



Friday 20th December 2013

Mon	6 th Jan	Students return Year 12/13 mock examinations commence (in lessons for two weeks)
Tues	7 th Jan	
Wed	8 th Jan	
Thurs	9 th Jan	
Fri	10 th Jan	

MESSAGE FROM MR RODAWAY, HEADTEACHER

As we reach the end of a busy term, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all parents for their continued support of the school. On Thursday Evening (19th December) we held our Senior Awards Evening. It was a pleasure to see students who have recently left us and catch up on their progress since the summer. I have included my speech from the evening below.

The school website will be 'going live' in the next few days. We recognise that it is incomplete and will be working on various aspects during the Christmas break and next term. Any comments would be gratefully received. The site can be accessed at;

www.caldaygrangegrammarschool.co.uk

I wish everyone a Happy Christmas and look forward to returning to school on **Monday 6th January 2014. School will re-open to all students at the normal time.**

Awards Evening - December 2013

Welcome Governors, parents and especially students. We are here to celebrate your success. For those who have 'left' us, welcome home. This is your evening. Enjoy the occasion.

We have invited a guest to present the awards this evening. Michael Sherlock attended Calday between 2001-2008. He studied Further Maths, Physics, Law and AS level Music.

He attended the University of Newcastle, graduated top in his year and gained a Master's Degree in Engineering. During his time at Newcastle he was part of the team that won the Institute of Mechanical Engineers top award for their final year presentation.

Upon graduation Michael has worked for the powertrain division of Triumph Motorcycles in Hinckley.

As the school vision statement states, the aim of the school is for all our students not only to be academically successful but also to develop in to rounded individuals who make a significant contribution to society. We seek to develop people.

During his time at Calday, Michael was involved in the Dramatic Society, appearing in a number of productions and going on a tour of Italy.

He was very active in fundraising and Charity work.



He was part of a successful Mock Trial Team and assisted with Law outreach work with some of our local primary schools (some of our current students may have already met Michael in this role). Michael was part of the first team that undertook this work.

A very able musician, Michael took part in many concerts and performances. He also assisted as a sound technician at these events.

Michael is a great lover of science fiction, who can talk for England about Doctor Who (sounds familiar).

Why have we asked Michael to be our as guest this evening?

He is a talented individual who significantly contributed to the life of Calday Grange Grammar School.

He is successful in what he does. However, he is still on a journey of success. He is not reflecting back on past glories but rather sharing with us the current state of play.

Most of all he is only 24. Hopefully, his words and advice may carry more weight than those spoken by more elderly awards evening speakers.

Review of the Year 2012-13

The academic year 2012-13 can be described in one word – **change**.

In September 2012 the school had a new Headteacher and had introduced a new academic structure to the school. Moving from a department to a faculty based system presented challenges to all of the staff in the school. All of the staff accepted this challenge and worked hard to ensure that the students of the school remained their priority and that the changes would only have a positive impact upon outcomes for our students. We have spent the year embedding these structures ensuring that the changes build upon and added to the strengths of the school.

1st January 2013 we made the move to become an academy. Again, this involved significant change to the structures of the Governing Body and the management of the school. The Governors are clear in their reasons for this change in status. The greater freedoms offered by academy status will allow us to focus on the needs of our students and use our financial resources to improve the quality of teaching and outcomes for students at the school.

Our new status and structures were almost immediately placed under the scrutiny of OFSTED when they came to school to carry out what the term a 'subject survey' of mathematic in January. I congratulate the mathematics team on their hard work in securing an overall judgement of Good.

The real test of these changes came in August 2013 when we received our first set of GCSE and A level results under our new status.

At GCSE level examination outcomes improved on the previous year.

- 98% of students achieved the threshold of 5+A*-C inc EM.
- The capped score rose to 405.4
- 83% of students achieved the English Bacc
- 61% of students achieved 5A*-A's with 56% all GCSE grades being A*/A.
- 96% made expected progress in English and maths with 76% (English) and 74% (mathematics) making better than expected progress.



Four students, Niall Flanagan, Joe McCrave, Luke Needham and Sakib Rahman achieved the full set of A* grades achieving 11A*'s.

A further six achieved 10A*'s and 1 A.

At A level, results were equally as pleasing.

Over 26% of all A2 grades were A* or A. Over 60% of grades were in the A*-B range that appears to be the threshold for entry to competitive university courses.

Virtually every subject achieved a 100% pass rate.

Unlike previous years, the vast majority gained places in the universities of their choice with a growing number choosing to look at the apprenticeship route.

