



Parent newsletter - Friday 13th February 2026

In this issue:

- Headteacher's welcome
- Values winners
- Personal achievements
- Golden table winners
- Class catch ups
- Bingo Night
- Eat them to defeat them
- PE Lessons after half term
- Chinese New Year
- Diary dates

Headteacher's Welcome

What a half term!

We are pleased to share some wonderful progress happening across the school:

Reading: Children in Reception and Year 1 are responding well to our phonics programme from Little Wandle. There is very clear, structured phonics teaching, and lots of opportunities to practise during guided reading sessions. We are pleased with the excellent progress made this term.

In Year 2 - Year 6, we've introduced a new reading structure which incorporates evidence-based strategies to improve reading fluency and understanding. Children have told me that they enjoy 'echo reading' in class - hearing an adult model the sentence aloud before the children repeat is helpful in learning good fluency and expression. Pupils in Year 2 and Year 3 have been trialling the use of floor books. This supports children to develop a real love of reading and encourages creativity during lessons.

Writing: Staff have received training on the Department for Education's Writing Framework. In Spring 2 and Summer term, we're rolling out a phased approach to writing with clear strategies and fresh planning units to support teachers and pupils alike.

Maths: Our 'small steps' approach is now embedded. This involves knowledge being taught explicitly and gradually to enable children to build strong foundations in maths. We received great feedback during a recent Local Authority visit as the children's exercise books showcase their learning journey and progress very clearly. Staff have also worked collaboratively to develop our approach to learning the multiplication facts. We are pleased that Green class are showing potential to achieve great scores in the Multiplication Tables Check in June!

Subject Leadership: Governors have visited to learn more about each subject area. All subject leaders have aligned their plans with our whole school curriculum, focused on helping pupils become successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens, and effective contributors.

Feedback: Purple pens are now in every classroom for pupils to self-mark their work and receive immediate feedback. The children have told us this really helps them understand their progress.

Behaviour: We've introduced the Therapeutic Thinking Approach and we are currently reviewing our behaviour policy to include proactive strategies to develop high levels of wellbeing and a sense of belonging for all children. We have also introduced protective and educational consequences to keep children safe and support positive behaviour. More will be shared with parents on this approach next half term.

Quality Assurance: A recent visit praised the high-quality support we provide to new teachers and the happy learning environment for our pupils. Red class children are thriving in a calm, purposeful environment, as noted during a recent EYFS Local Authority visit.

Pupil Leadership: Our School Council is actively gathering pupil voice and working with the PTA to improve the playground. We're close to achieving the Eco School Green Flag Award

and have launched the Rights Respecting Schools Award, with 10 Rights Ambassadors now in place. We're also partnering with Comberton Village College to strengthen this work, aiming for the Bronze Award by Easter.

Safeguarding: Safeguarding continue to be our top priority with regular meetings and training for all staff. Pupils have taken part in NSPCC's 'Speak Out. Stay Safe' programme and a Year 6 workshop on the dangers of vaping. Our PSHE sessions are enriched with high-quality resources to help children navigate today's world safely.

I am amazed by all we have achieved together. Thank you to every member of our community for your ongoing support. I am proud to be part of Caldecote Primary School and wish you all a restful and happy half-term break!

Mrs Strange

Values Winners

YR- Santi

Y1- Mariam

Y2- Ellie

Y3- Katy

Y4- Ivy

Y5- Maria-Christina

Y6- Leonidas



Respect.
Responsibility.
Resilience.

Personal Achievements

- Eva Y5 received a certificate of Achievement in her dance class.
- Iris Y2 Received her Rainbow theme award badge.
- Rivan Y2 received a football trophy for great football skills.

Well Done all of you!



