

# CALSHOT PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## NEWSLETTER

[www.calshot.bham.sch.uk](http://www.calshot.bham.sch.uk)

### Final Message

It's been an exceptional year and I know we are all ready for the summer break but I must say a huge thank you to the wonderful staff at Calshot School, that despite this awful pandemic have continued to come to work every day to support our pupils. It has been a challenging year for us all, the many changes we have had to adapt to and may have to continue doing so for the foreseeable future has hopefully brought us all closer, as a family, as a community and as a school.

It has been wonderful to see so many pupils return to school over the last few weeks, to see how happy and settled they have been seeing their friends and engaging in learning. The school has established many new procedures that reduce the risk of spreading the virus and I look forward to September when the rest of the pupils will be able to return. Having spent so many days with quiet corridors and silent playgrounds, it reminds me of how privileged I am to be a Head Teacher in a fabulous school as we have all missed the children not being here. I know how hard families have had to work supporting children at home, I know how difficult it has been for the children too, you should be really proud of yourselves. Make sure over the summer holiday you spend quality time with each other, remember this is not forever and we will get through this.

I have put onto the school website the details you need to know for September (including teacher allocations, start and finish times and where to line up). Please take the time to read the 'Return 3<sup>rd</sup> September Newsletter' so you can be prepared and ready to come back safely, including knowing the new expectations we have involving social distancing. We have staggered start and end times to help parents maintain social distancing rules when arriving and leaving school, please make sure you adhere to them in the playground.

As of September I will not be sending home paper newsletters each week, instead I ask that you go to the school website each Friday to access it online. A paper copy will be available from Main Reception if you want to come and collect it and when a pupil writes something they will be given a newsletter to take home and stick on the fridge! This is not only a cost saving exercise but also an environmental one, as producing 470 newsletters each week uses a huge amount of paper. Other letters will continue to be sent home as and when required.

### Farewell to Year 6

Over the last two weeks, Year 6 have been celebrating their time at Calshot; for some of the children, they have spent the last eight years of their lives here! The children have had farewell celebrations in class where

Miss Atterbury and I served them refreshments and popcorn. It has been a very different sort of sendoff for them without the usual Prom or Assemblies, but I am very glad they got their 'Leavers Hoodies' paid for by School Fund and Friends Of Calshot. They also took home their own individual 'Leavers Book 2020' with messages from staff, pupils and governors. It goes without saying that we wish them a happy, healthy and successful future.....may they continue to 'Aim High!'

### School Dinners

As of September we are using a new catering service called Dolce, which allows parents to pick and choose off an online menu what their child would like to eat. I understand there were some technical hitches with setting up accounts which I have been assured will be resolved by next week. Thank you to the parents that contacted the school to make us aware of it before the summer holiday started so we can make sure it is all sorted out ready for September.

### Message from the Chair of Governors

'It's the end of an academic year like no other and the Governing Body would like to thank everybody who has helped to get through it. It's been a year of two halves - the first half, running well with all our regular activities in and out of school and the second half being challenged by and reacting to the impact of Covid-19. First and foremost we'd like to thank Mr Wingrove and Miss Atterbury for their leadership throughout the year but in particular for the swift reaction and detailed planning to keep the school running since the lockdown of 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Thanks to ALL staff for their dedication in supporting the plans and working hard to ensure they were delivered in ever changing circumstances. Thanks to parents who have supported the school throughout the year and again, responding to and working with the school over the last few challenging months. Finally, thank you to the children, who we have all missed having in school. They have shown great resilience and maturity in dealing with being at home and working independently. We look forward to returning to as near normal as possible in September. We are always grateful for the work that Friends of Calshot and staff at CKs do and we look forward to seeing them back in the new academic year too. The Governing Body Statement has been published on the school website - do take some time to read it. We wish you all a safe summer break and look forward to seeing you back in September and wish Year 6 and the staff that are leaving us the very best as they move on to the next part of their journeys!' - Dharmesh Rajput (Chair of Governors)

I want to wish all pupils and parents a wonderful summer holiday as you deserve it! I hope you all get to enjoy the good weather (fingers crossed) and that you continue to look after each other, so we can return refreshed and ready for a new start in September.

## Children return to school on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

Mr. M. Wingrove

(Head Teacher)