Of particular note are the performances of Matthew Kemp who gained 4A*'s and 2A grades, Nick Jones with 3A*'s, Callum Prior with 2A*'s and 3A's, Conor Flanagan with 3A*'s and 1A and James Quirk with 2A*'s and 2A's.

These results were achieved through the efforts of students and staff working in partnership.

However, any school and in particular Calday, does not measure success merely by examination results. Success is measured in terms of the qualities of the people we produce. As a school we continue to offer a wide range of activities that interest and engage our students.

We continued our success in Sport. Our Football teams continue to surprise the more traditional soccer schools by the quality of their game and steely determination to beat any opposition, making it through to the last stages of the Merseyside and Cheshire Cups and competing in the English Schools Cup.

Team and individual success continued in Hockey, Rugby, basketball and Cricket. Particular mention goes to Chris Todd who was elected Vice President of England Hockey.

The outstanding sporting result of the Year came with the Table Tennis Team becoming U19 Boys National Champions. The development of the full potential of all of our students is a key focus in the school vision. However, this does not happen without the support and dedication of staff. Bob Hawkins has worked with the Table Tennis team for many years and it is fitting that his hard work and dedication has resulted in the school and individual students gained the very highest honours.

As a school we encourage our students to develop their talents in a range of sports. Golf and Tennis have proved to be successful. We are currently introducing Handball after receiving a grant from the British Handball Federation. A student in Year 8 is currently the U12 county Chess champion.

Whilst we encourage all of our students to involve themselves in sport, the school also provides a range of other opportunities. The creative sector is the second biggest money earner in the British economy and as a school we support the creative talents of our students. During the year the drama society have delivered some outstanding productions. From Joseph to Frankenstein and then on to a disturbing production called DNA, large numbers of students have been involved in front or behind the scenes. At a time when the Arts curriculum is coming under increasing pressure, we as a school will continue to support both curricular and extracurricular drama. The value that students place upon drama can be seen through the quality of the productions and the level of engagement in the House Drama Competition. Running side by side with Drama is the standard of Music in the school. Each year the challenge of replacing talented Musicians leaving the school is met. The standard of music at the school is outstanding and I would encourage everyone to attend a musical event during the year. Our recent Carol Concert was



a triumph, the highlight being the Year 7 choir in bobble hats and scarfs singing a Christmas tune whilst the temperature in the hall was over 100 degrees.

Students continue to play an active role in supporting a wide range of charities. Each house has a dedicated charity and as a school we support Refilwe in South Africa. Every opportunity is taken to support good causes, from sponsored skydiving to wearing a Christmas jumper day. All of the students at the school recognise that they occupy a privileged position and work hard to raise funds and support those less fortunate than themselves.

Of course it is difficult to do justice to every activity or event that takes place in the school. We hosted Question Time with local MPs (all organised by students). Students have involved themselves in the Chris Salmon Poetry Extravaganza, Youth Hero Awards Mock Trials. We have organised trips and visits to Russia, China, France and Germany. The list goes on and on.

In October 2012 Joseph Tasker, Jack Cundall and Andrew Donnan travelled to London to receive their Arkwright Scholarships. These were awarded after undertaking a 2 hour examination and a gruelling interview at university.

All of these opportunities do not happen by accident. The most important person in any school is the individual member of staff in front of a group of students. A member of staff who inspires. On the behalf of the students and Governors of the school I would like to record my appreciation of the hard work and dedication of all the staff in the school, both teaching and support staff.

At the end of the year we said goodbye to a number of staff all of whom had made a significant contribution to the life of the school;

Mrs Sylvia Booth
Mrs Monica Gonzalez
Miss Sarah Hadley
Mrs Clair Miller
Mrs Lisa Wang

Mr Michael Derbyshire
Mr Gareth Griffiths
Mrs Debbie Hessey
Mrs Pam Walker

So after all that what did the students think of the year? Just before the Year 11 left to go on study leave they delivered a drama performance that poked gentle fun of characters in the school. I was mentioned. Was it for the new staffing structure, the introduction of lesson monitoring, becoming an academy? No. The focus was on the fences and one way system!

As with all schools we face many challenges. A reduction in funding for all public services, a new more stringent OFSTED systems that will see the number of Outstanding schools being massively reduced, a new curriculum and examination system to be introduced from 2015, changes to accountability mechanisms.

As a school we must remain focused on the core purpose of the school. Ensuring that every lesson is outstanding, that students are challenged to think and work hard and that we prepare our students to take an active part in society.

We have recently invested in a new wireless network in the school which will allow students to make better use of mobile technology. We have restructured the school council to make the student voice more effective. We will be rebidding for the funds to build a new sports hall. We look forward to a visit from OFSTED.



