



Calday Grange Grammar School Parents' Newsletter

Friday 8th January 2016

Mon	11 th January	
Tues	12 th January	
Weds	13 th January	Y12 & Y13 Mock Examinations commence
Thurs	14 th January	
Friday	15 th January	

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday 25th January Year 8 Parents' Evening
Thursday 4th February Year 9 Options Evening
Wednesday 10th February Year 11 Parents' Evening

MESSAGE FROM MR MARK RODAWAY

Happy New Year and I hope that you and your family had an enjoyable Christmas break.

Last night we held our Senior Awards Evening which was a well-attended event by students, past and present, along with their families. We were honoured to welcome our guest speaker, Dougal Wilson, who was a student at Calday from 1981 to 1989. Dougal is now a film director well known for his iconic music videos and commercials. His presentation was informative and provided an insight into the advertising industry.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for attending and for helping to make this another outstanding event in the school calendar.



STUDENT SUCCESS



Many congratulations to Sam Endeacott (9GZ) who has been selected to join the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (NYCGB). His first main performance will be at the Albert Hall in April as part of **imagination**, NYCGB's biggest-ever choral spectacular featuring all five NYCGB choirs, the NYCGB Alumni Choir and a quartet of star NYCGB Alumni soloists. Sam also sings in the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Choir.

The NYCGB comprises of five constituent choirs for young people from primary school age to those leaving University. Collectively, they aim to be the most inspirational and innovative organisation for young singers in the UK, discovering and nurturing exceptional musical talent, providing unrivalled performance opportunities and world-class musical and leadership training to the widest possible range of young people in society, creating the next generation of music-lovers and choral enthusiasts who will in turn guarantee the continuing excellence and variety of the UK's vibrant and diverse choral tradition.

LOS REYES INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT



A mixed age group of the first team squad travelled to Barcelona recently to participate in the Los Reyes International Hockey Tournament. Having finished second in their group stage they faced a strong Dutch team from Willem College which resulted in a 5-5 draw with Calday winning on penalty shuffles and hence leading to them winning bronze.

The team played in a very sporting manner which was commented on by the Spanish umpires. Well done to all the players who were a credit to the school both on and off the hockey pitch.

CALDAY'S GOT TALENT!



On the last day before Christmas we held our first attempt at a new House Competition 'Calday's Got Talent'. Based on auditions over the previous few weeks each house entered an act to represent them in every year group.

Performing in front of a packed hall of students and staff is no mean feat, but every participant did so admirably. Starting with Year 7 twins who performed synchronised karate, we witnessed a huge variety of acts including musicians, free runners, bands and a comedian. However, a special mention has to go to Ben Harris in Year 10 who performed a magic act that had every mouth in the hall open.

The final score was a tie between Glegg and Hollowell with 8 points each and Bennett slightly behind on 5 points. Whatever the outcome though we did prove that Calday's Got Talent!

YEAR 12 HISTORY LECTURE DAY

Tickets are now available for **Year 12 History** students who would like to attend a programme of academic lectures on the theme of 'The USSR after 1917: The Rise of the Socialist Dictatorship.' The lecture day will take place on **1st March 2016** at Central Hall in Manchester, and the **£30** price includes a ticket for all lectures and return coach travel. The theme of the day complements our Paper 1 course, and will be of use for reinforcement and revision. Places are on a 'first come, first served' basis, secured with full payment via **Scopay**.

CAPS QUIZ NIGHT

CAPS will be holding their first annual quiz night on Friday 29th January 2016. Tickets are £10 including 'Marigold' fish supper. You can make your own team of 6-8 or join a team on the night. Quiz starts at 7.30 pm. Please email CAPS@calday.co.uk with your ticket requests by 25th January 2016.

BIRKENHEAD PARK RUN

There is a regular Saturday morning 5k run (9.00 am start) held in Birkenhead park as part of the Park Run organisation. These runs are free and can be used as a simple way to get fit or for the more energetic a chance to beat your previous time. All you have to do is log onto <http://www.parkrun.org.uk/birkenhead> and print off the barcode, turn up at Park Road West(behind the 6th college not the old Park High building) then either run or walk 5k, present your barcode and you receive a time later on in the day.

All ages can run walk and you can even take your dog - some people take their younger children in push chairs. It is a really friendly atmosphere.

Mr Lamprey is trying to establish and build a link with this event as it would not only help to improve fitness of individuals but there is an opportunity for people to volunteer to run the event. Several of the current Year 10 students help out and run. The school has a close affinity with the event already, as the World record holder, Andrew Baddely is an ex Caldway student and the current fastest time for the ladies is Emily Kearney (a current 6th form student). There is also an opportunity to beat Mr Lamprey (which several parents have done!). We hope to see you on 16th January for your first run/walk at Parkrun!

