.

We have also been lucky to have been sent a box from a museum that contained artefacts of Ancient Greece, for the children to look at and discuss with their classmates. They loved seeing what we have learnt about in artefact form and being able to identify the different uses each item had.

French

This term we have been learning how to say classroom objects in French, such as pens, pencils, rulers and books. We have also been practicing classroom commands such as 'sit down', 'sing with me' and 'listen'.

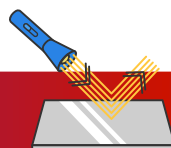
We then moved onto learning the names for various shops and buildings in town.



Science

Our Science topic this term is 'Light.' We have been learning about different sources of light and why, for example, the moon is not a source of light. Reflection has been explored and we have looked at different surfaces which reflect light. It is important to protect our eyes from the sun and we have talked about how we can do this.

We have learnt that shadows are formed when light is blocked from a light source by a solid object. A lot of fun has been had using torches to learn about this topic.





ART

This term we have been doing our drawing unit in Art. We really enjoyed using the outdoor environment to create texture pictures. We used a technique called 'frottage' and this involved us rubbing crayons on paper over different textured items. We then tore up these bits of paper to create flowers.

We also used real life flowers and magnifying glasses to create still-life images. We looked at an abstract artist Georgia O'Keefe, recreating our own abstract art influenced by her work.



Design Technology

This term we have created textiles, this involved creating a book cover. The fabric was folded or cut and stitched using a basic running stitch, then a button was added as a fastener.

We also added a range of extras to add a more complex creation, expressing our creativity through design and colour.

Computing

This term we have looked at Desktop Publishing. Using Canva, we have learnt how to edit and improve texts, pictures and manipulated graphics to enhance our own creations.

Discussions have been had about how things are presented and what features can be added to enhance a creation. Canva has given us greater freedom to apply our computing skills, but have freedom in our creations.

PSHE

Our unit of work in PSHE this term has been called 'Celebrating Differences'. We have looked at what it means to judge people by their appearances and now understand that we should not 'judge a book by its cover'. We also looked at how our individual influences can change that way that we think. During our open day, some of you may have joined us for our lesson on bullying including cyber bullying. We created bright, colourful and informative posters that explained what to do if you are being bullied or happen to witness bullying. This unit has really reiterated to us just how unique and special we all are, and we must always celebrate this!

YEAR 5 & 6 CLASS NEWS



Physical Education

In PE, we have been lucky enough to have an expert coming in to teach us cricket! The children are really enjoying these sessions and are learning new skills such as batting, bowling, and accurate catching. We have uncovered a few potential cricket stars and have built up our teamwork skills.



PHSE

In Our PSHE learning this term has focused on celebrating our differences and learning about how we can help others feel accepted and safe in our school.

We also marked Black History Month with some amazing artwork and learnt about some amazing people who have influenced our world today.



Music



We have focused on the music Bacharach Anorak by Ian Gray. It is jazz based, and our unit of work is looking at jazz rhythms and patterns. We are also learning more about the interrelated dimensions of music and how they fit together in different pieces of music.

We have used glockenspiels and recorders to perform with songs, reading the notation as well as using the note names.

Science



We have continued to focus on materials this term. We have looked at how materials can change through different states, this includes evaporation and condensation. We have even looked at separating mixtures and how we can create them too. We finally learnt that some mixtures are irreversible and made some fantastic explosions and fizzing.



Mathematics



Year 5

Our children have been working on fractions this term. They have learnt how to find equivalent fractions, convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions, as well as both adding and subtracting fractions. We have just begun our multiplication and division unit, where we are learning to multiply 4-digit by 1-digit numbers and 2-digit by 2-digit by numbers.

We look forward to discovering and exploring multiplication and division further into the new year.



Year 6

Our children expanded their knowledge about fractions by practicing multiplying fractions and mixed numbers by integers. They explored similarities and differences about multiplying fractions compare to adding fractions. Furthermore, children developed new skills about using imperial and international units of measurement.

Recently, they learnt about ratio and explored the fact that the relationship between two numbers can be expressed additively or multiplicatively.

Design Technology

In DT we have made Avocado Panzanella, a classic Tuscan bread salad, and we will be making chocolate tarts as well.

We developed our knife skills and learnt how to prepare in different ways, such as slicing and chopping. We have been very proud of the children for trying new foods that they might not have tried before.



Geography

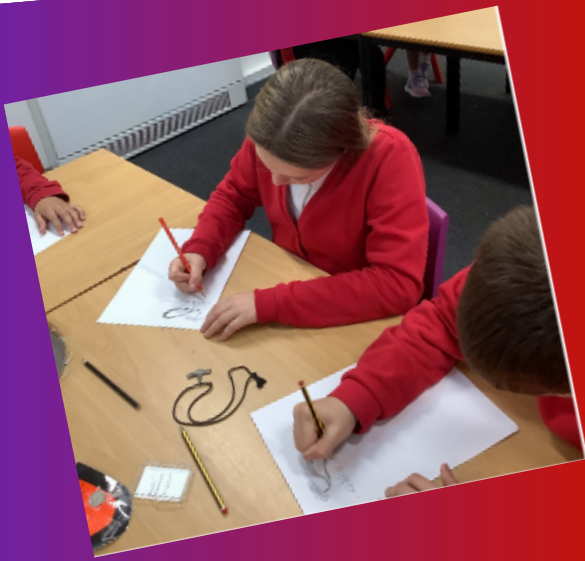
We concluded our comparisons between Oslo and Gloucester by designing our own cities. We used what we knew about the land to create some excellent urban plans - we definitely have some town planners of the future at Calton!



English

We researched books and websites for information on all aspects of Viking life, including food, clothing, homes, pastimes, longships and war. We have written our own non-chronological reports on a range of subjects with detail about each included in the paragraphs.

We have developed our understanding of grammar rules, looking at noun phrases, cohesive devices such as conjunctions, relative pronouns and clauses and the use of commas, dashes and brackets.



History

During the Autumn term, the children from Y5/6 continued their learning about the Viking Invaders as part of our creative curriculum. They explored aspects of Viking life, such as social hierarchy, battle techniques and diet, as well as their impact on the Anglo-Saxons and Britain.

Who exactly were these legendary warriors? When did the Vikings invade British shores? What were they known for? These were some of the "Big Questions" our children enquired and explored secondary sources to find the answers to.