Finally, to all the students, enjoy the evening. Do not run across the stage when you receive your award, enjoy the moment. Join the OCU, very reasonably priced at £3 per annum. It would be nice to a younger profile to the membership. Have pride in where you have come from. Remember that you are part of a unique group who have been able to call themselves Old Caldeians since 1636.

M Rodaway
Headteacher

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Many congratulations to Joe Gawith (Year 7) who is performing as Wendy's older brother John Darling in the pantomime, Peter Pan, at the Liverpool Empire playing He's performing alongside Ray Quinn, Louis Emerick and Pete Price. This is a tremendous achievement and we wish him every success in his role.

CROSS COUNTRY

Please see review written by Mr Johnson at the end of the newsletter.

OPEN EVENING FOR PROSPECTIVE SIXTH FORM STUDENTS

We will be holding an open evening for prospective sixth form students on Thursday 16th January 2014. The evening will commence at 6.00 pm in the hall with an introduction by Mr Rodaway (repeated at 7.00 pm). This will be followed by the opportunity to visit individual departments to learn more about A-level course content, examination and assessment methods. Current Year 11 students and their parents are warmly invited to attend.

GCE RESITS SUMMER 2014

Forms to apply for resits can be collected from the Exam Office from 6th January. The completed form and appropriate fee should be returned to the Exam Office during the week 20th to 24th January.

JUNIOR GOLF MEMBERSHIP AT CALDY GOLF CLUB

Caldy Golf Club have reduced the cost of its junior membership to £115 per year. Students who are interested please contact the Secretary on 0151 625 5660.

JEXT ADRENALINE PENS

We have been made aware that there has been a safety issue with JEXT adrenaline pens prescribed for some students with allergies. JEXT are recalling some batches of the new adrenaline pen. The list of affected batch numbers are available on the JEXT website www.jext.co.uk. We have been informed that they are issuing a press release this week. We would ask all those who have adrenaline pens in school to check if they are from the affected batch. Those affected by the recall should contact their GP or hospital to receive a new adrenaline pen. School will retain the issued JEXT pens until a replacement is provided.

WIRRAL FUSS

Thank you to those parents who continue to support Wirral FUSS. If you have any items of uniform or sports kit at home that no longer fit your child, please bring them into school and these will be collected by Wirral FUSS and passed onto families who struggle with the cost of purchasing a new uniform.

For further information about the organisation please visit www.wirralfuss.co.uk. They will also be holding an open day at St Luke's Church in Hoylake on Saturday 4th January from 10.30 am to 1.30 pm – please feel free to attend and find out more details.

PARENT VIEW

Parent View provides parents with the opportunity to tell Ofsted what they think about their child's school. Parent View asks for your opinion on 12 aspects of your child's school, from the quality of teaching, to dealing with bullying and poor behaviour. By sharing your views you will be assisting the school to improve and you will also be able to see comments from other parents. Please take the opportunity to visit Parent View at www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk



Cross Country Review 2013 (written by Mr Johnson)

I have said it for quite some time, and will continue to do so – “Dave Wilkes is a very hard act to follow!” Whilst I wallow in the cold and the mud of cross country coaching, his athletes still float along the top in his legacy – hardened to harsh racing conditions, determination to give their all, and train in all weathers. The greatest advantage I have is that the athletes he has left behind are excellent role models and ambassadors for the school, and as such, they have helped bring on the new generation. The present Year 7 team looks as if they will be the guys who will bring Calday Grange back to the Top (and although I would like to take all the credit, these boys came here fit and strong before they arrived, I cannot take the plaudits – pity!)

Performances in all events and races have improved week on week because of the boy's commitments to train and compete at their very best. It has all culminated in the school returning to the English Schools Cup Final (a cup won twice 1993 and '94 under the tutelage of Mr. Wilkes, plus a couple of second places too) – finishing 12th (years 7 & 8) and 22nd (years 9 & 10) out of 25 schools (some 150 in each race). At first read this may not sound good, but remember these are the top schools in the country and standards as very high indeed – individual medalists in each race have represented England Schools.

Top performer in the Juniors race for Calday was by Tom Jordan (37th) – followed by Matthew Arnold (59th), Jake Quarmby (60th), Joe Shaw (64th), Will McKechnie (117th) and poor Matthew Lee was ill the night before. Three of these boys are Year 7 and thus eligible to race in the same age-group next year and without putting pressure on them, they can challenge for a Top 5 place next year.

