



Caddington Village School Newsletter

October 2015



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your support over the last half term – it has been exceptionally busy and both staff and pupils are looking forward to next week.

All the children have settled in well to their new classes. Our new nursery pupils are already enjoying their time with us and we see lots of happy faces and new friendships being made!



This half term we collected harvest food for the food bank, raised £336.84 in aid of Jeans for Genes and our cake sale raised £278.33 for MacMillan. A huge thank you to you all for supporting these charitable events, we know that the children enjoy participating and helping the charities alike. The children also enjoyed dressing up for the European day of Languages.

Parent consultations were busy, yet successful evenings, thank you for the encouraging feedback received. Please do keep looking at our website and twitter feed for regular news updates. For those of you who don't have twitter, you can see the feed on the front page of our website and we regularly tweet photos, reminders and snippets of news happening in school.

Our school website is www.caddingtonschool.net

Enjoy the half term break, we hope you will all be able to join us for the spectacular fireworks event on Friday 6th November, if you are able to help please contact the chair of 'friends of Caddington School', Leanne Hardy via the school office – even if you can only help out for a little while we would be very grateful.

Please consider coming along to the Grammar Workshop on 12th November at 6pm. The session about working at Age Related Expectations was really useful and a great opportunity for parents and staff to exchange ideas and opinions. Thanks to those parents who attended.

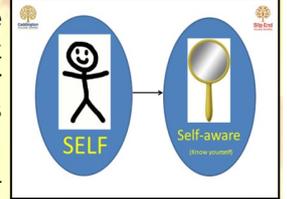
Please try and find time over half term to read with your children, it really helps if they can read a little every day. Some writing here and there, times tables and number bonds practise would also help them to progress with their learning. Have a lovely half term and we look forward to seeing you back on Tuesday 3rd November.

Sue Teague



SELF

Ensuring that our pupils become reflective, resilient and independent learners is high on the agenda for both Caddington and Slip End schools this year.



The SELF programme (which was derived from our school-based, Lesson Study research project) has focused this half term on 'Self-awareness'.

Pupils have identified their strengths and weaknesses, considered their dreams and ambitions, learnt how to reflect on their own work and respond to teacher and peer feedback.

Next term, the SELF programme will focus on 'Self-esteem'. Pupils will have a Personal target or Next Step in their Home/School books relating to self-esteem; assemblies and class lessons will also address this important issue.

KEY STAGE 1 NEWS

A good start has been made by the children in KS1 who have settled well into their new classes and routines.

In Year 2, the children have been flying around the World with Buddy Bee and learning about the continents and oceans in their Geography lessons. Science has been full of life cycles of a variety of animals. We thank you for your support in your child's homework which acts as consolidation to their day to day learning.

Year 1 have been learning about their body, labelling the different parts and their senses. They recently enjoyed a sensory afternoon with lots of fun activities centred around the five senses. In their History lessons, they have been learning about Seaside holidays from the past and how a person in Victorian times would have enjoyed a day at the beach.

Phonics is a real focus this year and we appreciate the support that the children receive in practising their spellings on a daily basis. Regular reading is also very evident for many of the children, which helps them in so many other aspects of their learning. Reader of the week is a new award we have this year and we recognise those children who read as much as they can and change their books regularly.

The children are currently looking forward to showing parents and carers what they have been learning in their grammar lessons.

As the weather becomes colder, please ensure children come to school in coats and appropriate footwear. Wellies/Snowboots in snowy weather are essential with a dry pair of shoes in which to change.

GOVERNORS

The Governors are pleased to announce two recent appointments to the Governing Body. Nita Devshi has been elected as a co-opted governor. Her experience of strategic planning will enhance the existing skills of the Governing Body. Joanne Crosby will be joining as the newly elected Caddington Village School Parent Governor.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Attendance at school is vital for academic achievement. If a child is not in school, they will struggle to progress and could suffer from significant gaps in their learning. This year we seek to reduce the number of persistent absentees (a child with less than 90% attendance), general poor attendance and lateness. Parents are legally responsible for ensuring that their children regularly attend the school at which they are registered. Parents can help to ensure regular attendance by:

- Encouraging their children to attend school regularly
- Making sure their child is on time to school (times of the day are in all school planners)
- Communicating with school in order to discuss any emerging issues or problems
- Notifying school on the first day of any absence
- Not arranging any family holidays during term time.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your child to promote good attendance and give your child the greatest opportunity to succeed.

ATTENTION YEAR 6 PARENTS

A reminder that your applications for Secondary schools need to be submitted by 31st October. Applications made after this will be regarded as "late applicants" and could mean you missing out on the school of your choice.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Caddington Village School has had some special assemblies for Key Stage 1 and 2 all about Black History Month which was this month, October.

PARENTMAIL

Parents, please remember we will no longer produce paper copies of letters home after the half term. If you haven't already signed up to Parentmail, please contact the school office, its quick and easy and the Parentmail App is available for Iphone and Android so even on the go, you can always keep informed about school events.

CAN YOU SPARE AN HOUR A WEEK?

We need volunteers to help with reading across the school. Can you spare an hour a week? Have you completed our volunteer induction course? If so then please come and listen to children read, this is an immensely important life skill and we need your help with it. If you have not completed the volunteer induction course, we are running 2 courses in November - see parentmail for more information.