Religious Education

In RE we have moved onto learning about Humanism and how people who do not have a religious faith can still live good lives and know right from wrong. We have been comparing Humanist values with Christian beliefs and finding common ground.

We have also been learning about big moral concepts like Truth, Freedom, and Fairness and how these concepts help us in our day-to-day life.

ART

This term, we have been exploring an array of inspirations and mixed-media methods to produce our own self-portrait. We have experimented with paint, collage, and poetry. We have taken photographs of ourselves and manipulated these by cutting and rearranging, adding colour or line art. We are looking forward to producing our final pieces!



Next Term

Year 5/6 have now completed their learning about the Vikings and are looking forward to our next topic, starting in the Spring Term, which will be all about space.



SCHOOL PARLIAMENT



Prime Minister - Aishah

Chancellor - Michael

Eco Minister - Praise

ECO Update



Parliament have been very busy attending meetings to consider how the school can be more eco-friendly. Parliament have created posters which have been distributed to classrooms about switching off lights. They have also created a rota for the compost bins.

Parliament set the theme for the cake design – snow



They then judged the cakes.

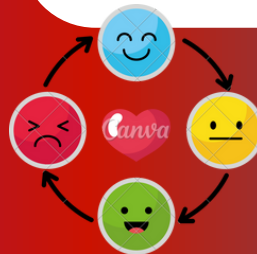
Parliament organised Children in Need Day and want to thank all of you, that made donations online.

More reading sessions are taking place through Parliament's initiative.

Parliament have given feedback on the zones of regulation colours and activities

Toilet Charter

Parliament have developed a toilet charter to help and remind the children how to look after and respect school property. Parliament report that the toilets are feeling much cleaner since the charter was introduced



Parliament Assembly

We had an external visitor from UK Parliament come in to school to deliver an assembly which helped to give the children a broad understanding of how UK Parliament works, the roles and responsibilities of MP's and members of the House of Lords.



Respect the toilet area!

- Put tissue into the toilet
- Only use what you need – 3/4 pieces
- Use the toilet, not the surrounding area – the toilet flushes, the floor doesn't!

Wash your hands afterwards

- Use soap properly – not on mirrors
 - Shake water into the sink, not on the floor
- Close doors quietly

Respect each other's privacy

No Graffiti

Do your business and leave

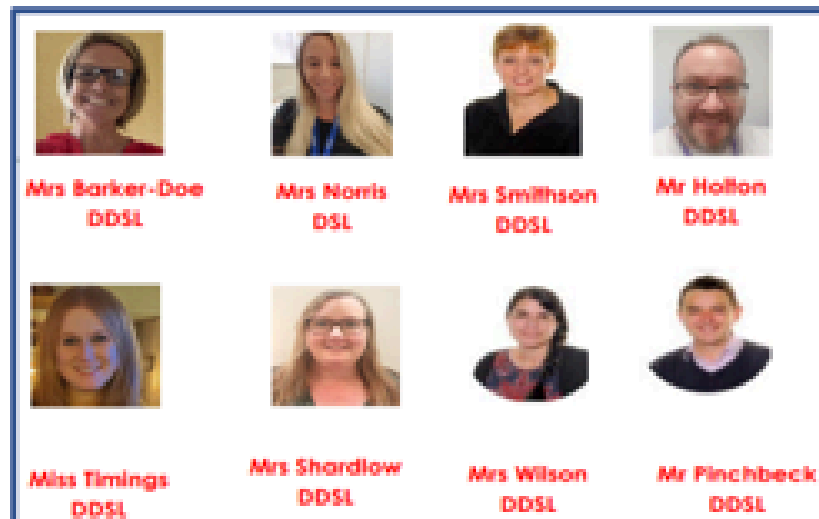
Be Calton STARS



Safeguarding Newsletter 2 – December

Dear all,

I hope that you have had a great term. A reminder that the DSL team are on hand if you wish to speak to us about anything.



It has come to our attention this term that not everyone is aware of the different functions that Roblox has and I thought I would take this opportunity to let you know that it also has an online chat facility. I have included a fact sheet from the National College for you.

At the National College, our [Workshop/Workday](#) guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. An 'Avatar' like The game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox's Roblox Studio custom levels, which can then be shared online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS
Roblox encourages players to interact online (including a group chat function), which could expose children to various risks. Scammers often attempt to trick young Roblox fans into exchanging their gold or items for something which turns out to be of much lesser value – or something they never even receive. The in-game chat has some filters, but it isn't perfect: players can still send unpleasant messages, while predators can reach out to children directly.

PUBLIC SERVERS
Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money – usually a one-off payment. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interactions. Some lobbies, therefore, will put children at greater risk of contact from strangers than others.

ONLINE DATERS
These are also called "ODers" and are quite common in Roblox. An ODer is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this doesn't usually deter such people. Some player-built Roblox levels have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind, and this will not always be obvious.

IN-APP PURCHASES
Roblox is free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some extra costs. These are usually indicated with the symbol for 'Robux' (the in-game currency). Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game using real money. People can also buy items for Robux to spend on avatars/items in the game, and it's also possible to purchase a private or VIP server.

PEGI 7

Advice for Parents & Educators

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct state of birth for younger players, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. Keep in mind that the game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your account.

PRIVATE SERVERS

If a child has friends to play Roblox with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, the player who owns the server could invite other people – who might not be child-friendly – to join them. Additionally, private servers can be set up in such a way that any player on the host's friends list can join, so it's important to discuss who children are playing with.

MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that two-factor authentication is enabled on any payment accounts also makes it harder for children to spend money inadvertently.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, children must learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's okay to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger – can help them understand how to communicate more safely with other people online.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Oswald (a.k.a. Lunasoff) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunasoff Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

NSPCC

A reminder again this term that NSPCC is a great resource for parents. If you need guidance and advice on a range of topics such as:

- Working from home with children
- Siblings sharing a room
- Healthy relationships
- Talking to children about race and racism
- Dealing with bullying
- Staying safe online

Use the following link: [Support & advice for parents | NSPCC](#)

Reporting Concerns

Report any concerns If you suspect a child is being abused or is in danger of being abused, please contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead/team or any member of staff. You can also contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on: 01452 426565 . If a child is in immediate danger, call the Police immediately on 999

E-SAFETY



E-Safety is a vital part of the digital world we live in. By understanding the rules and responsibilities, you can help keep yourself and others safe online. Always remember to think before you act and report any concerns.

