



Calday Grange Grammar School

Parents' Newsletter

Friday 4th November 2016

Mon	7 th November	David Crystal talk
Tues	8 th November	UK Maths Challenge
Weds	9 th November	
Thurs	10 th November	Biometric Measuring
Fri	11 th November	Armistice Day Service Biometric Measuring

STUDENT SUCCESS

Merseyside Schools Table Tennis Competition

Good luck to our students taking part in the Merseyside Schools Team Table Tennis Championships this weekend. Thomas Connolly, Joe Fayle, Matthew Fielding, George Gibb, Lee Harrison, Kieran Tucker, Joshua McCoy and Adam Parry will compete in the junior competition at Anfield Sports & Community Centre.

ESSA National Swimming Final Update!

Following the recent success of our intermediate relay team (Christian Allen, Harry Ball, Dominic Bell, and Cameron Jacobie) qualifying for the national final of the English Secondary Schools Team Swimming Championships. We are delighted to announce that our junior relay team made up of Ellis Cleworth, Harvey Dean, William Horman and Billy Jardine have also qualified and will be attending the event.

The eight boys will represent the school at the Aquatic Centre, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London on Saturday 19th November. We are extremely proud of their success in qualifying for this prestigious swimming event.

Charity Football Match

Many thanks to all those boys who took part in the 6-hour charity football match on Monday 24th October. The event was attended by over 50 boys and between them they have raised £1200 for the #SWA2 programme at Tranmere Rovers Football Club. The club are going to utilise the funds to deliver an SWA2 Christmas Party at Prenton Park on 3rd December, offering disadvantaged children the opportunity to come to the club to play some football, have a nice lunch, see Father Christmas and a ticket for the game.

CASHLESS CATERING – THANK YOU!

1155 of you have returned your Biometric Consent Form
855 of you have activated your ParentPay account
38 of you have already topped up your child's catering balance
2 weeks to go!

With effect from Monday 21st November 2016 all catering sales will be cashless and there will be no facility for cash sales on site with the exception of the drink vending machines.

Parents should have received a number of letters recently from the school outlining the steps that must be completed before Monday 21st November 2016. [Further details can be found by clicking here.](#) We urge those of you who haven't yet set up your ParentPay account to do so as soon as possible.

PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL TRIPS AND OTHER ITEMS

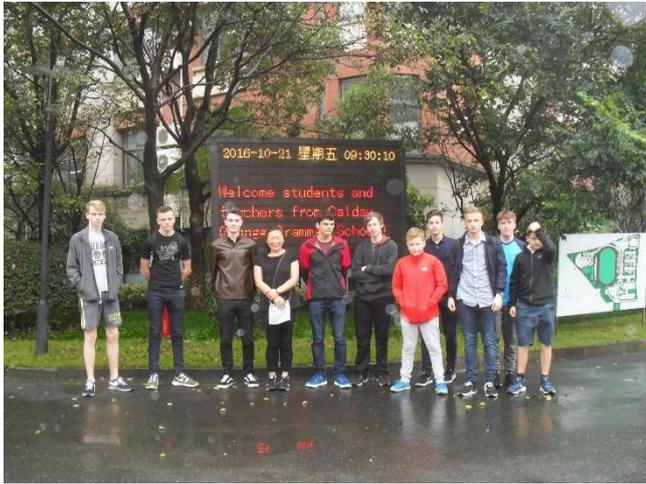
We have now started to populate the ParentPay system with items for you to purchase. Trips and products that are limited to your child can be accessed via your Parent Pay account.

Products and event tickets can now be purchased from the online [School Shop](#), please click on the link and take a look at what's on offer. If you have any issues at all, please contact us via parentpay@calday.co.uk

SIXTH FORM INFORMATION FAIR

We are holding an information fair for prospective sixth form students on Thursday 24th November from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm. All current Year 11 students and their parents are warmly invited to attend.

There will also be a subject seminar evening for prospective sixth form students on Wednesday 1st March 2017 (full details to follow).



CHINA EXCHANGE 2016

By Ernest Cockram 9BX

Over half term I attended the CGGS Chinese Exchange trip. I had the time of my life and it was time well spent in so many ways.

Despite the fact that the flights were in total 13 hours, we instantly forget about the travelling once we got to the city. It was a good 20 degrees even though it was evening. One of the main highlights for me was the first night in Shanghai, when we were amazed by the skyline and marveled at the Shanghai Tower, World Finance Centre, Jin Mao and the Oriental Pearl Towers, which dominated the sky.

We spent the following days at the Hangzhou Foreign Language School, where the Chinese exchange students, who we'd met earlier in the year in West Kirby, study. Activities put on for us included tea tasting, martial arts and calligraphy. A memorable moment for me was when I went to the classrooms to see what they were studying, btw it was 8pm and they were still studying! Their ability to speak English is excellent too!

The weekend was spent with Lu (my Chinese Exchange) at her house. We 'unexpectedly' met up with the other exchanges and students at a theme park where we spent the day and also took a boat trip on the wetlands, which is like a swamp area!

