



Callands Primary Academy School

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are quickly approaching one of the busiest but most exciting times to work in a primary school – Christmas! We have sent home 'Key Christmas Dates' this week via Arbor. The first key date is on Monday with the annual tradition of children bringing in a Christmas decoration for the school tree. Please don't worry if you can't provide a decoration as we do have some spare decorations in school.



27 days to go!

Thank you to everyone who supported the school visit to the cinema on Tuesday and also last Thursday. All of the children had a fantastic time and really enjoyed the experience. The children were great ambassadors for our school and we do feel very proud of them all. We were fortunate enough to gain complimentary tickets for this trip, which ensured that the children were able to experience this event, without having to pass on high costs to you. Thank you also, to everyone who supported 'Children in Need,' the office team have informed me that we raised £340.50, which is a great amount towards a charity that offers children a range of support.

Thank you to FOCs who have organised the annual 'Spooky Spoons' competition. The photos of the winners are below, well done to everyone who entered, it was a huge task to choose the final three winners.

It has been another week of wonderful learning in school. The children have been immersed in their learning and I have had the pleasure to share the reading curriculum with our School Improvement Partner. The vocabulary which is being introduced and revisited with our children is fascinating. We hope to see the impact of this vocabulary in the children's final written pieces at the end of this term. Our teachers have also been collaborating with their peers from across the trust to ensure that the learning and outcomes for each year group are appropriate and of the highest standard. This collaborative effort is a reflection of our commitment to providing the best education possible for our children.

On Tuesday, I will be sending out the results from the parental questionnaires, which were sent out after half-term. Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to the questionnaire, your feedback helps us to continually improve. We value feedback from parents and we are always looking at ways we can improve and further build a supportive partnership between home and school. Another questionnaire will be sent out during the Spring Term.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone on Monday. The children are all very excited about the 1st December!

Mrs Bentley, Headteacher

Reminder

As you have all been informed, we want our school to continue to be financially stable and for our staff to continue to offer the children the very best education. That unfortunately means that from September 2026 we will have to reduce the number of admission places for Reception from 60 to 30, which will see Callands move from two-form to one-form entry. The change has been agreed by our Governors and the Regional Director. No pupil that already has a place in school will be affected by the change. The consultation for proposed admission arrangements for 2027-2028 reducing the Pupil Admission down to 30 is now open until 16th December. Details of the proposed admissions policies Callands, along with a feedback form, can be found via our school website or direct at:

<https://www.wpat.warrington.sch.uk/consultations>

IMPORTANT DATES

Admission to Reception for September 2026

If you have a child due to start school next September (born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022), you can now go online at <https://www.warrington.gov.uk/primary-school-admissions> for information about primary schools and how to apply for a place online. The deadline to complete your application is midnight on **Thursday 15th January 2026**.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance – up to Friday 28th November

Year Group	Attendance (Year To Date)
YR	94.5%
Y1	94.6%
Y2	93.7%
Y3	94.5%
Y4	93.8%
Y5	95.8%
Y6	94.6%
All	94.5%
95% National	

Attendance

Red = Below national

Green = Above national

Attendance had dropped significantly due to the recent virus, but I am pleased to inform you that it is now on the rise! It is wonderful to see the children back and feeling well again.

If your child is ill, what YOU must do:

Try to telephone the school before 8.30am each day of your child's absence. **01925 444795, choose option 1 for the dedicated mailbox for absence.**

Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.

If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.

Have a backup plan for if your child misses transport, call on a family member, neighbour or friend.

If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help!

What WE will do:

Check your child's attendance every day.

Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.

Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.

If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.



Above are the winners of FOCs spooky competition. This is always a great event and the entries this year were spectacular. Well done to the worthy winners, Isla from KS2, Finley, who is in KS1 and Alfie, who is in Reception.

OUT OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

DOUBLE YEAR 3 SUCCESS

FANTASTIC FILM PRODUCER

Well done to Henry, who went to the PQA awards, which took place in the middle of November, in Sheffield. Henry won two awards for starring in and producing his feature films – WOW, Henry – we are PROUD of you.



COMPETITION SUCCESS

Adrian, has just competed in the Northwest Gymnastics Championship. He achieved 9.8 on floor, 9.65 on vault and came out with a huge 19.45 out of 20, achieving a Distinction and a Gold Medal.

Adrian has made his family and us feel very PROUD – well done.



OUT OF SCHOOL EVENTS

HAF

Holiday Activities and Food

Are your children on benefit related free school meals?

Scan me

If yes, they can attend up to four fully funded sessions this winter. Bookings will go live on 1 December at 12pm. SEND specific clubs will go live on 28 November at 7pm. Email haf@warrington.gov.uk to find out more.

Not eligible?
Many clubs offer paid places at a reduced rate.

#HAF2025

WARRINGTON Borough Council
Department for Education



Can you help us with donation of new toys/gifts, pyjamas and selections boxes for children & young adults aged 0-18years?

DONATIONS ARE NOW BEEN TAKEN AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS

THE GATEWAY
GOLDEN SQUARE CUSTOMER SERVICES
HOWLEY HOTEL
PAVILLION TEA ROOMS
WARRINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL TIMES SQUARE
WARRINGTON TOWN HALL
THE ALBION
THE GREENWOOD HOTEL
THE STATION HOUSE
THE CHESHIRE CHEESE
THE RED LION
THE IRISH CLUB

WA1 1SR
WA1 1QB
WA1 2JP
WA1 3GF
WA1 2NT
WA1 1UH
WA2 7EG
WA2 0EQ
WA2 7FW
WA4 1JH
WA3 1HE
WA2 7AL

MON-FRI 9AM-5PM
MON-SAT 9.30-5.50PM, SUN 11AM-5PM, LATE NIGHT THURS UNTIL 8PM
MON-SUN 12NOON-11PM
TUES-THURS 9AM-2PM
MON-FRI 9AM-5PM
MON-FRI 9AM-5PM
MON-SUN 12NOON-11PM
MON-SUN 12NOON-11PM
MON-SUN 12NOON-11PM
MON-SUN 12NOON-11PM
MON-SUN 12NOON-11PM

If you would prefer to make a cash donation this is a link to our just giving page



WARRINGTON Borough Council



Sellafield Ltd

TOY Appeal 2025



Supporting Families in Need This Christmas

If you are a family who is vulnerable and feel like you need support, we are here to help.

Speak to our Community Centre Co-ordinator about how to refer into the service.

Alternatively, you can contact:

Liz Hands, Triage Assessment Worker

☎ 01925 818017 (Option 4)

Let's make this Christmas special for every child in Warrington!



WARRINGTON Borough Council



Sellafield Ltd



CALLANDS PRIMARY ACADEMY

TERM DATES 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