Remember: Stay safe and have fun exploring the digital world responsibly!

OpenView Education
TRAINING THROUGH THEATRE

TIKTOK FAMILY SAFETY MODE

13+

WHAT IS TIKTOK?

A social media app, used mainly for creating music and dance videos. The app can also be used for users to create /participate in viral challenges.

WHAT IS FAMILY SAFETY MODE?

A new feature, allowing Parents/Carers to connect their own TikTok account with their teen's TikTok account, this allows Parents/Carers to have remote control over certain safety features.

ARE THE FEATURES EXCLUSIVE TO FAMILY SAFETY MODE?

No, these safety features are already available in the app for TikTok users to set up themselves.

WHAT ARE THE SAFETY FEATURES?

SCREEN TIME MANAGEMENT
Parents/Carers can limit the amount of time their teen spends on the TikTok app.

DIRECT MESSAGES
Parents/Carers can select which users can message their teen, or turn off direct messaging completely.

PRIVATE PROFILE
Set your teen's profile to private so only people they know can interact with their videos.

RESTRICTED MODE
Parents/Carers can limit the appearance of inappropriate content on the app.

KEEP TALKING
Having a regular conversation as well as setting up safety features is vital in keeping children and young people safe online.





TikTok is a video-sharing social media app available on iOS and Android which lets users create, share, and view user created videos in a similar manner to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. Its main draw, however, is that users can record and upload bite-sized looping videos of themselves lip-syncing and dancing to popular music or soundbites, often for comedic effect, which can then be further enhanced with filters, emojis and stickers. TikTok has been designed with the young user in mind and has a very addictive appeal. At the beginning of 2019 it skyrocketed in popularity and has featured near the top of download charts ever since. Estimates suggest that it now has anything between 500 million and over 1 billion monthly active users worldwide.



What parents need to know about

TIKTOK



AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

On the iOS store, TikTok is listed as 12+. On the Google Play Store it is rated as 'Parental guidance recommended'. When signing up to the app, it's possible to lie about your age without any form of verification. As children scroll through their feed, most of the videos they're likely to come across are light-hearted or designed to make people laugh. However, there have been a number of videos reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, self-harm and young teens engaging in sexually suggestive content. More recently, suicide-themed related videos have been widely circulated. Given the deluge of material uploaded to TikTok every day, it's impossible to moderate everything and it can be common to come across explicit and age-inappropriate content on the 'for you' feed when logging into the platform.



INAPPROPRIATE MUSIC

TikTok revolves around creating music videos through lip-syncing and dancing. Inevitably, some of the music featured by users will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the undeniably young user base, there is a risk that children may look to imitate the explicit language they hear or the suggestive actions they see when viewing others user's videos on the app.



TIKTOK FAME

TikTok is very image focused and there is a notable preoccupation with appearing cool and attractive. Many teenagers now attempt to go viral and become what's known in-app as 'TikTok famous'. TikTok (and its predecessor Musical.ly) has spawned its own celebrities - social media stars Loren Gray and Jacob Sartorius have been catapulted to fame through their initial exposure on the app. Obviously, most budding influencers looking to become the next big thing will be disappointed, but this may have the knock-on effect of making them go to more and more drastic lengths to get noticed.



ONLINE PREDATORS

As a social network, TikTok makes it easy to connect with other users. This includes the ability to comment on and react to other user's videos, follow their profile and download their content. Be aware that by default, any user can comment on your child's video if their account is set to public. Most interactions are harmless enough but as an app, TikTok is prone to predators because of the abundance of younger users.



ADDICTIVE NATURE

Social media is designed to be addictive and TikTok is no different. It can be fun and hugely entertaining. However, it is also because of this that it can be hard to put down. In addition to the short, punchy nature of the looping video format, the app's ability to keep you guessing what will come on screen next makes it easy to turn a five-minute visit into 45-minute visit.



IN-APP PURCHASES

Aside from the content, there's also the option to purchase in-app extras called 'TikTok coins'. Prices range from £0.99 for 100 coins to an eye-watering £93.99 for 10,000 coins. TikTok coins are used to purchase different emojis to reward content creators that a user finds funny or entertaining. In the iOS version of the app you can disable the option to buy TikTok coins but this sadly doesn't seem to be a feature in the Android version.



Safety Tips For Parents



TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above the age limit to use TikTok, make sure you take the time to talk to them about what they are seeing on the app. Have an open dialogue, get them to give you their opinion on what is appropriate and model the correct behaviour. Go over why they shouldn't give out private information or identifiable photos and be positive and understanding. In the long run, getting them to think critically about what they're seeing goes a long way to keeping them social media savvy.



USE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Undoubtedly, the easiest way to safeguard your child on TikTok is to make sure their account is set to private. This means only those users your child approves can view, like, and follow their content. Setting the account to private may clash with your child's goal of social media superstardom, but it will keep their account secure from strangers. This setting can be enabled under the privacy and safety menu by pressing the ellipsis in the 'me' tab of the app. To be extra safe, there are additional controls available to toggle such as who can send comments and messages, among other options.



ENABLE RESTRICTED MODE

In the digital wellbeing section there's the ability to turn on restricted mode using a PIN. Restricted mode filters out content that is not age appropriate although it should be noted that this isn't always 100% fool proof. When enabling restricted mode, parents should still be vigilant to what their child is watching and take note that the algorithm moderating content is not infallible.



MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Even if it doesn't make you popular, keep a close eye on what your child is viewing and sharing on TikTok. Whilst the app has moderation tools, videos can still slip through the net so it's important to regularly check in on what they're watching. Understanding and learning the app yourself is a great way to get to grips with it. You could then even watch some videos with your child, turning it into a bonding opportunity also.



LEARN HOW TO REPORT AND BLOCK INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With the proper privacy settings in place, TikTok can be a relatively safe space for your child to express themselves. However, in case something does manage to slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report content that isn't appropriate and get them to come to you about what they have seen. TikTok allows users to report offenders and comments within the app. You can also block individual users by going on their profile.



MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child moderate their time on the app by making use of the digital wellbeing section. Under the screen time management option, you can limit the daily allotted time allowed on the app in increments ranging from 40 to 120 minutes. You can also lock this preference behind a PIN number which has to be inputted in order to then exceed the daily time limit. This way your child can get their daily dose of memes without wasting every the day.



Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



FAMILY SAFETY MODE

TikTok Family Safety Mode allows parents to link their own TikTok account to their child's. It's a great way to oversee your child's digital wellbeing by giving you direct control over their safety settings and being able to remotely turn features on and off. This includes managing screen time, the ability to send and receive direct messages (and with whom) and the ability to restrict the appearance of content that might not be age appropriate.



SOURCES: www.tiktok.com

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Currently, children are growing up in an immediate and throwaway culture when it comes to content that's consumed online. So much material is now deliberately created to be shorter in nature – and may often contain hidden elements such as advertising, or extreme political and cultural views. With complex algorithms built to keep people on their phones and engaging with social media content, it's becoming increasingly difficult to reduce time spent on these platforms.

1 REDUCE DOOMSCROLLING

It's concerningly common for young people to spend hours 'doomscrolling': trawling through social media and aimlessly viewing every post they see, many of which might make them feel sad or anxious. Social media can be useful for keeping in touch with friends and family, as well as staying up to date on current events. However, it's important to use it with a clear purpose, instead of endlessly scrolling through content, which could lead to young people accidentally discovering harmful material.

2 TALK ABOUT THE CONTENT

It's important to keep apprised of the kind of content that a young person is being exposed to. Discussing what they're watching online can help you understand why they're using social media in the first place. Furthermore, ensure that children are aware of hidden content, such as advertising of a product – and that they know how to spot that the creator is being paid to talk about it.

3 FIND POSITIVE ASPECTS

Despite all the concerns, there's plenty of wholesome content on social media. It's worth spending time with children to help them find something suitable and enjoyable. Perhaps you'll even discover a joint interest, and you can enjoy the content alongside the child. As part of this, you should also point out why certain things shouldn't be given attention, explaining why it isn't suitable and why it's been created in the first place.

4 REDUCE SCREENTIME

Young people can sometimes be unaware of the exact amount of time they spend looking at social media. Smart phones don't just have the capacity to monitor screentime; they also record how much time is spent on each app. Consider setting targets to reduce this and support children to meet these goals, gradually reducing the amount of time spent on different apps.

5 FILL THE VOID

Monitoring and reducing screentime can create a lot of free time to fill, and young people can even face withdrawal symptoms when made to step away from their phones. To mitigate this, consider what offline activities you could introduce the child to, and what they would enjoy. This can ensure that young users will permanently cut down on their screentime, rather than temporarily doing so while they know it's being monitored.

6 REDUCE NOTIFICATIONS

One way in which social media platforms keep people coming back is through notifications. The algorithms behind these apps track people's daily habits, including the times of the day where they're most likely to engage with the platform. This data is then used to deliver specifically timed notifications to draw them back in. To avoid young users being exposed to this tactic, simply turn off notifications for the app in their phone's settings.

7 LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD

Overexposure to social media can distort someone's perception of the real world – from body norms to social conventions. This filtered environment can make it hard for young people to distinguish reality from online content, which is now becoming even more difficult with the rise of AI. To mitigate this concern, take time to teach young people how to discern truth from fiction, both on and off social media.

8 DIGITAL DETOX

Encouraging young people to take a 'digital detox', from even just a couple of the apps that they use, can result in an overall reduction of screentime and less exposure to potentially harmful content. Alternatively, rather than avoiding the app entirely, encourage children to take a 'digital detox' from content creators and influencers, and instead, keep in touch with friends and family – which is generally a far healthier use of these platforms.

9 MODEL GOOD BEHAVIOUR

Consider the habits that you're demonstrating to your children. How much time do you spend on your phone? How much do you 'doomscroll'? Comparing your own usage with the child's could put things into perspective for them – or if it turns out that you're also overusing social media, it can turn screentime reduction into a joint mission, which you and the child can work on together.

10 BE CLEAR ON THE "WHY"

Research shows that young people can become addicted to social media. There are many schools that are moving towards being 'phone free' due to the negative impacts of using social media and phones continuously. It's important to explain to young people why managing screentime is important. Set out the benefits and ensure they have all the relevant information, so it's not just seen as a punishment.

Meet Our Expert

John Inley is a senior leader in a Birmingham secondary school and has vast experience in leading schools over the past 15 years – including the development of computing curriculums across primary and secondary schools, writing e-safety policies and supporting schools with computing and e-safety advice.

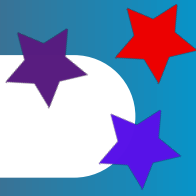


#WakeUpWednesday

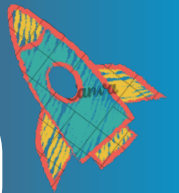
The National College



OPAL - OUTDOOR PLAY AND LEARNING



'A cardboard box can be so much fun. The children love using their imagination to create houses or vehicles in the playground.'



'Music is a huge part of playtime at Calton. Kids and adults enjoy having a good dance to some party tunes.'



"Anyone fancy a mudpie? There's always a new recipe brewing in our mud kitchen."



"Our year 5's and 6's had great fun having some natural play with a shower of leaves."



'Sometimes our cuddly friends need a bit of help. Here are some of our mini medics practicing their skills.'





Family Jigsaw

Another busy term for our team. We have completed Family Jigsaw which received excellent feedback from both parents and pupils. We will be running more sessions in 2025 – please keep an eye out for correspondence from Mrs Smithson & Miss Duignan.

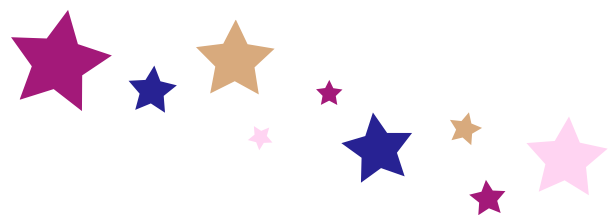
Our parents said...

It was lovely to meet other parents
To be able to sit and chat to other adults with a cuppa!
To be patient with my child
To listen to my child's views.
I wouldn't change anything about this course!
It was great just to spend time with my child
I have really enjoyed getting to know my child
I am learning my child's interests every day
We now try to spend more quality time together since starting this course
I would recommend this course to all my friends!
I am now including my children in family plans and decisions
We have made some house rules now
This course gives positivity to parenting
The interaction with all the children when they joined the session was amazing!



Our children said...

