



Feltonfleet School  
**Creative and Values Education**  
The CaVE Programme at Feltonfleet

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- How can we communicate  
without words?**
- How can a weak material have  
great strength?**
- Is the unthinkable thinkable?**
- What makes a good citizen?**
- How can I make a difference  
to my environment?**
- What values do we all share?**
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Information for Parents December 2010

### **CaVE in Action**

Every Friday afternoon this term all our pupils from Reception to Year 8 - and all our teaching staff - have come together in year groups to work on the school's exciting new CaVE - **Creativity and Values Education** - programme.

CaVE teaching aims to unlock **creativity** - encouraging critical thinking, risk taking and resourcefulness - and at the same time to develop a **sense of values**, the awareness of our children in relation to themselves, to others, and to the community at large. Because CaVE is additional to any individual subjects being studied, it is able to cross the barriers between subjects, to draw together all our children's understanding and awareness, and to deepen a sense of the connectedness of learning and ideas. Above all it is about questions as much as answers, about the journey as much as the destination. In CaVE sessions children are encouraged to be explorers, to see things in new ways, and to test out new ideas. They are also at all times encouraged to be supportive of each other, and to enjoy where their ideas and explorations take them.

### **The Role of the CaVE leaders**

Every week each year group meets in a designated area of the school with a group of four or five teachers who are responsible for one of the six CaVE units. Successful CaVE teaching is very much about empowering the pupils, leading discussions and setting up projects, but then allowing the children to take them - with guidance - in new and exciting directions. Less teaching, more learning.

Staff are deliberately mixed across the school, so a CaVE teaching group may include Calvi, Junior, Middle and Upper School staff. This allows us to get new insights into our children and their development, and of course affords us the opportunity to see our pupils in a new light when they are engaged in activities beyond the classroom. Equally staff are encouraged to work with the children in areas of the CaVE programme which might not be most closely aligned with their subject areas, as our experience is that if we step out of our comfort zones, it encourages our children to do so too!

## **The 6 Components of the CaVE Programme**

Each of the six core components of the CaVE programme is designed to explore a different avenue of interest and challenge, and each area of study has its own specific goals and values:

### **1. Creativity and Performing Arts**

- To emphasise particular ways of communicating with others
- To develop aesthetic awareness
- To develop commitment and confidence

### **2. Philosophy for Children - Developing Thinking Skills**

- To analyse and evaluate viewpoints and arguments
- To learn to identify generalisations, assumptions and inferences
- To improve critical thinking & reasoning skills

### **3. Citizenship**

- To develop attitudes of concern for others and the environment
- To understand how we can make a difference and use our talents for the good of the community
- To learn how teams work together in a common pursuit

### **4. Design and Technology Challenges**

- To encourage pupils to identify, examine and solve practical problems
- To encourage imagination and innovation using a range of materials and tools
- To develop decision making skills

### **5. Environmental and Outdoor Education**

- To develop pupil awareness of their interdependence with the environment so that they can understand and learn to act responsibly
- To encourage a sense of self worth through personal challenges, establishing new relationships with peers, others and the environment

### **6. Values Education**

- To provide opportunities for pupils to think about and reflect on different values, and to express them in relation to themselves, others, the community and the world at large
- To deepen understanding, motivation and responsibility with regard to making positive personal and social choices

### Next Steps

In its first term the CaVE programme has already produced a wide range of super experiences for all ages of our children, and pupil-centred, open-ended, exploratory learning is now firmly on the Feltonfleet map. As the CaVE programme develops it will itself explore new ground, with future innovations possibly including vertical groupings of children, Year 8s helping run sessions as part of their Leadership Programme, external group leaders joining us for CaVE workshops, and even whole school CaVE sessions. Meanwhile in the New Year we will be giving CaVE its own area on the school website so parents and children can see a record of CaVE in action.

I hope that this gives you a taste of this very exciting development at the school. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions. **Michelle Guest** *CaVE coordinator*



Exploring bridge building in a Calvi CaVE session



**Feltonfleet School**  
Cobham, Surrey KT11 1DR

01932 862264 [www.feltonfleet.co.uk](http://www.feltonfleet.co.uk) [office@feltonfleet.co.uk](mailto:office@feltonfleet.co.uk)

The CaVE Programme

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