



Callands Community Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the countdown to Christmas begins, our little 'Callands Elves' have begun sprinkling a little bit of festivity around school. Our school Christmas tree was delivered on Friday and today children have started to decorate it. Don't worry if you forgot to send in a Christmas bauble with your child today, pupils can bring in a decoration up until Friday. The children in Reception and Key Stage One are busy rehearsing their Christmas performances and from listening to their songs, you are in for a real treat and one which will certainly get you into the festive spirit.

We work very hard to be a smart school where children can feel PROUD. An important part of this is our school uniform. Please remember that children are expected to wear black school shoes every day, unless they have PE, and not boots as these are uncomfortable when sitting on the carpet and can compromise safety when playing on equipment outside. Please also ensure children are bringing a book bag to school rather than a large rucksack as space in classrooms for storage is limited. Book bags can be purchased through any of our uniform suppliers.

Children have accessed a range of trips and workshops across this term to enhance their learning experiences. We regularly post news on social media to share what we have been doing. If you have not already done so, please follow us on Facebook to see updates on all the exciting things going on in our school. Thank you also for sharing your children's out of school achievements, this newsletter is a bumper edition of all the wonderful competitions and awards that children have earned during the last couple of weeks. Please ensure that when you email the office, you give as much detail as you can to let us know what your child has participated in and what we should be PROUD of.

I appreciate that mornings are a very busy time for all families but a reminder that school starts promptly at 8.40am for children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 and 8.50am for pupils in Reception and years 1 and 2. We do have a 9-minute window prior to these start times, so that your child can come into school and be ready for learning. Please support your child by ensuring they arrive on time.

The Mental Health Team have asked me to send out an electronic survey to parents/carers, which they are conducting at every school. The link to the electronic questionnaire is below with the closing date that has been set for the questionnaires being the 8th January 2025. The more responses that come in the more valid the audit will be, providing a better picture of the current mental health and wellbeing status in schools across Warrington. The results will be given back to school during the Spring Term.

Parent/Carer Questionnaire

<https://forms.office.com/e/sfg9bTC9Qg>

Finally, I hope you all had a lovely weekend, I have heard several stories from the children this morning of the festive army of elves arriving in your homes. I look forward to hearing about the nice and not-so-nice behaviour they witness, as well as causing some minor mischief of their own when backs are turned!

Mrs S Bentley
Headteacher

IMPORTANT DATES

Key dates are available on the school website. Please click on the link below to access upcoming events on the school calendar, all class trips, after school clubs etc. [Callands Community Primary School - Calendar \(secure-dbprimary.com\)](https://secure-dbprimary.com)

Christmas Dates

Monday 2 nd December	Bring a bauble to school day, to decorate the school Christmas tree
Thursday 12 th December	Y1/Y2 Christmas Production 9.30am – Parents/Carers welcome
Friday 13 th December	Y1/Y2 Christmas Production 2.00pm – Parents/Carers welcome
Monday 16 th December	EYFS Christmas Show - 9.30am – Parents/Carers welcome Y1/Y2 Christmas Production 2.00pm – Parents/Carers welcome
Wednesday 18 th December	EYFS and KS1 Christmas Party afternoon – children to wear party clothes – EYFS Disco organised by FOCS – 3.30 - 4.30pm KS1 Disco organised by FOCS – 4.45 - 5.45pm
Thursday 19 th December	KS2 Christmas Party afternoon – children to wear party clothes Year 3/4 Disco organised by FOCS – 3.30 - 4.30pm Year 5/6 Disco organised by FOCS – 4.45 - 5.45pm
Friday 20 th December	School closes for Christmas - 3.10pm for KS2 Pupils - 3.20pm for Reception and KS1 Pupils

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year




ATTENDANCE

Attendance – up to Friday 29th November

Year Group	Attendance (Year To Date)
YR	96.5%
Y1	95.4%
Y2	96.2%
Y3	96.2%
Y4	95.3%
Y5	96.5%
Y6	95.6%
All	95.9%
94.9% National	

Attendance

Red = Below national

Green = Above national

Every class is above National this week – what a huge achievement.

If your child is ill, please phone school to let us know. Please phone 01925 444795 and choose option 1. This is a dedicated mailbox for parents to leave messages about your child's absence.

OUT OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS



Incredible Irish Dancing

Orla recently competed in her first ever Irish dancing competition known as a 'feis'. She has only been training for six months and placed in every round, she came away with 4x 3rd places and 1x 4th place We are all extremely PROUD of her achievements – well done!



Authentic Indian Dancer

Anantika performed Odissi, an Indian traditional dance at Liverpool museum on the occasion of Hindu cultural day. We are so PROUD of you Anantika, you look like a professional!



Great Gymnastics

Rylee and Elodie have both been working so hard and have achieved some great new skills in gymnastics at Gymfinity. Rylee then went on to perform with Lydia from year 2 in a ballet competition at the Civic Centre in Ellesmere Port with her Dance school JC Academy. The group were Placed fourth and qualified for the finals at Blackpool Winter Gardens in January. We couldn't be more PROUD – well done girls!