Spending time with my mum
Making the fruit kebabs was fun
I would tell my friends to come to Jigsaw
I love my Jonty
I give Family Jigsaw 5/5 stars! (This was echoed by all the children who attended)
Playing the games
I liked the activities & doing all the crafts
I wish it could go on for longer—the whole year!
I liked just being with my Mum
I wouldn't change anything—it's so fun!
Loving all the activities and meeting my Mum at school
Eating cake and playing games!



A Gentle Reminder for the Holidays

Matching pyjamas don't make a magical Christmas
 Perfect decorations can't replace the warmth of a happy home.

A messy kitchen means memories were made.
 It's okay if traditions are simple—they're yours, and that's enough.

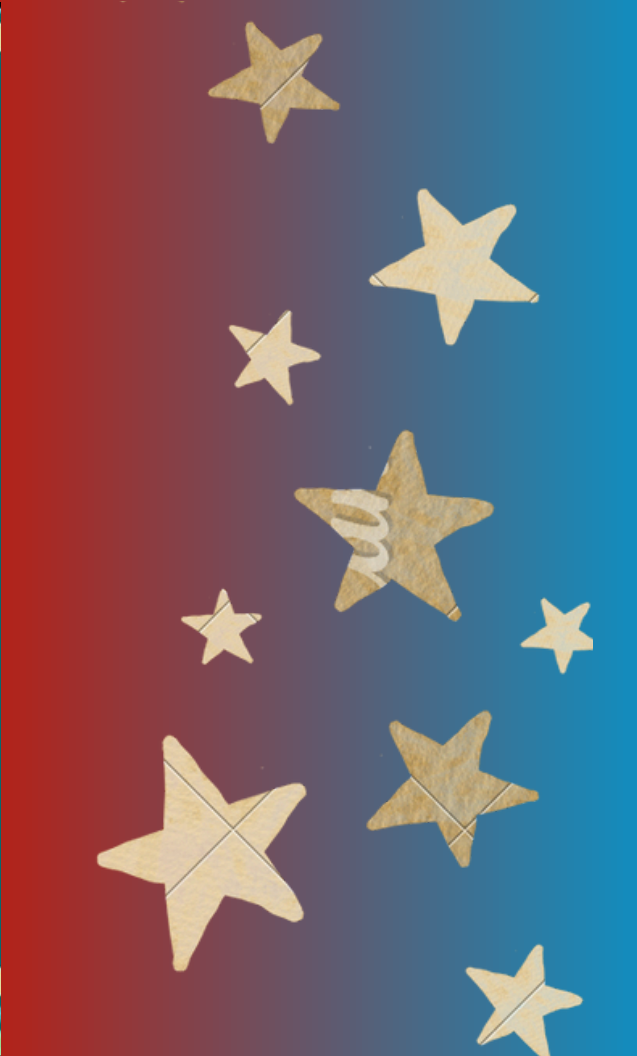
There's no 'perfect parent' at Christmas, only one who loves.

Years from now, they'll remember the hugs, laughter, and love - not the gifts.

Your presence will always outshine any present.

Let kindness, connection, and joy be your guide this season.

MHM MENTAL HEALTH MOVEMENT



Let's keep this going for all the people who are going through a tough time.

For anyone who needs some support right now. ❤️

CALM - 0800585858
 Mind - 03001233393
 No Panic - 08449674848
 Bereavement - 08088081677
 PAPYRUS - 08000684141
 Samaritans - 116 123
 SHOUT - Text SHOUT to 85258
 Abuse - 0808 2000 247
 Refuge - 020 7395 7700

Stay safe this Christmas.

Wellbeing Matters

2ND THURS OF THE MONTH

Join our informal sessions discussing 'WELLBEING' topics.
Open to all adults 12:30 - 14:30hrs - Wellbeing Topics

Wellbeing Topics: Sleeping Better ZZZ Mindfulness Stress Beaters, Wellbeing Library

FREE COFFEE & CAKE

NEW LOCATION
 The Small Hall, St John's Church, St Johns Ave, Churchdown, Gloucester, GL3 2DB

GCN

COMMUNITY FUND

Wellbeing Matters

Mr CE Auker-Howlett (Mental Health First Aid Trainer & Qualified Social Worker CertHE, DipHE BA (Hons))
 FB: @gloscomnet Tel: 07535335804 (Text)
 Email: FA4A@gloscomnet.org Web: www.gloscomnet.org/wellbeing.php

Top Tips - Being Me in My World:

- Tell your child things you love about them and that they make you proud
- Try to spend some special time with your child, reading, playing, chatting or a joint activity

Praise your child for the things they do well and behaviour that is pleasing

- Include your child in making

- some of the family arrangements
- Give your child responsibilities and praise them for doing them well
- Listen and show you care about the things that are important to them

Top Tips - Celebrating Difference:

- What would you like it to look like? (Be realistic.)
- Offer careful choices (with boundaries) with your own expectation that they will do the right thing
- Have a clear reward and consequence
- Follow through (be consistent)

Top Tips - Dreams and Goals:

- Try to use positive language with your child
- Make an effort to catch your child doing the right thing and give them praise for it
- Offer rewards that are realistic and achievable when your child makes the right choice
- Rewards can be words and simple actions, not necessarily material items.

Top Tips - Healthy Me:

- Try to be a good role model to your child when it comes to making healthy food choices.
- IF you or other family members smoke, try to do so away from your child, to avoid exposure to second-hand smoke
- Enjoy spending time outside with your child and do something together you both enjoy
- Encourage your child to try new fruits and vegetables and try to limit sugary drinks and snacks
- Be aware of how some adults may behave when they drink alcohol and how this could affect your child

Top Tips - Relationships:

- Develop empathy with your child
- Speak to them at their level
- See things through their eyes
- Ask how they are/feel
- Try to set aside special Family Pair time once a week
- Look after yourself and try to stay calm (use Calm Me strategies)

Top Tips - Changing Me:

- Think about changes that have happened and how you have dealt with them before and come through the other side; use these as positive examples
- Talk about the change well ahead of time (where you can)
- Talk about why the change is happening and what it will look like for children
- Give reassurance that you will support them through the change
- Help them gain some control over part of the change
- Help children say goodbye to what they might be leaving behind
- Help children build a positive picture of the new situation when the change has happened

Mabel

Mabel as always has been a busy dog.

It's so lovely seeing her interact with parents and the children.

In addition, to the work that she does with the children, she also had the luxury of a very long walk around the community with School Parliament delivering Christmas cards to the residents and visiting Cavendish House for the elderly to sing to them with the choir. She was very fortunate to be spoilt with a custard cream!