We left our Chinese friends and continued to Beijing on the 6-hour trip on the bullet train. Accommodation was another college from which we travelled each day to visit, what felt like, all the wonders of the world in one week! Tiananmen Square and the Olympic Park were fantastic.

However, my top 2 favourites had to be West Lake (where we took another boat trip) and the great, Great Wall, it was such a privilege to have been there. I came home with a suitcase full of presents from leather markets to street markets and to sum this trip up – it was the best 2 weeks of my life! I would do anything to go again! Thank you very much to Ms Gan & Mr Morris.

SCHOOL PLAY



We are currently in rehearsal for this term's production, *Great Britain*, by Richard Bean. Just out of interest, when this premiered at the **National Theatre** in 2014 then transferred to the West End it featured another ex-student, Joseph Wilkins (left 1999). Joseph is currently appearing in *The Exorcist* at **The Birmingham Rep Theatre**.

This term's production is *Great Britain* by Richard Bean. *Great Britain* premiered at the **National Theatre** in 2014 then transferred to the West End. It is a fast and furious, anarchic and hilarious satire about the press, the police and the political establishment. Phil Britain is the ambitious, morally-bankrupt young news editor of **The Free Press**, a tabloid newspaper locked in a never-ending battle for more readers and, when he discovers how to listen to peoples' phone messages without them knowing, he realises he might have hit the jackpot.

"That's what we do. We go out there, and we destroy other peoples' lives. On your behalf. Because you want to read about other peoples' lives."

Great Britain is being performed for the first time in the North of England at Calday on 17th, 18th and 19th November at 7pm. Tickets are available online (Parent Pay) or from the English or Drama departments.

This production is not suitable for younger students as it contains very strong language and depictions of Rebekah Brooks and Rupert Murdoch.

"(*Great Britain*) bounds along like the class clown, sticking two fingers — and often one — up at a range of targets." *The Evening Standard*

NEWS FROM DRAMA

Half term was very busy for old-Caldeians working in theatre. Mr Kavanagh appeared as O'Brien in a sell-out production of *1984* by **Tell Tale Theatre** at **Constellations** in Liverpool. Stuart Dagnall (left in 2014) appeared in a new and outstanding ensemble production of *Frankenstein* in the **Everyman Studio** as part of the **Liverpool Literary Festival**. The week finished with *Gloucester Road* at the **Winston Theatre** in Bristol which was written and co-directed by Ben Bridson (also 2014). This was Ben's first play and was the first piece of new writing to be presented at the theatre. It received deservedly fantastic reviews.

Connor Wray (left in 2011) has had his first novel, *Dear Henry*, published and was joined at a launch in London by several ex-Caldeians. Make sure you get your copy from **Amazon** or all good booksellers! Connor has also been shortlisted for the **Tell a Tale** 500-word story competition. If you haven't already, please follow the link below and click the little heart at the top of the article - the highest rated online piece gets an extra award come judgement day!

<http://theatrecloud.com/get-involved/creative-projects/tell-a-tale-in-500-words/a-peaceful-protest/2400>

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LOST PROPERTY – A PLEA FROM THE ADMIN TEAM!

This photograph shows the lost property that has found its way to the Admin office in just one week! A large number of items, including some very expensive coats, are not named, will never be claimed and will end up being donated to **Wirral FUSS**. We can, and do, get named items back to students but with the help of parents labelling their child's items, we will be able to return many more to their owners. Thank you for your assistance.

MERSEYSIDE VOLUNTEER POLICE CADET PROGRAMME

If any Year 12 students are interested in joining the Volunteer Police Cadet programme, there are two open evenings being held at Merseyside Police HQ between 5.00 pm and 7.00 pm on Thursday 10th November and Thursday 17th November. To book a place please contact volunteer.police.cadets@merseyside.ppn.police.uk or telephone 0151 777 8970/4182. More information can also be found at www.merseyside.police.uk.

CGC WORKSHOP FOR PRIMARY YEAR 5 BOYS & GIRLS

We are now taking bookings for 'Think Forensic' a fun interactive Science activity day being held at Calday Grange Grammar School on Saturday 19th November. Please use the following link for further information and details of how to book a place. www.calday.co.uk/cgccaldayworkshops. There is a charge to attend £20 per place

BOOKBUZZ BOOKS

The Bookbuzz books have now arrived! If you have already ordered a Bookbuzz title (or more than one!), the books are now ready for students to collect from the Learning Resource Centre at break or lunchtime.

We still have a limited stock of these books, so if you want to get ahead with your Christmas shopping, please go to **Scopay (look under Trips and Events)** to make payment of £3 per book. (Please ignore former deadlines). Remember these books are **LESS THAN HALF PRICE!**

Why not have a look at <http://www.bookbuzz.org.uk/about-us/this-years-books/#/d/bookbuzz/have-your-say/review-your-book/> and leave a review of one of the books on the site?