Players Player of the Year

Louie has been awarded "players player of the year" this season for Crosfields Vipers under 8s. Louie has had a great season scoring 46 tries for his team, making him the top try scorer for the season. He has made 168 tackles and won numerous player of the day awards on his game days. He was thrilled to be chosen by his team mates as player of the year. We are also thrilled Louie and very PROUD of you.



Sibling Success

Last week Noah got player of the match in football for scoring 4 goals in a cup match. Isabella got gymnast of the month for October and then on the 20th November, Isabella also got a certificate for her confidence and being a good role model to her fellow gymnast. Isabella also got dancer of the week at her dancing last Tuesday. A positive week all round for Noah and Isabella, we are very PROUD of you both.



Champion Gymnast

Adrian in year 2 has achieved well at the Northwest championship. He had two routines where he was placed first on Vault and second on Floor, which meant his combined score was 17.367 out of 20 meaning he placed as a merit, receiving a silver medal. This is a huge achievement and made even more spectacular that he was the youngest child to compete in his category. We are incredibly PROUD of Adrian and all of his achievements over the past couple of months, he has two very PROUD dads and a very PROUD school.



Gymstar Award

Isabella gained her level 6 in gymnastics and by that big smile, we can see she is really PROUD, as we are too.



Vaulting Success

Penny in year 4 has achieved third place vault in her club competition last weekend. Another great smile which shows how PROUD she is of her achievements. We are also PROUD of you Penny-well done!



Hat-trick

Omar had a great football match, scoring a hat-trick for his football team, Crossfields. They won 14-0! We are very PROUD of you Omar, well done!

Silver Success

Leyla from year six, took part in the Allstar bjj Northern Pro Competition on Sunday 24th November, which was based in Manchester

There were 4 competitors in Leyla's category and she fought really well in her first match and got a submission, by choking her component.

In her second match Leyla fought extremely well completing the full five minutes and losing out on points. The game finished 9-8. Leyla walked away with silver and was very PROUD of herself as we are too. Well done Leyla.



Club Champion

Will, also from year six, achieved a gold medal in 100m, a gold medal in 100m breaststroke, a silver medal in 50m breaststroke and bronze medal for 50m backstroke. These achievements were for his Club Championships at Prescott Swimming Club. Well done Will, we are all really PROUD of you – a winning smile!



Marvellous medal winner!

Ellie participated in the Warrington gymnastics badge gala last Sunday. She made the podium and did so well for her age category coming:

2nd in floor

3rd on vault

Overall, for her category she came third. We are super PROUD of Ellie and all the medals she has achieved.

Star Boxer

Logan in year two, has received star boxer earning him the title and taking home a certificate and a trophy. Logan is trying really hard to learn the skill and is enjoying the fitness, strength and discipline needed to become a boxer. His coach said he turns up every week and tries his hardest with his super-fast feet and growing strength. Logan, we are very PROUD of you, well done!



TERM DATES 2024 -2025

September 2024 – July 2025

	Date of opening	Date of closing
Autumn First Half Term	Wednesday 04.09.24	Friday 18.10.24
Autumn Second Half Term	Monday 28.10.24	Friday 20.12.24
Spring First Half Term	Tuesday 07.01.25	Friday 14.02.25
Spring Second Half Term	Monday 24.02.25	Wednesday 09.04.25
Easter weekend: Friday 18 April 2025 – Monday 21 April 2025 (Falls within the holiday period)		
Summer First Half Term	Tuesday 22.04.25	Friday 23.05.25
Bank Holidays: May Day - Monday 5 May 2025		
Summer Second Half Term	Monday 09.06.25	Tuesday 22.07.25

INSET Days:

Monday 2 September 2024, Tuesday 3 September 2024, Monday 6 January 2025,
Thursday 10 April, 1 inset day taken as twilights.

TERM DATES 2025 -2026

September 2025– July 2026

	Date of opening	Date of closing
Autumn First Half Term	Wednesday 03.09.25	Friday 24.10.25
Autumn Second Half Term	Monday 03.11.25	Friday 19.12.25
Spring First Half Term	Tuesday 06.01.26	Friday 13.02.26
Spring Second Half Term	Monday 23.02.26	Wednesday 01.04.26
Easter weekend: Friday 3 April 2026 – Monday 5 April 2026 (Falls within the holiday period)		
Summer First Half Term	Wednesday 15.04.26	Friday 22.05.26
Bank Holidays: May Day - Monday 4 May 2026		
Summer Second Half Term	Monday 08.06.26	Wednesday 22.07.26

INSET Days:

Monday 1 September 2025, Tuesday 2 September 2025, Monday 5 January 2026,
Thursday 2 April, Thursday 23rd July 2026