



NEWSLETTER

A message from the

PRINCIPAL



Monday 2nd June

Return to school

Monday 9th June

Healthy Eating Week

Tuesday 17th June

Year 6 - Trip to West Midlands
Safari Park

Year 3/4—Sports Day

Wednesday 18th June

Year 5/6—Sports Day

Thursday 19th June

Year 1/2—Sports Day

Friday 20th June

School Closed—INSET Day

Tuesday 24th June

School Photographs

Thursday 26th June

Healthy Body and Minds Day

Thursday 3rd July

Early Years Summer Fun Day

Thursday 17th July

2pm—Year 6 Leavers'

performance for parents and
Year 4 and 5

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful first half term I have had at Caldmore Primary Academy! Thank you, to everyone, for making me feel so welcome.

I have had a very busy four weeks getting to know the school, including the Year 6 SATs tests.

We would all like to say how proud we are of our Year 6 pupils and their attitude towards the tests. We will receive the results in school in early July and I am sure those results will reflect all of the hard work they and our staff have put in, not just over the last year, but all throughout their time at Caldmore.

Success is earned through hard work, and it is no coincidence that the pupils who attend school

regularly attain the best marks.

School attendance is very important, Missing just 10 minutes of learning each day equates to almost an hour each week. That equals 38 hours, or just over 6 days each year. That is an awful lot of lost learning!

At Caldmore, we believe in no opt-out. No opt-out not only means always being prepared to answer questions in class when asked, but not opting out of attending school, or not opting out of wearing the right school uniform.

As we move into the final half term of the year, please make sure your child wears the correct school uniform at all times.

Tom Garner
Principal

School Trips and Visits

As You will know, Caldmore Primary Academy offers lots of exciting and varied trips to its pupils. We believe that educational visits are really important and strive to provide opportunities that we hope our pupils will remember for years to come.

In order to continue to provide such a wide and varied range of visits, we will be asking for a voluntary contribution for all future trips. Regardless of the cost of the trip, we will never ask for a voluntary contribution of more than £10 and If the cost of the trip is less, we will ask for a lower voluntary contribution.

By implementing this change we will be able to offer even more fantastic trips and visits in the future.



Entry and Exit Points

Following a review of the current arrangements for parents to enter and exit the school site, we have decided to make some changes.

From Monday 19th May the vehicle gate from Carless Street will be closed at the start and end of the day. Whilst we understand that this will cause some inconvenience, this is a necessity to protect pedestrians.

No other changes will be implemented at this time, however, from September, there will be new access arrangements. These will involve re-opening access that has not been used for a very long time, creating an entrance from West Bromwich Street and closing the gate that opens onto Caldmore Road. The gate from the alleyway running between Caldmore Road and Carless Street will remain open, as will the main pedestrian entrance at the front of school for Nursery pupils. Parents will not be permitted onto the school site in a morning.

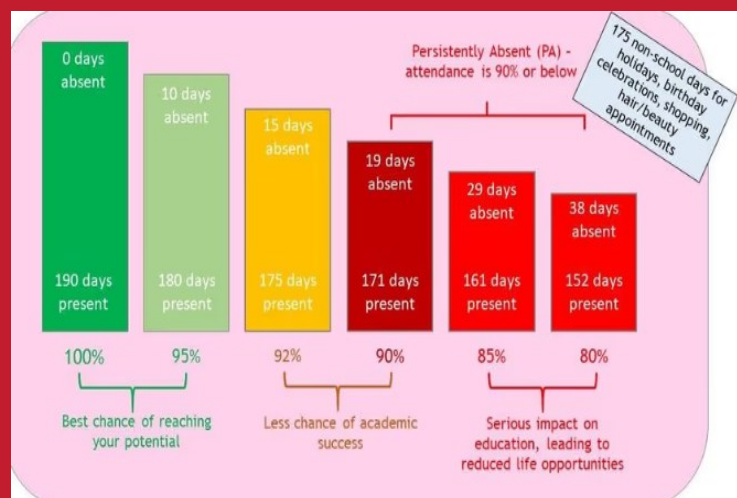
Closer to September, we will also communicate changes to pick up arrangements once we have decided which classes will be in which classrooms.



Our school attendance target is 96%. The overall attendance so far this year is 95.4% so we are not far off! Thank you to all those families who are working with us to prioritise their child's learning. We really appreciate this! Well done to 4T and 6LB who have all achieved 97% this term. This is AMAZING!



We are rewarding all children who achieve our school target of 97% attendance or above at the end of term in July. So keep going and let's get as many children as we can over 97%!



If your child takes too much time off school they will become categorised as PA or persistently absent. (below 90%).

Missing school will make your child fall behind in lessons and will impact on their academic progress. Don't allow your child to become a PA student.

If your child's attendance has dropped below 95%, school will make contact to raise concern and offer support. An attendance concern letter will be sent and school no longer approve absences unless medical evidence is submitted.

School will also access support from the Education Welfare Service.

After this point, if absences continue or improve, a referral could be made for a penalty notice of £80 per parent per child.

Please work with us as we only want what is best for your child. Thank you.



May is Mental Health Awareness month and so this issue focuses on mental health and anxiety in children and how we can work together to support them. Studies show that children and teens are more stressed today than ever before. At Caldmore, we believe Mental Health and Wellbeing is how we feel, think and act. It determines how we handle stress, manage relationships and make choices. It is important to all of us, at every stage of our lives from childhood through to adulthood. See below for some top tips to relieve anxious feelings.

Ten more ideas proven to help anxious children:



Quiet Hugs: Help your child feel safe by reassuring them that you are there and willing to help. Words can sometimes exacerbate anxiety so sitting quietly with lots of cuddles and empathising can often work better.

