



Calday Grange Grammar School Parents' Newsletter

16th JANUARY 2015

Mon	19 th Jan	Year 12 & 13 trial examinations
Tues	20 th Jan	Year 12 & 13 trial examinations
Weds	21 st Jan	Year 12 & 13 trial examinations
Thurs	22 nd Jan	
Fri	23 rd Jan	

STUDENT ABSENCE LINE

Could we please ask parents to ensure that the absence reporting line is only used to inform us that their child will not be attending school due to illness. We have noticed an increase in messages being left in relation to other issues such as homework, requesting that staff ring home etc. If you require any assistance in relation to matters other than illness could you please use the main switchboard number to contact a member of the administration office who will be able to assist you. Alternatively you may wish to email members of staff directly and email addresses can be found at www.caldaygrangegrammarschool.co.uk/contactstaff. Thank you for your co-operation.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Many congratulations to Alex Earley (Year 10) who took his Grade Eight Drum exam in November and has recently been informed that he not only received an overall Distinction in his exam, but also achieved distinction grades in all seven assessed areas.

HOUSE MUSIC COMPETITION 2015

House Music Rehearsal Day: Tuesday 3 March

House Music Festival: Wednesday 4 March

House Music Concert: Wednesday evening 4 March (further details to follow)

To take part, all students must be able to attend the concert as all house choirs and house ensembles will be included in the programme.

All students are invited to take part in this event. Auditions and rehearsals will be held by senior music prefects and supervised by Music Department staff. Prefects will inform students as to when the rehearsals will commence.

House choirs and house ensembles (both non-auditioned) will rehearse after school on Mondays and Thursdays respectively but students may be required to rehearse at additional times. It is expected that all students who are members of the school bands and choirs (both senior and junior) take part in these categories.

Auditioned categories -

- Junior and Senior Pianist
- Junior and Senior Piano Duet
- Junior and Senior Instrumentalist
- Junior and Senior Vocalist Musical Theatre
- Junior and Senior Rock Band
- House Arrangement

If students would like to audition for any of these categories, they are to pass their name to Mrs Gilbert by **Wednesday 21 January** and their interest will be passed to the relevant senior music prefect.

CAKE SALE

We will be holding a cake sale on Thursday 29th January 2015 in aid of Refilwe. Any donations of cakes would be gratefully received and can be handed into reception for the attention of Mrs Rowlands.

DO YOU KNOW AN EXTRAORDINARY CHILD?

Exploring the extraordinary lives of gifted children and their families – Child Genius returns for a third series!

Production company Wall to Wall Media is once again searching for the country's brightest young minds to take part in a competition series to be shown on Channel 4.

The series will follow a group of children as they battle to be crowned Child Genius 2015 in a competition devised in association with high IQ society British Mensa and other leading children's education experts. Child Genius will also explore approaches to parenting and education, and what it can mean to be a high-achieving child in Britain today.

If you know an 8-12 year old (applicants must be born between 01/09/2002 and 31/08/2006) who would enjoy competing for the much-coveted title of Child Genius 2015. Please visit www.childgenius2015.co.uk for terms & conditions, application form and 10 mind-boggling Brainbusters for your child to try.

CALDAY ASSOCIATION OF PARENTS AND STAFF (CAPS)

As you may be aware, we have recently re-established a school/parents association. We have agreed that it will be a parent and staff association, with all parents and current staff being automatically enrolled as members. The Calday Association of Parents and Staff (CAPS) will hold their first General Meeting on **Monday 2nd February at 6.30pm School Hall**. A copy of the proposed constitution has been posted on the school website (parents – CAPS) for members to review.

During the meeting the constitution will be ratified and members elected to the key posts of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. If you are interested in holding any of these key positions, you should inform the school via the Headteacher's PA, Mrs Debbie Ellis (debbie.ellis@calday.co.uk) by **Monday 12th January**. If more than one person expresses an interest in taking up these key posts, the school will invite them to compose a simple pen portrait which will be published, and an election held on the evening of 2nd February.

OPEN EVENING FOR PROSPECTIVE SIXTH FORM STUDENTS

Please note that there was an error in the newsletter issued on 19th December regarding the additional open evening for prospective sixth form students on Wednesday 25th February 2015. Please accept our apologies but this is for external candidates only as unfortunately there was a clash of dates with other schools on our previous open evening and therefore some external students were unable to attend our event.

We are working with our current Year 11 students to ensure that they are fully informed before making any subject choices.

ILLEGAL TRADING IN SCHOOL

Please remember that we do not allow students to trade in school; it presents too many risks. If you suspect your son is trading then we would appreciate your support in preventing it happening. We will apply appropriate sanctions for those not following the advice.

ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS

The procedure which will be used in the event of adverse weather conditions can be found in the policy section of the school website.

MESSAGE FROM MERSEYTRAVEL – INCREASE TO FARES

Merseytravel will be increasing fares on the bus services it supports by 20p from 19th January 2015, taking an adult single cash fare to £1.50 (payable from age 16) and a child fare to 70p (payable age from 5 to 15). The reason behind these changes is to address the difference between commercial and supported fares, while maintaining Merseytravel's commitment to keep the fares it controls good value and at an affordable level.

Term time tickets are available for students and could reduce the cost of travel for students who travel on a daily basis. For more information about ticket prices please visit www.merseytravel.gov.uk/youngpeople.

AIRBUS APPRENTICESHIPS

Airbus currently have two types of apprenticeships available, one is a sponsored degree course with no fees, plus vocational training designed to develop high level aeronautical engineering skills. Entry requirements are 300 UCAS points (equivalent of 3 x B's) including grade B in both maths and physics.

There is also an apprenticeship for business students to become a Supply Chain Logistics Higher Apprentice; Entry is B Grade Business Studies. For further information please visit www.jobs.airbusgroup.com. The closing date is 31 March 2015.

FUNDRAISE FOR THE SCHOOL WHILST SHOPPING!

We are always looking for opportunities to maximise the impact of our fundraising activities and would like to draw your attention to a donation website we are currently signed up to where we can benefit from your shopping.

The easyfundraising website rewards shoppers who purchase from various online retailers by making donations to good causes. Calday Grange Grammar School qualifies as a good cause and by using this site one of our parents has already contributed £37 for 6 months of shopping. Imagine the impact on funds if a significant number of others followed suit!

Could we please ask you to take 5 minutes of your time to take a look at the following link and sign up to the website via <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/how-it-works/>