

The Calder Learning Trust

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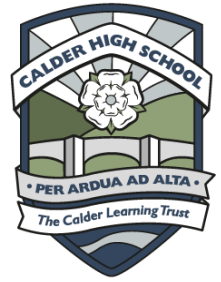
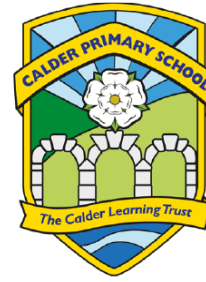
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Head of The Calder Learning Trust - Mr A Guise

Head of Calder Primary School - Mrs K Lambert

Head of Calder High School - Mr A Taylor



September 2025

Welcome to Class R!

Dear Parents/Carers of Class R,

We are so excited to be teaching your child in their first year at primary school! In this letter you will find some information about our first topics, key information for our class and some useful dates for your diaries. Miss Graham teaches Class R on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Mrs Morris on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Class Topics

This term we will be learning all about ourselves. Our topic name is '**Marvellous Me!**' and we will be learning about ourselves, our feelings, our families, our bodies, senses and people who help us. Alongside this, the children will start Read Write Inc Phonics where they will learn all the set 1 sounds and how to form their letters correctly. We will also be exploring the numbers 1-10 in depth and investigating shapes, measures and patterns.

PE

Children will need wellies for **Muddy Monday** and their PE kit on **Wednesdays**. We suggest that wellies and PE kits (including outdoor kits as the weather gets colder) are kept in school at all times. We send PE kits home at the end of every half term to get washed. Please can earrings not be worn on Wednesdays.

Reading

Over the coming weeks your child will start to bring home their first sound sheets and reading books. We ask that children practise their sounds and reading as much as possible, so that they are confident and their sounds are secure. Ideally for 10 minutes every day, but at least 4 times per week. On the sheet there is also an opportunity for children to practise their letter formation- this is also encouraged to keep practising to build confidence.

Children will bring their reading packets **home on Fridays**, and they need to bring them **back on Thursdays**, ready for worksheets and books to be changed.

We go the library on **Friday** afternoons to allow children to explore a range of different stories and genres. This promotes reading for pleasure.

Alongside their phonics books/sheet, children are allowed to choose a story from the library to take home. These stories can be read by an adult to the children to enjoy together. This is a great opportunity to model expression, good pace and a love for reading.

Spellings

Children will practice spelling simple words in school once the initial set 1 sounds have been

Everybody, Everyday



learnt. We complete word time daily which helps children to sound out, blend and use 'Fred fingers' to spell a range of different words.

Tapestry

Tapestry is an online journal where we will record and share observations and photos of your child's learning. It is really helpful if you can also upload and share learning from outside the classroom to help us build up a full picture of their learning journey. This could include their reading, writing, maths, crafting, taking part in clubs or activities, trips out such as to a castle, library or museum or family events that they would like to share with their classmates and tell us more about.

Other equipment needed

Please make sure children have wellies and a waterproof coat available at school every day, especially in the colder months-we love to explore the outdoors and the changing seasons whatever the weather.

Please provide children with spare labelled clothes- just in case of any accidents.

We have lots of pre-loved wellies that we are happy to pass on – please enquire with our office for more details.

We try hard to keep children's uniforms clean throughout the day by providing aprons for painting and water play. However, in Reception we do a lot of our learning through play so uniform can get a little bit messy!

Morning snack

After break time, children are offered a piece of fruit and glass of milk. Children are welcome to bring in their own piece of fruit during this time if preferred. If it is in a container then please can this be clearly labelled. Children should bring a labelled water bottle in every day. We will happily help the children top up their water when needed.

Upcoming dates and contacting school

If you have any queries, please feel free to chat to us at the start or end of school. You can also contact us by email at primary@calderlearningtrust.com

You are invited to join us for phonics on **Tuesday 30th September 8.45-9.15am** where you can watch Reception take part in a phonics session, see the resources we use and will be sending home and see some of the activities we do in school to support your child.

Parents' Evenings will be on **11th and 12th November**, details on how to book an appointment on Arbor will be sent out nearer the time.

Please keep an eye out for the weekly newsletter, emailed home each Friday too.

We look forward to working with you this year!

Yours sincerely,

Miss Graham and Mrs Morris