Golden Table Winners

- Jolie Y5
 - Wai Wai Y6
 - Arthur Y2
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Class catch ups- Green class

Green Class have had a fantastic term! In English, the children have been busy writing biographies inspired by fairy-tale characters. They chose either *The Witch* or *The Giant* and crafted detailed accounts of their character's life. Along the way, they strengthened their editing skills by reviewing both their own work and the work of their partner. In Maths, the class have shown real determination as they tackled column multiplication and short division. These topics can be tricky, but we have been impressed by the progress the children have made. We also celebrated finishing our class book, *The Firework Maker's Daughter*. The story concluded with Lila's spectacular firework display, which inspired the children to design imaginative firework shows of their own - there were some wonderfully creative ideas! Finally, in Geography, the children have been deepening their understanding of earthquakes and volcanoes. Earlier this term, in D.T, we built earthquake-resistant structures from spaghetti and marshmallows and then tested them - we were pleased to see that all of them remained standing! Another highlight was the creation of our own volcano models using bottles, newspaper and glue. Once painted, we used bicarbonate of soda and vinegar to create the eruption. It has been a busy and exciting term and we hope everyone in Green Class enjoys a restful and well-deserved break.

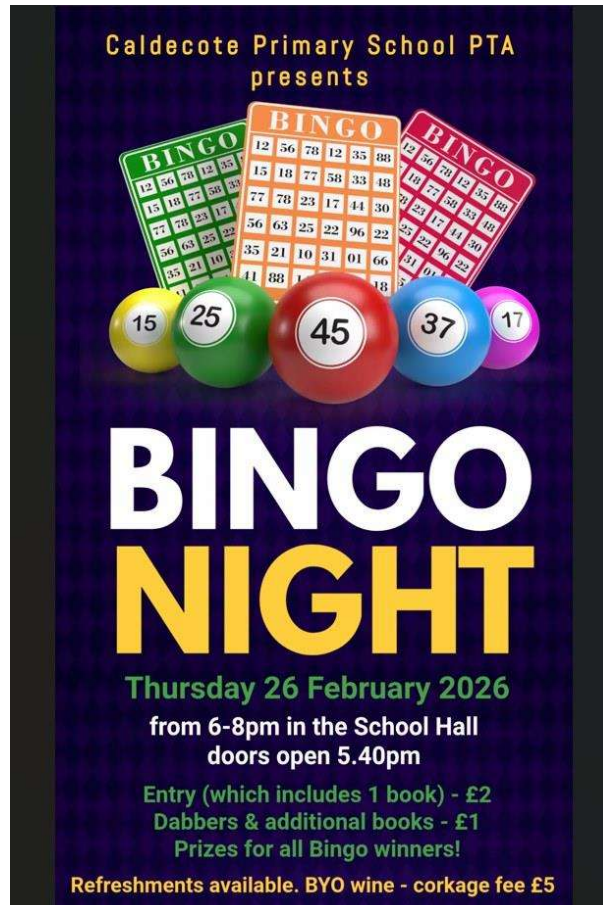


Bingo Night

Please come along to our ever-popular Bingo night which is being held on Thursday 26 February 2025 from 6-8pm, in the School Hall (access through the reception entrance); doors will be open from 5.40pm.

- *Entry is £2 per person, which includes a bingo book, and children younger than Reception age can accompany for free.*
 - *Dabbers and extra bingo books can be purchased for £1.*
 - *And there will be prizes for 1 line, 2 lines and a full house for each game.*
 - *Refreshments will be available (squash, hot chocolate, tea and coffee), but parents are also welcome to bring their own wine; please note that there will be a £5 corkage fee.*
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All proceeds will go to the PTA fund which benefits the school, so please come and support the event!



'Eat them to Defeat them'

Week commencing Monday 2nd March is 'Eat them to Defeat them'. This is a national campaign where children are encouraged to eat their vegetable at lunchtime. They will receive a sticker each day for doing so, however we will of course award a sticker for those children that attempt to try. Please note this will only apply to those that have a school meal, if your child would like to participate as a packed lunch the vegetable for each day is as below;

Monday - Sweetcorn

Tuesday - Peas

Wednesday - Broccoli

Thursday - Carrots

Friday - Peas

Peppers will be available on the salad bar everyday along with other salad vegetables.

As we did last year, I am expecting to send home a 'mission pack and stickers' for the children to complete at their leisure if they wish. These will be sent home as soon as we have received them.