CAREERS

- ***NEW*** Potential medical students/vet scientists/dentists may wish to visit <http://medlink-uk.net/all-in-one-place/> for details regarding Medlink conferences taking place in London on 21st November and Manchester Lowry on 24th November.
- So you want to be a Doctor', event is being run by Liverpool Medical Institution on 19th & 20th December (either one day or two-day course). Applications are first come first served and are always oversubscribed. Applications can be obtained from www.lmi.org.uk/6thFormConference.aspx.
- Applications for work experience at Airbus are now on offer and aimed at students 14 - 19 years, who are interested in either engineering with sound knowledge of maths and science, particularly physics or for students who have an interest in IT or business. For further information please visit www.jobs.airbusgroup.com and select 'Commitment to Education', Youth engagement.
- Airbus are also holding an information event about apprenticeships on Saturday 12th November for those students interested in business or engineering. For more information and to apply; www.jobs.airbusgroup.com.

A CHORAL CHRISTMAS Performed by The Choir of Jesus College, Cambridge directed by Mark Williams

Tuesday 6 December 2016, 7.30pm St Saviour's Church, Oxton (proceeds to 'So The Child May Learn, a charity supporting the education of needy children in Nepal).

Tickets £15, £8 (under 21s) are available from winterfold63@gmail.com / 07887 524952; Birkenhead School Office 0151 652 4014; St Saviour's Parish Office 10am-12.30pm Tue, Thu, Fri.

STUDENT SAFETY IF TRAVELLING TO SCHOOL ON BIKES

If your child travels to school on their bike could we please ask you to ensure that they wear helmets and reflective jackets to help guarantee their safety on the busy roads around school.

PARKING & DROPPING OFF STUDENTS

We ask that parents do not drop-off their children at the bottom of the school steps or within the school car park, as this causes unnecessary congestion. Grammar School Lane also becomes congested, especially at the beginning and end of the day with buses arriving and departing and therefore we also request that parents do not set down or pick up their children in the proximity of the school and certainly not in the areas with zig-zag road markings. To do so may cause serious traffic congestion and endanger lives. Your co-operation in this matter would be greatly appreciated

BIRKENHEAD PARK RUN

What is Birkenhead parkrun? It is a 5km run - it's you against the clock.

When is it? Every Saturday at 9:00am.

Where is it? The event takes place in Birkenhead Park, Park Road West, Claughton, Wirral, CH41 0EZ. See [Course page](#) for more details.

What does it cost to join in? Nothing - it's free! but please [register](#) before your first run. Only ever register with parkrun once. Don't forget to bring a **printed** copy of your barcode ([request a reminder](#)). If you forget it, [you won't get a time](#).

How fast do I have to be? We all run for our own enjoyment. Please come along and join in whatever your pace!

Birkenhead parkrun needs you! It is entirely organised by volunteers email birkenheadhelpers@parkrun.com to help. We're friendly! Every week we grab a post parkrun coffee in Cappuccinos, Birkenhead Park Visitors Centre, Birkenhead Park. Please come along and join us!

FUNDRAISE FOR THE SCHOOL WHILST SHOPPING!

Thank you to all those who have used the easyfundraising website. Parents and staff have commented on how easy it is to use. To sign up and help us raise funds for the school please visit <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/how-it-works/>

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.

Please see next page for the 2017/2018 term dates



Calday Grange Grammar School

Term dates for September 2017 to July 2018

AUTUMN TERM 2017	
Staff Development Day	Monday 4 th September 2017 (school closed to students)
School reopens for Y7 and L6 students only	Tuesday 5 th September 2017
School reopens for all students	Wednesday 6 th September 2017
Staff Development Day	Wednesday 20 th September 2017 (school closed to students)
School closes for half-term at the end of	Friday 20 th October 2017
HALF-TERM: Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October 2017	
School reopens for all students	Monday 30 th October 2017
School closes for Christmas break	Friday 22 nd December 2017
Christmas Break: Monday 25th December 2017 to Friday 5th January 2018	

SPRING TERM 2016	
School reopens for all students	Monday 8 th January 2018
School closes for half-term at the end of	Friday 16 th February 2018
HALF-TERM: Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February 2018	
School reopens for all students	Monday 26 th February 2018
School closes for Easter break at the end of	Thursday 29 th March 2018
Good Friday	Friday 30 th March 2018
Easter Monday	Monday 2 nd April 2018 (within holidays)
EASTER BREAK: Friday 30th March to Friday 13th April 2018	

SUMMER TERM 2017	
Staff Development Day	Monday 16 th April 2018 (school closed to students)
School reopens for all students	Tuesday 17 th April 2018
May Bank Holiday (school closed)	Monday 7 th May 2018
School closes for half-term at the end of	Friday 25 th May 2018
HALF-TERM: Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June 2018	
School reopens for all students	Monday 4 th June 2018
School closes for Summer break at the end of	Friday 20 th July 2018