She also came dressed in her 'Elf' Jumper for Christmas jumper day.



The Allotment team AKA 'The Bee Community'



The Allotment team and Calton Primary would like to say a massive Thank you to everyone who either baked or bought goodies at the Bake Sale on the 19th & 20th of November.

We raised an amazing £217.00, to go towards the work taking place in the Allotment.



THANK YOU for your amazing generosity, we really do appreciate it.

The Allotment team had a stall at Calton's Winter Market, raising £226.00 and then a further £37.00 at One Church's Christmas Fayre. These much needed funds were raised selling a variety of lovely handmade gifts, many of which were made by talented Calton staff members.



Exciting Maths Opportunity!

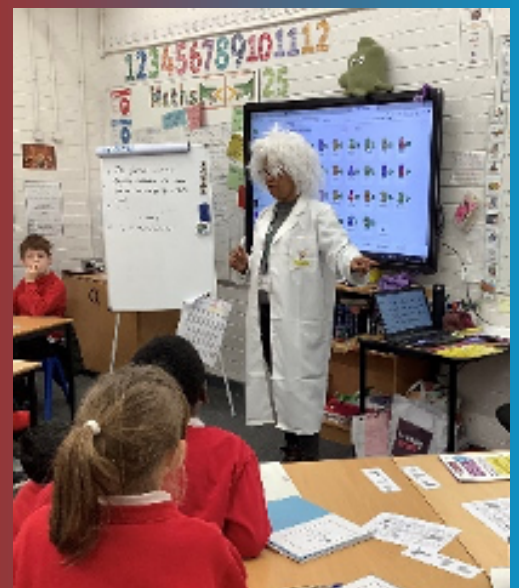
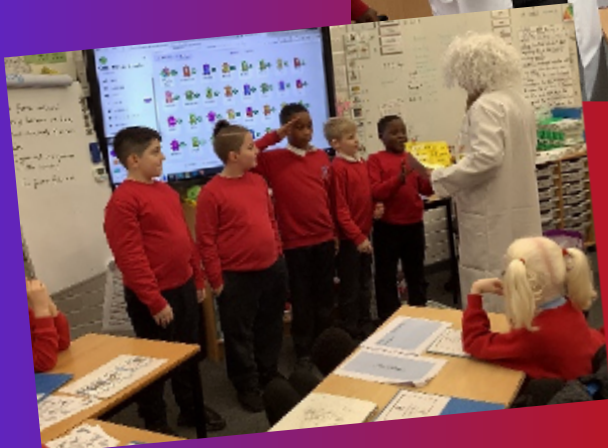
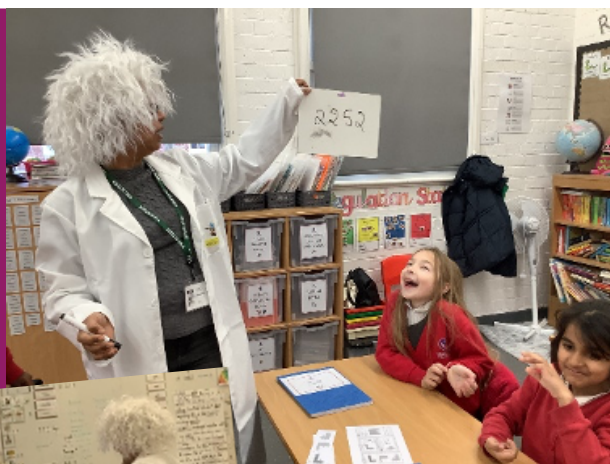
Magical Maths

We are thrilled to share some delightful news from our school. On Wednesday, 11th December, we had a wonderfully entertaining visit from the fabulous Professor Poopenshtinken. She dazzled our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 classes with her mathematical tricks and exciting games that brought a sprinkle of magic into our maths lessons!

The atmosphere was buzzing with enthusiasm as our students engaged with Professor Poopenshtinken's fun approach to mathematics. It was an absolute joy to see the children's faces light up as they explored the fascinating world of maths behind the magic!

Due to the success of this visit, we are excited to announce that all children from Years 1 to 6 are invited to sign up for an after-school Maths Club, which will commence on Mondays starting in January. This club promises to be a wonderful opportunity for our budding mathematicians to delve deeper and develop their skills in a fun and interactive environment. The club will run for a total of 11 weeks, ensuring plenty of time for exploration and enjoyment.

If you would like to sign your child up for this fantastic opportunity, please follow the link or scan the QR code provided in the attached letter. Thank you for your ongoing support in fostering a love for learning in our children. We look forward to an exciting term filled with maths magic!





Music Lessons at Calton Primary



Gloucestershire Music Peripatetic Service – 2024/25

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Calton Primary School expressed an interest in offering individual & paired tuition through Gloucestershire Music (GM) for the following instruments.

Piano Guitar Ukulele Trumpet Double Bass Voice (singing)

Instrumental lessons are a great way to not only engage your child in music making but are also proven to improve their confidence, concentration and much research has shown the positive effect of music on English and Maths in particular. The time that lessons commence will be decided in due course by your school and the GM tutor who will deliver the lessons. GM staff are DBS checked, and are quality assessed to maintain the highest standards of teaching across the county. **There may be additional instrumental options privately organised by your child's school.**

Should your child require an instrument they can be hired from GM. Information on prices for this scheme can be found at www.gloucestershiremusic.co.uk

A student bursary is also available for those who wish to apply for financial assistance. This can cover tuition, instrument hire and exam fees up to £200 per term (based on a 3 term year). Visit <https://www.makemusicgloucestershire.org.uk/schools/mrty-grants-and-bursaries/> or ring us on 01452 427242 for more information. If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium and you are unable to receive a bursary or need more financial assistance, please contact the school to discuss how they might be able to help.

To sign up to our music lesson waiting list through our online parent pay system please use the following instructions.

- 1) Visit <https://gloucestershiremusic.parfor.com>
- 2) Under the School Direct Tuition section select your child's school from the list.
- 3) Select the relevant instrument lesson from the available options.
- 4) Complete the details over the next pages.
- 5) Once you have completed this and created your SchoolPay account, complete your application.
- 6) Once we have organised the tutor, you will receive an email offering you a place in that music lesson.
- 7) Follow the instructions to accept the place and make your payment.
- 8) Once we have received the payment, lessons can begin.

