



Calke Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 – September 2025

Working together to

inspire nurture empower

Welcome Back & Updates

Hello Calke families and welcome back to what will surely be a wonderful year in Calke! We're excited to welcome some new friends to our class, and I'm confident we're going to have an amazing time together. I can't wait to get to know you all and see how much you'll all blossom and grow over the coming months! This half term, we'll focus on settling back in, adjusting to our new timetable, and—most importantly—having lots of fun!

Don't forget to check Evidence for Learning to see photos of the incredible work your children will be creating this half term. Be sure to keep an eye on our social media pages as well for more updates.

If you have any questions or would like to get in touch, please feel free to email me at **bethany.hill@ivy.set.org** (Class Teacher).



Key Concepts and Skills

We're kicking off this year with the exciting topic of '**Mighty Metals**', where we will explore a range of exciting activities! Our focus book is '**The Hobbit**', which we will be learning about as a sensory story, going on an exciting journey where we will encounter jewels, spiders and dragons! We will be engaging in process art and making Robots, putting our culinary skills to the test to make Hobbit Scones and doing lots of experimenting with different metallic items and materials, looking at their properties! We will have a music session with Geoff and Leila every Wednesday afternoon and Rebound on a Friday morning.

Communication remains at the heart of all we do, and our pupils will have endless opportunities to tell us what they want and need by using TOBIs, symbols, switches and of course, their loud voices!

Reminders / additional information



If it is appropriate for your child to have snack, please use Arbor to pay for it. We have a range of snack options, including yoghurts, crisps, biscuits and juice.

This half term our hydro day is a **Tuesday morning** and **Wednesday morning** but please send in your child's kit at the beginning of the week as we may take them in whenever there is a space. Please include a costume/trunks, 2 towels and some body wash/shampoo. Please remember to send in a change of clothes for your child each day, thank you.



Please send appropriate warm clothing now it's getting cooler and sun cream for the weather, just in case we get a nice sunny day!



Home Learning Curriculum Ideas

Cognition

In Cognition, we are going to do lots of experiments with sounds and texture!

Collect some things made of metal from around your house – bowls, keys, spoons etc and give them a feel and bang onto different surfaces!

How do they feel? What do they sound like? Can you make quiet sounds and then loud sounds? Which do you prefer?



PSED



In PSHE, we will be learning about 'Romantic Feelings', and we will be focusing on all different types of love, including for ourselves and for others.

We will be enjoying a dance massage lesson based on the book 'What is Love' by Mac Barnett, which you could listen to at home –

[Read Aloud: What Is Love? by Mac Barnett | Stories with Star](#)



World Mental Health Day

Our Mental Health is so important, every day of the year, and Mental Health Day is a reminder that we must prioritise our happiness!

Take the time to do what you enjoy and make time for others. Go on a walk with your friends, share your favourite story, prioritise cuddles and quiet time, listen to your favourite music and have a dance!



Physical Development



During this half term, we will be focusing on a topic related to dough disco and dance scarves. We will be squeezing, rolling, pinching the dough and making a wide range of shapes using the scarves (up and down, left to right, big circles, small circles) out music is all about mighty metals, and you can do this at home!

All you need is playdough or materials to shake.

Reading

We all love a good book or audiobook on YouTube!

Here are some books you could read together that link to our topic:

- The Hobbit J.R.R. Tolkien (shortened versions are available on YouTube)
- Doctor Who – lots of audiobooks on YouTube!
- Heavy Metal Badger by Duncan Beedie

Makaton Signs

