



NEWSLETTER

8th December 2017

Mon	11 th December	Year 11 mock examinations
Tues	12 th December	Year 11 mock examinations
Weds	13 th December	Year 11 mock examinations
Thurs	14 th December	
Fri	15 th December	House Drama

STUDENT SUCCESS

First Lego League Competition



On Tuesday, a mixed team of year 7-10 students took part in the First Lego League competition at Daresbury Laboratory. The competition comprised of a robot game where the students had to program a robot to complete a set of tasks, a presentation on a plan to create a solution to water problems, teamwork exercises and design of the robot. The students had a lot of fun and took first place overall on the day. They will now take part in the national finals in Bristol in February. Congratulations to them all.

STEM Club and Cisco

Our STEM club has been taking part in the Little Big Futures challenge, which is backed by STEM learning UK and Cisco Technologies. The challenge involved creating a fire safety system using the Internet of Things. IoT is about connecting the unconnected, getting everyday objects to send, receive and process data to solve real-world issues. STEM Learning were impressed by the work our students have been doing and are sending them an IoT explorer kit so that they can develop their ideas further.

Annual Bebras Computational Thinking Competition

This year 470 of our students took part in the international Bebras competition, which is a test of computational thinking run in the UK by Oxford University - The top 240 competitors in the country get invited to the final at Oxford in January and once again two of our year 11 students have been invited. Well done Daniel Ogram-Hayes and Jacob Walters - as 132,111 students took part, it places them in the top 0.001% of the country.

The competition is split into 4 levels and the best in school in each year group is as follows,

Junior - Stephen Whitley (7BX) scored 172 which was the best score on the Wirral (and 1 point away from the final in Oxford University)

Intermediate - Jamie White (8GZ) scored 156 and Harry Smith from 9HS scored 161, which again was the best score on the Wirral.

Senior - Alasdair Clift (10HT) scored 161 and Daniel Ogram-Hayes and Jacob Walters scored 182 (best on the Wirral)

Elite - Adam Howard (L6B3) scored 132 (best on the Wirral)

In addition, the top 10% of the country are invited to a second competition in March and 192 of our students have qualified. Certificates and notifications of the TCS competition will go out to students over the next few weeks.

CHRISTMAS CAKE SALE AT CALDAY!



Save the Children

On the last day of term, Friday 22nd December, a Christmas Cake Sale is being held to raise funds for Save The Children's Rohingya Crisis Appeal. If anyone can spare a few mince pies or a cake (shop-bought or homemade), please contact Julian Young at YoungJ1@gmail.co.uk. The sale is being run by L6G3, L6G2 and the Bake Off team.

For more information about the appeal, please visit <https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/how-you-can-help/emergencies/rohingya-crisis>

PROCEDURE TO BE USED IN THE EVENT OF ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS

The procedure that the school will follow should there be adverse weather is included at the end of this newsletter. It can also be found in the policies section of the school website.

SIXTH FORM STUDENTS TO BE ISSUED WITH ID CARDS

As part of our ongoing plans to increase site security in order to ensure the safety of our students, all Year 12 and 13 students will shortly be issued with ID cards. These ID cards must be worn at all times and will be used to allow them to exit the school building at break and lunchtimes only via a fixed route near the sixth form common room. Should students be found off-site, without prior permission, at any time other than break and lunch then they will be classed as truanting.

If students need to leave school at any time during the school day then they should leave via the main reception ensuring that they sign in and out. The ID card will also be their examination card which will be required for any examinations.

INVITATION TO LUNCH (LAST YEAR'S U6 STUDENTS)

We are holding a lunch on Tuesday 19th December for last year's U6 students, which is an opportunity for them to pick up their examination certificates and to catch up with each other. The lunch will run from 12.45 pm until around 2.00 pm and will be held in the Quiet Study area.

The event has been advertised via social media and email addresses but if you are aware of anyone who may not know about the lunch, could we please ask you to provide them with the details. If they are unable to attend, please ask them to contact the school so that we can make alternative arrangements for them to receive their certificates

WIRRAL HOSPICE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

We have been contacted by Wirral Hospice as they are desperately short of volunteers to help at a number of their events over the next couple of weeks. If you are able to assist them, please contact Samantha Lee (Fundraising Development Manager) via samanthal@wirralhospice.org

Woofs Dog Walk @ Royden Park: Registration, selling raffle tickets, walking marshals. Sunday 10 December 9am to 12pm. 10 volunteers required.

Bag Packs as follows:

M & S Heswall - Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 December 12pm - 2pm x 2 volunteers and/or 2pm - 4pm x 2 volunteers
Sainsburys Upton - Friday 15th, Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th December - 10am - 12pm x 5 volunteers and/or 12pm - 2pm x 5 volunteers and/or 2pm - 4pm x 5 volunteers
Sainsbury's Neston - Wednesday 20 December - 10am - 12pm x 3 volunteers and/or 12pm - 2pm x 4 volunteers
Morrison's West Kirby – Friday 22 December – 12 – 2pm x 3 volunteers and/or 2pm – 4pm x 2 volunteers

SHOEBOX OF LOVE

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards the Shoebox of Love Campaign. The boxes have now been collected and will be distributed to the homeless over the next couple of weeks.