Paired Lesson 30m.....	£99.99
Individual Tuition 20m.....	£132.76
Individual Tuition 30m.....	£198.33

Lessons are priced based on 10 lessons a term

Terms and conditions apply www.gloucestershiremusic.org.uk/youth-groups/terms-and-conditions/
Happy music making!

Nick Steel
Schools' Manager – Gloucestershire Music



Dear Parent or Guardian,

The start of a new academic year is a great time to begin Rocksteady lessons. Your child can enjoy the magic of music by learning to play in their very own band through weekly in-school rock and pop lessons. It's the perfect chance to learn new musical skills while having fun. Parents often find that Rocksteady lessons also boost children's self-belief, wellbeing, life skills and even academic achievement.

Your child will progress through the Rocksteady curriculum and collect up to 300 different musicianship, performance and instrument skills along the way.

Here's what you need to know:

- Lessons are held during the school day. There's no experience necessary and all instruments are provided, so it's inclusive and accessible.
- Your child can choose from vocals, keyboard, drums, bass, or electric guitar (subject to availability). They'll join their bandmates for a weekly 30-minute lesson, where they'll learn some of their favourite songs.
- You can proudly watch as your child performs in their end of term concerts, showing you and their friends just how far they have come. You can also follow their musical journey in your Backstage Account for regular updates on their progress and occasional photos or videos of them in lessons.
- Loved and trusted by thousands of schools, lessons are taught by experienced professional musicians who make music education fun. Your child's band leader will support and inspire your child while making sure they progress at their own pace.
- Your child will work towards an official, exam-free, Ofqual-registered music qualification, at no extra cost. The longer your child stays with Rocksteady, the further they will progress!
- It's hassle-free with a money back guarantee for the first month. You can cancel at any time.

Booking for September is now open. Places are offered on a first come, first served basis. Selecting different instrument options will give you the best chance of joining a band as soon as possible.

For more details on availability and cost, visit rocksteadymusicoschool.com and find your school on the sign up page or call 0330 113 0330.

Best wishes,
Rachel Hawker | Director of Education

PS Did you know, in the last year more children have achieved Rocksteady's unique exam-free music qualification than the total number of students who took A-level Music?

WELLBEING RESOURCE OF THE YEAR
EDUCATION TODAY AWARDS 22/23

HERE'S WHAT SOME PARENTS AND HEADTEACHERS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT ROCKSTEADY LESSONS



Drumming Lessons - Year 2 Upwards

Our drum instructor currently has spaces for drumming lessons at school. If you would like more details, including prices please contact Mr. Guest at:

midlandsdrumlessons@gmail.com



GLOSTY'S CHRISTMAS TRAIL

SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER - SUNDAY 5 JANUARY 2025



CAN YOU HELP US FIND WHERE HE HAS BEEN?



TREDWORTH RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Free Festive Fun!

St James City Farm
11am -1pm
Monday 23rd December

Meet Father Christmas in his Grotto!

Crafts and Games

Come and meet our cute animals!

Café open to buy some AMAZING sweet treats

Hope to see you there!






Advent Carol Service
Sunday 1 December, 6pm

Family Crib Services
Saturday 21 December,
Monday 23 December,
Tuesday 24 December, 2.30pm

Cathedral Carol Services
Sunday 22 December and
Monday 23 December, 6pm

Midnight Mass
Tuesday 24 December, 11.15pm

Christmas Day Eucharist
Wednesday 25 December, 10.15am



CHRISTMAS AT ROCOCO GARDEN
A Tale of Twinkling Lights & Mystical creatures



CHRISTMAS AT WESTONBIRT
29 NOV - 31 DEC



CHRISTMAS PARTY

DECEMBER 21ST 11.00-12.30 OR 13.30-15.00

£5 PER TICKET VIA NEW ERA EVENTS

The Ramblers Club, 62 Milton Av, Podsmead

- Meet Santa himself, with time for photos
- Enjoy a festive disco with games and prizes
- Prizes for Best Christmas Jumper
- Prizes for best dressed!

THE RAMBLERS CLUB
THE PUB IN A CLUB

BRISTOL ZOO PROJECT

Shaun the Sheep
FIND THE FLOCK

9 Nov - 12 Jan

FESTIVE SCULPTURE TRAIL!

WILD LIFE
AARDMAN
© AARDMAN ANIMATIONS LTD 2024



MALVERN WINTER GLOW

LIGHT SPECTACULAR

Cheltenham BID

CHRISTMAS ELF TRAIL

From Saturday 23 November to Sunday 5 January 2025

CHELTEMHAM BID

KIDS GO FREE!

2ND - 5TH OF JANUARY

- MUSEUM
- GRUFFALO TRAIL
- CRAFT HUT

Dean Heritage Centre, Soudley, GL14 2UB
www.deanheritagecentre.org 01594 822170

WOTTON HALL CLUB

Children's Christmas Party

SUNDAY DECEMBER 15TH
1PM - 5PM

ENTRY BY TICKET ONLY
LIMITED NUMBERS
ADULTS £2.50/CHILDREN £2

MUSIC BY THE WOTTON HALL CLUB

GIFT FROM SANTA

STAMPED/SIGNED LOYALTY CARD (3 VISITS IN 2024)
REDUCED ENTRY: ADULTS £2/CHILDREN £1.50
ON SALE AT & FROM OUR HALLOWEEN EVENT

138 BARNWOOD ROAD, GLOUCESTER. GL4 3JS
TELEPHONE 01452 610025



Read With Me
**POP UP
PANTO!**

Murray Hall, Tuffley
Gloucester, GL4 0NU.