SCHOOL CANTEEN

Hobbs School Catering have been working with us to ensure our lunch service offers fresh, quality ingredients cooked to standards approved by the Schools Food Trust. Our school meals are not only nutritious and delicious, they can also save you money. A recent visit by the Schools Food Trust Advisor described our service as; "a good range of foods, freshly prepared with good appeal to pupils. The facilities are an example of excellence in pupil feeding". Our new help yourself salad cart is proving very popular and the pupils have input into our menu choices. Reception – Yr 2 are entitled to a free school meal with meal prices for other years still lower than the cost of the average packed lunch. We will shortly be arranging for parents to come in and have lunch with us to promote the service and we hope to see you there!



PARKING

Staff, Governors and local residents remain concerned about some of the dangerous and illegal parking taking place outside the school gates. The safety of our children is at risk—please help us to alleviate this situation by parking at the Heathfield site and walking through the alleyway to school. Please also be aware of bicycles as they are very quiet, and several people use them to get to the school.

POPPY SALE

From Tuesday 3rd November we will be selling Poppies for Remembrance day. We will also, as last year, be selling items such as poppy hair clips, snap bands, key rings, rubbers and wristbands. These items range from 50p to £1. Please can you ensure that your child brings in change to buy these items.



HALLOWEEN 'TRICK OR TREAT'

As Halloween approaches Bedfordshire Police is reminding parents and guardians to keep their children safe.

If possible, parents and guardians should go out trick or treating with their children, sticking to well-lit areas and only knocking on the doors of people they know. Some people may have 'No trick or treat' posters up at their doors and we ask that these are respected.

Bedfordshire Police is also reminding children and parents to be mindful that some of the more vulnerable or elderly members of the community may feel intimidated by people calling at their doors and appeals to all residents to look out for their neighbours who may feel frightened during this time.

Extra patrols will be on hand over the Halloween and Bonfire Night period to ensure that the evenings can be enjoyed safely. If you do have any concerns during Halloween, it's important that you call 101 in order to keep 999 free for genuine emergencies - 31st October is one of the police's busiest nights of the year!

For more advice about Halloween please visit www.bedfordshire.police.uk

FRIENDS OF CADDINGTON VILLAGE SCHOOL

Don't forget to come to the school's fireworks display on Friday 6th November. Tickets are available from the school office. Besides the spectacular display itself, there will be hot and cold refreshments, including a BBQ and plenty of fun novelty items to buy. If you feel able to assist with ticket selling or serving food etc., please contact Eleanor on 07905 225825. There will also be a team of volunteers setting up stalls etc. earlier from 3.30pm—new helpers are always very welcome!



Our next big event will be the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 28th November, 2.00—5.00pm. There are always loads of great stalls for filling up stockings (Santa's little helpers, please take note!). There will be a magical grotto, refreshments and plenty of games for your entertainment, many of

which are provided by your talented children—ably assisted by their wonderful teachers of course! If you have anything that you would like to sell on a stall yourself, please get in touch by the school office.

Last, but by no means least, we bid a very fond farewell to our retiring chair, Lynn Russell (Thank you also to Leanne Hardy, who steps up from vice chair to take the reins!)

Lynn has served the school fantastically for the last three years in her role as leader of the Friends of Caddington Village School, overseeing not only a host of truly memorable events for parents, staff and of course pupils whilst at the same time helping to raise literally thousands of pounds for the school to use to improve facilities and the overall experience of attending the school. We're sure we will still see her face at future key dates, mucking in as usual. From everyone involved in the Friends, a HUGE thank you!

YEAR 3 COMPUTING

Year 3 have been learning all about networking in Computing and have been having lots of fun in the process.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2015-2016

Fri 23rd Oct	Last Day of Half Term
26th—30th Oct	Half Term
Mon 2nd Nov	Teacher Training Day
Fri 6th Nov	FoCVS Fireworks Night
Thu 12th Nov	Grammar Parent Workshop
Fri 13th Nov	Children In Need
Mon 16th—17th Nov	Nursery Open Day January Intake
Thu 26th Nov	6pm Computing Parent Workshop
Thu 3rd Dec	Yr6 SATs Assessment Information Evening
Tue 8th Dec	Christmas Performances: 9.30am RB 10.30am Nursery 2.30pm Yr2
Wed 9th Dec	2.30pm Yr 2 Christmas Performance
Thu 10th Dec	Christmas Performances: 9.30am RF/ RD 2.00pm Afternoon Nursery 2.30pm Yr1
Fri 11th Dec	2.30pm Yr 1 Christmas Performance
Mon 14th Dec	10.00am YrR, 1, 2, 3 Carol Service at All Saints Church
Mon 14th Dec	2.15pm Yr3&4 Celebration Assembly
Tue 15th Dec	10.00am Yr4, 5, 6, 8 Carol Service at All Saints Church
Tue 15th Dec	Celebration Assemblies: 9.00am Reception 2.30pm KS1
Wed 16th Dec	2.15pm Yr5, 6, 8 Celebration Assembly
Thu 17th Dec	Christmas Dinner
Fri 18th Dec	Christmas Parties
Fri 18th Dec	End of Term
21st Dec—1st Jan	Christmas Holiday
Mon 4th Jan	Teacher Training Day
Tue 5th Jan	Children Return to School

Please see your child's home school book for more detailed dates. The school website 'events' tab also has details of forthcoming events.