APPRENTICESHIPS OPEN EVENING

TTE (Training) are holding an Apprenticeships Open Evening on Thursday 25th January 2018. To book a place call please call 0151 357 6100 or visit their website www.tteld.co.uk.

VACANCIES

We currently have the vacancies listed below. Full details can be found on the school website.

- Premises Officer
- Exams Invigilators
- Data, Examinations & SIMs Manager (Maternity cover)
- Lunchtime Supervisors

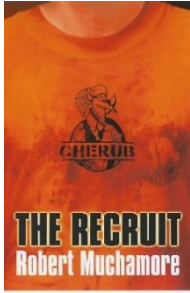
END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

The school will close at 1.00 pm on the last day of term, Friday 22nd December 2017. The buses organised by the school to Wallasey (C1 & C2) and to Ellesmere Port/Chester area (W1, 2, 3 and 4) will leave at the earlier finish time of 1.00 pm. However, the buses operated by Merseytravel are unable to change their pick up times and will be running as normal (i.e. 3.35 pm pick up). We would therefore be grateful if parents could make alternative arrangements for their children to get home.

If you are unable to make alternative arrangements and would like your child to remain in school until 3.35 pm could you please contact Mrs Ellis either via email Debbie.ellis@calday.co.uk or 0151 6252727.

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS

Book of the Month – *The Recruit* by Robert Muchamore (1st in Cherub Series)



First in the popular action-packed Cherub series, *The Recruit* tells James Adams' story from the day his mother dies.

Read about his transformation from a couch potato into a skilled CHERUB agent. Meet Lauren, Kyle, Kerry and the rest of the cherubs for the first time and learn how James foiled the biggest terrorist massacre in British history.

There are dozens of other action/suspense/thriller genre books on display, all available to borrow. Authors include: Chris Ryan, Andy McNab, Frederick Forsyth, Chris Bradford, Anthony Horowitz, Charlie Higson, Simon Mayo, Ally Kennen, Sophie McKenzie, Pitaccus Lore and James Dashner to name but a few!

ACCESS DURING EXAM PERIODS

With the aim of providing students an opportunity to work in a quiet working space at lunchtime, library access has had to be restricted. Students have been informed of these restrictions and we appreciate their understanding during this period.

READING CHALLENGE UPDATE

With just 3 weeks until the end of term, current borrowing figures for the term look like this:

Top 5 classes

1. 9GY with 94 issues
2. 7HR with 88 issues
3. 8HT with 86 issues
4. 7GP with 83 issues
5. 7BW with 81 issues

The competition looks tight – who will win the prize? Winners will be announced in the last week of term.

Mrs Rachel Eckford, Learning Resource Manager



CALLING ALL BUDDING BAKERS!

We are holding a Christmas Bake-off on Thursday 21st December and all students are welcome to enter. The cost is £5 and all proceeds are in aid of Refilwe.

For further details and an entry form, students should see Mrs Wyke in the Learning Support Office. Alternatively, please contact her via email sarah.wyke@calday.co.uk

MESSAGE FROM YEAR 13 STUDENT, TOM GILLBANKS

Dear all,

My name is Tom Gillbanks, I am currently in year 13 and have been a student at Calday since year 9. In 2018 I will be running the London Marathon now that finally I meet the minimum age requirement! Those who know me are aware that running is one of the primary passions in my life and so I have decided that I will be fundraising for Macmillan Cancer Support, a charity very close to my family's heart. If you could please take the time just visit our JustGiving page (please see link below) to read our story, it would be greatly appreciated by ourselves as well as countless others supported by this incredible charity and the people that run it.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/matt-gillbanks>

We have been overwhelmed with the generosity of ordinary people so far & would like to thank anyone that has donated already. Thank you very much for reading my message and I wish you all a Happy Christmas.

Kind Regards, Tom Gillbanks 13B2

PARENT VIEW – YOUR FEEDBACK IS IMPORTANT

Parent View offers parents the opportunity to tell Ofsted what they think about their child’s school which in turn provides the school with valuable information to help us improve. Last year only a small number of parents (approximately 20) provided their feedback so we would be grateful if you could take the opportunity to visit www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk to complete the short questionnaire.

THE SUPER WHITE CHRISTMAS APPEAL



We are again supporting the Super White Christmas appeal by collecting donations of toys for Tranmere Rovers to distribute at a number of events that they are hosting over the Christmas period for those who are lonely, homeless or in financial difficulty. Last year the school donated over 200 gifts for distribution to those in need.

For more information on the appeal please visit <https://tranmererovers.co.uk/news/super-white-christmas-2017/>

Donations can be brought into reception or delivered to D35 any time up until 18th December.

ENTRIES INVITED FOR ANNUAL CHRISTOPHER SALMON POETRY COMPETITION

The Christopher Salmon foundation and Wirral Libraries are once again pleased to announce that the Christopher Salmon poetry extravaganza will be returning for 2018 following the event’s huge success last year. The annual poetry competition, now in its 8th year, began as a tribute to former Calday student, Christopher Salmon, who tragically lost his life to a rare streptococcal infection in February 2009, aged just 15.