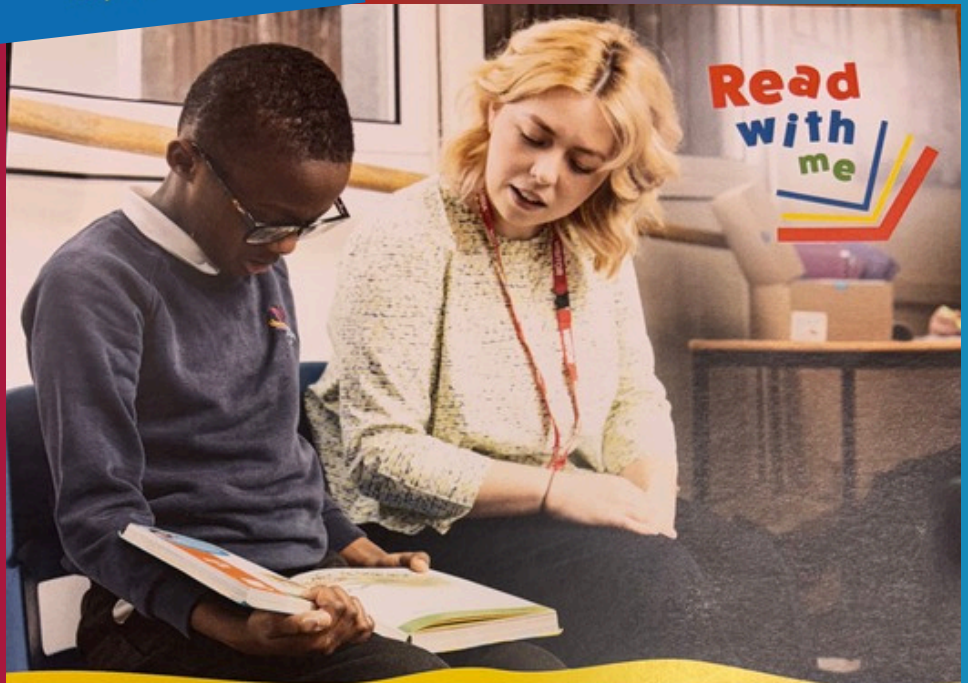


**FREE
EVENT
FOR ALL
AGES!**

11am-3pm.
27th Dec 24.

Join us for a day
of singing, dancing
and dressing up
with free food and
drink provided!

Book **NOW** at
gloucestershirehaf.com/gloucester-city-haf/



READING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN YOUR AREA!

Can you spare 1-2 hours per week?
Full training is provided.



Volunteer@readwithme.org.uk



07791110906



Readwithme.org.uk

SCAN



AMBITIONS
PRESENTS
Disney
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
© Disney

Book by Linda Woolverton Music by Alan Menken Lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice
An amateur/youth group production

Saturday 12th April 2025 - 2.30pm & 7pm

Sunday 13th April 2025 - 5pm

£13 Adults, £10 Children

Tickets are available from

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/kingstheatregloucester>

Or by telephone 0333 666 3366

Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR. is presented through special arrangement with
and all authorized materials are supplied by Music Theatre International.
421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019

The Kings Theatre, Kingsbarton Street, Gloucester GL1 1QX

THE Kings THEATRE

Telephone: 01452 300130 • Email: info@kingstheatregloucester.co.uk



Patrons: Elizabeth II & The Royal Family



JACK and the Beanstalk
SCRIPT BY ALEX JACKSON
DIRECTED BY KIERAN MORTELL
FRIDAY 13 DEC 2024 - SUNDAY 5 JAN 2025
WWW.CHELTPLAYHOUSE.ORG.UK 01242 522852
tarren  CHELTENHAM PLAYHOUSE

Gloucester Mini's Information

Start: Saturday 11th January 2025 (To run every Saturday AM during term time)

Time: 9:00 - 10:00 am

Age group: School Years 2 - 6

Venue: Chosen Hill School, Brookfield Road, Churchdown, GL3 2PL

FIRST SESSION IS A FREE TASTER SESSION

For more information or to sign up please visit Netball Classes for Kids - Elite Netball Academy

<https://elitenetballacademy.co.uk>

CATCH RUN JUMP PLAY BALANCE ENGAGE THROW

MINI NETBALL CLASSES

NEW GLOUCESTER CLASS!

LEARN, PLAY, SMILE

FOR KIDS AGED 4 - 11

ALL WELCOME!

FREE TASTER SESSION

SATURDAY MORNINGS

L1 & L2 COACHES DBS CHECKED TRAINED

EVERY CATCH, EVERY THROW, WE'RE WORKING AS A TEAM AND LEARNING LIFELONG SKILLS



LONGFIELD
Community Hospice

Recycle your Tree!



**We will be collecting and recycling trees
11th - 14th January 2025**



To book scan
here
or visit

www.just-helping.org.uk/register-tree

**Registration closes
7th January 2025**

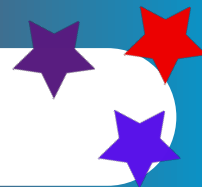
After costs, 90% of monies raised will go to Longfield Community Hospice. The remaining 10% will be distributed to charities in the local community



Longfield Community Hospice,
Burleigh Lane, Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire, GL5 2PQ
info@longfield.org.uk www.longfield.org.uk
Registered Charity No. 298627 Company No. 02213662



CFA - Calton Friends Association



The CFA team would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who supported our Winter Market this year. You have all been so generous with your raffle donations during our non-uniform day. It was lovely to see so many of you attend the Winter Market and enjoy some festive fun.

The CFA team have announce the grand total of the money raised at the Winter Market was £1053.03.

We would also like to thank our budding bakers for the amazing cakes that you created for our annual Calton Bake Off competition. Our parliament team spent some time deliberating, before choosing the winners which will be announced on the CFA & CPS social media page. The winners received their very own bake-off apron! The Cake Stall at the Winter Market was very popular again this year!

Please follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with the latest news and fundraising events. As always, if you would like to be part of our CFA team, or would like to know more about what we do, contact us at cfa@caltonprimary.co.uk

2025 will soon be here and we look forward to organising more events for all to enjoy.

We wish you all a healthy holiday!





Calton's Bake Off

Here they are, all your wonderful entries.
 Thanks to you we managed to raise a huge £161.50 on just our
 bake sale alone at the Winter Market. You should all be so proud.

thank you

CALTON FRIENDS ASSOCIATION



Feel like you can't commit to the CFA but want to help?
 Our Volunteer group could be for you

CFA VOLUNTEERS

AN INVALUABLE GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS WHO SUPPORT
 THE CFA COMMITTEE ON AN AD-HOC BASIS MAKING
 EVENTS HAPPEN.

WHEN IT'S TIME TO SUMMON THE TROOPS, WE'LL ASK FOR
 HELP. IF YOU CAN, BRILLIANT! IF YOU CAN'T WE'LL CATCH
 YOU NEXT TIME, NO WORRIES!

PLEASE GET IN TOUCH & WE'LL ADD
 YOU TO OUR LIST.

✉ cfa@caltonprimary.co.uk

f Search @Caltonfriendsassociation



Calton Bake Off



Winners
 chosen by School Parliament....



Winners prize



Runner up prize



Congratulations to all that won.