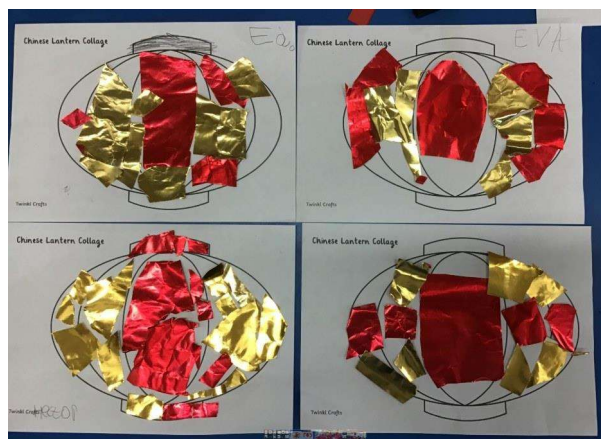
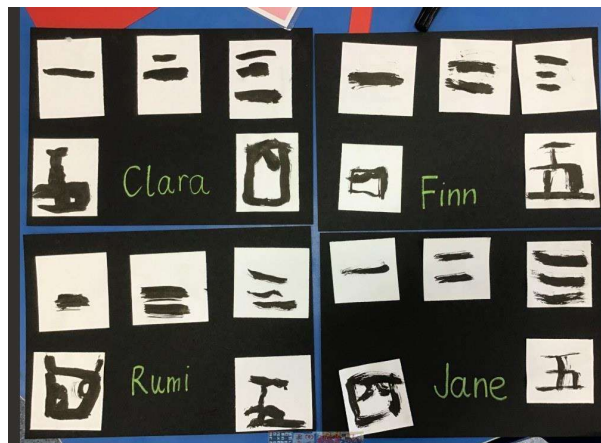
Thank you for your support with this campaign.

Mrs Gibbs

Chinese New Year

Red class have been learning all about Chinese new year today. They have made lanterns, written their numbers 1-5 in Chinese with Chinese paintbrushes and ink and learnt to sing a song about their paper lantern.

GONG XI FA COI from Red class





PE Lessons after half-term

All PE days will remain the same as this term except for all classes except Purple class, they will now have PE on Monday's & Thursday's, swimming lessons are now finished.

Diary Dates—Spring Term 2026

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Friday 27th February	Orange class celebration assembly	8.40am-9.00am
Tuesday 24th February	Y3 Wysing Arts Trip	All Day
Wednesday 25th February	KS2 Welcome Wednesday	8.40am-9.00am
Monday 2nd-Friday 6th March	"Eat them to defeat them"	12.15pm-1.00pm
Wednesday 4th March	Y5 & Y6 Girls Football tournament	12.30am-3.30pm
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day	All day
Friday 6th March	Green class celebration assembly	2.45pm
Tuesday 10th March	Y2 Botanical Gardens trip	All day
Wednesday 11th March	KS1 Welcome Wednesday	8.40am-9.00am
Wednesday 11th March	Scholastic book fair for a week	3.30am-4.00pm
Wednesday 13th March	Purple class celebration assembly	2.45pm
Monday 16th– Friday 20th March	Big walk and wheel week	All day
Tuesday 17th March	Parent Consultations	8.00-10.30am
Wednesday 18th March	Parent Consultations	3.40am-7.00pm
Friday 20th March	Parents working group	8.50am -10.00am
Friday 20th March	Silver class celebration assembly	2.45pm
Monday 23rd March	Waste free lunch	12.15pm-1.00pm
Tuesday 24th March	Y3/4 Sharing assembly	9.30am
Wednesday 25th March	KS2 Welcome Wednesday	8.40am-9.00am
Friday 27th March	Red class celebration assembly	2.45pm
Tuesday 5th May	Y4 Burwell House overnight stay	All day
Friday 8th May	Parents working group	8.50am -10.00am
Monday 8th-Wednesday 10th June	Y6 Frontier Centre residential	All day
Friday 26th June	Parents working group	8.50am -10.00am