The theme for this year’s competition is “memories” and is open to Wirral residents of all ages. Both winners and runners up in each age category will be awarded cash prizes and will be given the chance to attend a workshop with renowned local poet John Hughes. The prizes will be presented by Mr. Hughes at an awards evening for the winners and their families at Birkenhead Town Hall. The overall winner for the aged 18 or under category will also become Wirral’s Young Poet Laureate for the following 12 months; with all winning poems being published in an anthology which will be available for purchase.

Full details of this year’s competition and official entry forms will be available from Wirral libraries and on the charity’s website, www.chrissalmon.org.uk. Students who wish to enter this competition can return their completed entry forms to Miss Jones in the English Department.

FORTHCOMING DATES

December 2017	
Friday 15 th	House Drama Festival
Monday 18 th	Senior Awards Evening (7.00 pm – 9.00 pm)
Wednesday 20 th & Thursday 21 st	Christmas Concert (7.00 pm – 9.00 pm)
Friday 22 nd	Non Uniform Day (House Charities) School closes for Christmas Break



Students in receipt of Free School Meals receive a daily credit of £3.40 on their cashless catering account. This allows them sufficient credit to purchase a snack and a drink at break and a hot meal and a drink at lunchtime.

Free school meals are available for children if their parent or carer receives certain benefits. In addition, the school receives Pupil Premium funding each year of £935 per student who is entitled to free school meals; this funding continues for up to six years after the free school meals claim ends. This means that even if you only expect to claim for a short period of time the Pupil Premium funding will continue to support your child’s education for the long term.

If you don’t apply our School will miss out on funding which could go towards providing additional support for your child. If your child prefers to bring a packed lunch you will still need to register for free school meals for our School to receive the Pupil Premium funding.

If you think that you might be eligible, please complete your claim online at: [Wirral Council Free School Meals Application](#)

Please see next pages for:-

Procedure to be used in the event of adverse weather conditions
16-19 Bursary

Merry
Christmas

A festive logo for Christmas. The word "Merry" is written in a red, cursive font, and "Christmas" is written in a red, cursive font below it. The text is decorated with green holly leaves and red berries. The "Merry" and "Christmas" are slightly offset from each other.



Calday Grange Grammar School

Procedure to be used in the event of adverse weather conditions

We are committed to minimising disruption to the education of our students and we will always endeavour to keep the school open wherever possible but there are rare occasions when we will find it necessary to close the school. These are usually occasions when adverse weather means that the school site is unsafe and poses health and safety risks to the school community.

Decisions on whether or not to close the school are never taken lightly. They involve both the Senior Leadership Team and representatives of the school's Governing Body. The first consideration is always the safety of the students and staff. If, due to adverse weather conditions the staffing complement is too low, health and safety risk assessments may mean that we cannot open the school to all year groups.

Our aim is to avoid, as far as possible, any uncertainty and confusion in the event of possible school closure. We believe that the best way to do this is to communicate as fully as possible with our parents.

In the event of adverse weather prior to the start of the school day:-

A decision will be made between 6.00 am and 7.00 am as to whether the school should be open or needs to be closed. In the event of closure, by 7.30 am (wherever possible), the school will ensure that:-

- an automated text or email message is sent to parents and staff via the SchoolComms system
- the school website has been updated
- an update is available on our social media sites

Note: Please be aware that during bad weather the school will run all external examinations at the published times and students should continue to monitor the school website for details.

In the event of adverse weather during the school day:-

If the school is open in the morning but the weather conditions deteriorate during the day, we will continually assess the risks. The decision whether to close the school will be made taking into account:-

- School transport (these are often cancelled during periods of snow and ice)
- Condition of the local roads
- Weather updates through the local authority and MET office

Should the decision be taken to close the school we will inform parents via:-

- an automated text or email message sent from the SchoolComms system
- a notice on the school website
- information on our social media sites

We understand that it may be difficult for some parents to collect their child and therefore contingency plans will be put in place to ensure that the school remains open until all students are collected.

In the event of prolonged closure due to weather, parents should continue to monitor the school website as it will be updated on a regular basis with the latest information.

As we draw students from a large catchment area, parents should always assess if it is safe for their children to leave for school based on their local weather and their safety in travelling to and from school. If you decide not to send your child into school we ask that you notify the school on the day of absence via the absence line or email. This will then ensure that the absence is recorded as authorised.

We will always do everything in our power to avoid school closure and would greatly appreciate your support during these difficult times.

Calday Grange 16-19 Bursary Fund

Learner must be aged 16 or over and under 19 at 31 August 2017

AWARDS OF £800 TO £1,200 AVAILABLE

Financial support is available to help students overcome specific barriers so they can remain in education.



Are you in receipt of Free School Meals at any point in your Sixth Form studies?

OR



Is your household income less than £25,000?

OR



Are you Looked After, a Care Leaver or in receipt of benefits in your own right?

APPLY NOW AT

www.calday.co.uk/bursary

OR CALL INTO THE FINANCE OFFICE FOR A FORM



Calday Grange
Grammar School