See your calm space: Remember a time when you were happy, calm and peaceful. See it in your mind with as much detail as possible. Always use the same calm place to enhance the effect.



5x5 Grounding: See 5 things, hear 4 things, touch 3 things, smell 2 things and taste 1 thing.

Draw your anxiety: Draw a picture of what you are worried about.



Blow bubbles: Research has shown that taking 10 deep breaths resets the automatic nervous system and helps to calm the amygdala in the brain. Blowing bubbles is a great way to get a child to blow deep breaths. Party blowers or a straw and balled up paper offer other ways to do the same.

Pet a furry friend: Research has shown that petting an animal reduces the heart rate and calms the body. Sitting for 10-15 minutes petting a furry friend is a wonderful way to relieve anxiety and bring some smiles to a child.



Jumping Jacks: Anxiety often causes shallow breathing. Asking your child to do an exercise forces them to take deep breaths that can reset the anxious feelings.

Remember past success: Encourage your child to think about the last time they overcame their anxiety. Remind them that they can do this, even though it may be hard.



Problem solve the fear: Help your child talk through what solutions could be used if their fear were to come to fruition. Knowing they can handle the worst, can help calm the fear.

Destroy the worry: Have your child write their anxiety on a piece of paper, then tear it up and throw it away.



Nursery

This half term in Nursery we have welcomed our afternoon children. The new children who have joined us have been supported to settle into their new classroom, routines and timetable. We are very proud of them and look forward to all the fun learning coming up in Summer 2!



Reception

This half term we have been learning about frogs, as part of our life cycle topic. We were lucky to have spent the morning at the community garden pond dipping and completing different life cycle of a frog activities.



Year 1

This half term we have been learning about London and it's landmarks. We learnt about the Great fire of London in 1666. The children enjoyed making houses from that time period and setting them on fire to see how quickly the fire spread just like in 1666. We also made bread like the bakery the fire started in and learnt about where the ingredients come from.



Year 2

Year 2 have enjoyed some visits to the community garden as part of our topic, Wriggle and Crawl. We went on a bug hunt, helped to create a bug hotel, made our own insects from clay and learnt all about the importance of bees!

Thank you to Anna for organising and hosting.



Year 3

Year 3 have been learning about predators! We have learnt about birds of prey, and using ICT, we produced an information leaflet about different predators. We also looked at the distribution of species using maps, and then researched insect predators.

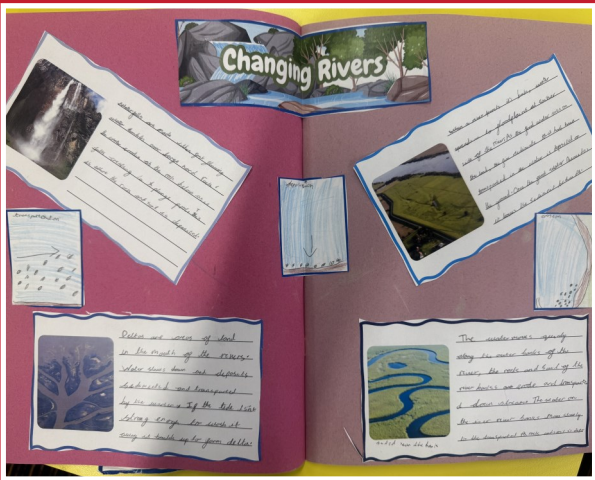
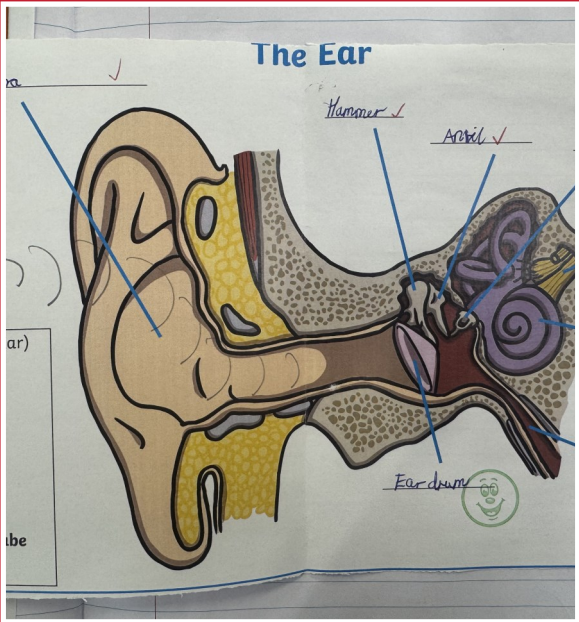
To finish off our topic we visited the Wild Zoological Park, where we learnt more about birds of prey and saw predators and prey!



Year 4

In our topic, 'Misty Mountain, Winding River', we have learnt about the features of both mountains and rivers.

In our science topic of 'sound' we learnt about how sound travels through vibrations.



Year 5

In Year 5 we were fortunate enough to visit the Guru Nanak Gurdwara Sahib in Caldmore as part of our RE topic on Sikhi. The children had great fun learning all about the traditions and customs and the way in which the Sikh community helps others through their community kitchen known as the Langar.



Year 6

Year Six have been very busy this half term revising for the SATs tests. They have all worked very hard and we are sure that they will do themselves proud.

We have still found time for other subjects. Our topic this term is called "Hola Mexico". Below you can see some lovely examples of art in the style of the Mexican artist Frida Kahlo.



Uniform

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct items of uniform each and every day.



Uniform

White polo shirt



Grey trousers, skirt, shorts or pinafore



Plain red, white or black headscarf

NO hoop earrings, big hair accessories or extreme haircuts



Red jumper or cardigan

Smart black shoes



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