



Calke Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 – September 2026

Working together to

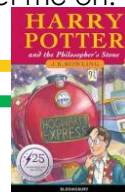
inspire nurture empower

Welcome Back & Updates

A huge welcome back to our amazing Calke class of 2026-2027! Wow, the start of a brand new year with old friends and new friends, who I know we will welcome with open arms, love and warmth! I hope you all had the most beautiful summer with the ones you love, enjoying the sunshine and having a well deserved relax!

We will be spending this half term learning all about each other, building friendships and relationships and most of all, getting stuck into the fun once more! Check out **Evidence for Learning** for photos of the fantastic work your children will be doing this half term, and keep an eye on our social media pages, too!

If you have any questions or would like to get in touch, please don't hesitate to contact me on: bethany.hill@ivy.set.org (Class Teacher)



Key Concepts and Skills

Our topic this half term is '**Wands and Wizardry**', which will transition us perfectly into the Halloween season! Our book of focus is Harry Potter, which we will be learning about through a sensory story, where we will be making choices, working on our functional communication skills and most importantly, learning how to be magical wizards, of course! Alongside this, we will be undertaking a magic-based dace massage lesson and Wicked themed UV Rave to further promote our communication. In cognition, we will be embarking on an environment centred around play and exploration through cause and effect, where we will be making potions, activating the fan to make Harry's letters fly down the chimney and discovering what magic is hidden all around us. In expressive arts and PE we will be continuing to learn to move our bodies in different ways, whether this be flying through the air and dancing at a celebratory ball. 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 **Wednesday** and **Thursday** 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 clothing for the changing weather.



Home Learning Curriculum Ideas

Art

Bubble Painting Using Balloons!

Grab some balloons and blow them up to half size, choose your colours of paints, grab some card or a paper plate, dip your balloons into the paint and bounce away, making marks that resemble bubbles from a potion!



PSHE



In PSHE, we will be learning about 'Feeling Well and Staying Well', which is a lovely topic to start the year with!

To support your children with this at home, you could set aside some time at night for a little massage before bed to help them unwind after a long day at school, or you could go on a beautiful autumnal walk to get some of the last sunshine of the year and to watch the sunset, which gives the perfect opportunity for reflection!

Cognition

At home, you could hide toys or objects in rice, pasta, water, or leaves and encourage your child to find, sort, post, or match them by following simple instructions.

You could also explore the magic of light and reflection using torches, mirrors, coloured cellophane, or shiny objects, encouraging your child to investigate what changes they can observe.



Communication

Make your own magical potions at home, following instructions, or choose what ingredients to add. Get creative with it, there are so many possibilities!

- **Fruit potion** - mix, blend, smell, squash fruit and mix with lemonade!
- **Nature potion** - go outside and collect leaves, twigs, grass and mix them up with water!
- **Bath potion** - a classic, whilst in the bath, explore different shower gels and bath bombs and see what you can create!

Encourage your child to explore, predict what might happen, and talk about what they can see, hear, feel, and discover.



Reading

We all love a good book or audiobook on YouTube!

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

- Spells by Emily Gravett
- The Worst Witch Audiobook
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xFNd2PkViKo>
- Stories of Spells and Enchantment by Enid Blyton

Makaton Signs



Magic