Top of the pile in the Intermediate age-group was George Patterson (54th), supported by David Jamieson (73rd), Leon Barnard (85th), Mike Smith (90th), Jack Davies (103rd) and Gabriel Cooper (125th). Although one never complains or finds excuses, Jack Davies has constantly been number one in training of late (injured during the race!), David Jamieson has improved greatly that he was close to Jack, and George, Leon, Mike and Gabriel all had their worst race of the season thus far for one reason or another, and this is NOT a true reflection on their abilities. I have no doubts that a perfect race by these guys would have seen a Top 15 place, or even better. I am not upset or disappointed by this, it just happens, and the boys should be justifiably proud of their achievements.

Thanks must go to Matthew Owen (year 13 last year) and Will Patterson (year 12) who gave invaluable support and advice for the boys over the two days we had to travel and warm up/race in Southend-on-Sea – yet another legacy from Mr. Wilkes. Thank you gentlemen

Other events:

Calday have had some great success this year – winning a number of events and Trophies including the Wirral Schools Year 7 Trophy, Wirral AC (years 7 & 8) Trophy; Individual success in the form of 1st, 2nd and 3rd places are aplenty – (year 7) Tom Jordan 2nd and 3rd; Jake Quarmby 3rd, 2nd, 2nd, 2nd and 3rd. Year 8 – Matthew Arnold 3rd, 1st and 3rd. Senior Boys – Will Patterson 2nd and 2nd. Senior Girls – Emily Kearney – 1st and 2nd

Wirral Schools – years 7, 8 & 9 races:

Year 7 Boys won the Team event (Tom Jordan – 2nd, Jake Quarmby – 3rd, Will McKechnie – 4th & Nathan Fothergill- 6th) with Ivan Hughes-10th, Tom Dewis – 11th and Will Green – 13th, all proving how good a school year this is.



Year 8 & 9 Boys came third with Matthew Arnold (10th) the best finisher, supported by Matthew Lee (16th), Owen Jones (18th) and Joe Shaw (19th); Daniel Wallace (22nd) and Ben Sara-Kelly (24th) and Alex Norton (30th) all finished well in this highly competitive race.

Wirral A.C. Trophy Meeting (At Arrowe Park):

Year 7 & 8 Boys – Team was first; Jake Quarmby (2nd), Tom Jordan (3rd); Will McKechnie (5th) and Tom Burns (7th). **Year 8 Boys – Matthew Arnold (3rd)**, Daniel Wallace (8th) and Alex Norton (13th); **Year 9** Owen Jones (20th), Ben Sara-Kelly (26th) and Jack Garland (33rd); **Year 10** – George Patterson (6th), Gabriel Cooper (9th), David Jamieson (10th), Duncan MacDonald (18th), Harry Das (22nd). **Senior Boys – Will Patterson (2nd); Senior Girls – Emily Kearney (2nd)**

Merseyside schools League:

Croxteth Park – Race 1 – Year 7 = Jake Quarmby (3rd), Will McKechnie (4th) and Tom Burns (14th); **Year 8 = Matthew Arnold (1st)**, Daniel Wallace (11th) and Alex Norton (14th); Year 9 – Owen Jones (10th); **Senior Girls – Emily Kearney was 1st.**

Wavertree – Race 2 – Year 7 = Jake Quarmby (3rd); Year 8 – Matthew Arnold (6th), Daniel Wallace (11th) and Joe Shaw (12th); **Year 9 – Owen Jones (14th) and Ben Sara-Kelly (15th); Year 10 & 11 (Team was 1st) – George Patterson (5th), Gabriel Cooper (6th), Leon Barnard (8th), Jim Burns (9th).** Also David Jamieson (13th), Duncan MacDonald (15th), Harry Das (17th) and Dan White (19th) gave the **Team 3rd Overall and first B Team; Senior Boys (3rd Team place) – Will Patterson (5th), Charlie Quinn (6th) and Guy Reeve (8th).** **Senior Girls – Emily Kearney (2nd) and Millie Powell (8th)**

Stadt Moers Park (St. Helens) – Race 3 – Year 7 = Jake Quarmby (2nd) and Tom Burns (9th); **Year 8 = Matthew Arnold (3rd),** Daniel Wallace (7th) and Alex Norton (10th); Year 9 = Owen Jones (11th) and Ben Sara-Kelly (12th); **Year 10 & 11 = (Team was 1st), George Patterson (5th), David Jamieson (6th), Gabriel Cooper (7th) and Leon Barnard (8th);** the B Team boys – Duncan MacDonald (13th) and Dan White (16th) also ran very well; **Senior Boys (2nd in Team event) – Will Patterson (2nd), Guy Reeve (6th) and Charlie Quinn (8th)**