BOOKS ON LOAN FROM RESOURCE LEARNING CENTRE

Could we please remind students that if they loaned books from the Resource Learning Centre prior to the Christmas break then they must be returned or renewed as soon as possible.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

As part of a review aimed at improving the health of students we are monitoring the food we serve in the canteen through direct sales and through the vending machines. In addition we are noting the type and quantity of food brought in by students. In this respect we have observed a disturbing number of students bringing in whole packets of biscuits and multi-packs of sweets and chocolate bars. Clearly excessive eating of highly processed sugar rich food is damaging to teeth and health and may impact negatively on learning/concentration through sugar highs. In response to this, and to support a healthier lifestyle, we will confiscate foodstuffs that are being brought into school and consumed in excessive amounts until they can be returned at the end of the day.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

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. The next census date is January 2016 and we encourage all eligible parents or carers to complete their applications ahead of this date to ensure that the School receives funding in 2016/17. Please visit the parent section of the school website for more information.

SCHOOL SPORTING HONOURS

An important part of the school culture is to honour individuals who have shown exceptional sporting achievement. Many students are successful without us knowing about it and we would like to add their names to the honours board. If your son/daughter has achieved a level of national recognition we would very much like to celebrate it. Please email geoff.bosworth@calday.co.uk with the details.

STUDENT ILLNESS

We are currently experiencing difficulties with students ringing parents and asking them to collect them as they are unwell. Could we please remind all students (including sixth form) that if they are unwell they should report to the First Aid Bay in the first instance. The qualified first aid staff will assess the student and make the necessary arrangements if they need to be collected. Students leaving site without following this procedure compromise their own safety and the school safeguarding policy.

100 YEARS OF CADETS AT CALDAY GRANGE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

2016 will see the centenary of the formation of the First Cadet Unit at Calday Grange Grammar School



In the spring term of 1916 a unit of the Officers' Training Corps (OTC) was established to help train young men to take their place in the ranks of the Army embroiled in the First World War. The successor to this OTC unit is today's Combined Cadet Force Contingent which has both a Royal Navy Section and a Royal Air Force Section.

The CCF has clear objectives; to develop leadership qualities amongst its cadets, to foster a team spirit, to develop personal qualities of self-reliance, resourcefulness, endurance and perseverance in cadets and to instill a commitment to service.

To celebrate this event there will be a parade at the School on the morning of Saturday 19 March 2016, during which a new Contingent Banner will be dedicated. This will be followed by a buffet lunch and demonstrations of cadet activities in the afternoon. We also hope to install a stained-glass window to mark the anniversary and this will be unveiled during the day. Guests are invited to arrive at 09:30. The daytime event will finish at approximately 15:30.

There will be a formal dinner in the evening. Further details will be promulgated later. The day will also serve as the Contingent's Biennial Inspection when a senior officer of one of HM's Forces assesses the efficiency of the Contingent and confirms its value for money.

You are invited to attend either or both of the day's events. Please get in touch with Major Adcock via ccf@calday.co.uk. Please inform your friends and relatives of the event.



Calday Association of Parents & Staff

Future CAPS events are as follows:-

29th January	Quiz night
24th February	AGM

If you would like to join CAPS and assist in planning and organising events to benefit the students in the school and the community at Calday please email CAPS@calday.co.uk or visit www.calday.co.uk

COMMON ROOM CONTRIBUTION (Sixth Form only)

Just a reminder that we ask all Sixth Form students for a contribution of £25.00 for the period they are in the Sixth Form. This money is used specifically to benefit Sixth Form students' experience of the common room and study areas during their time at Calday. The Sixth Form Committee (made up of students and staff) discuss improvements and we are always willing to listen to suggestions from parents.

Last year we invested in university style study booths in the sixth form study areas which our students are thankfully putting to good use. If you would like to make a voluntary contribution please visit our online payment system, Scopay.

CHRIS SALMON FOUNDATION EVENTS 2015

Poetry Competition

The Chris Salmon Poetry Extravaganza takes place annually in memory of former Calday student Chris Salmon, who tragically died from a rare streptococcal infection in February 2009 aged just 15. The theme of 2016's competition is 'Music'. The closing date for applications is 15th January 2016. Entry is free and there are cash prizes for all winners. Poems will be judged in four categories; Age 11 and Under, Ages 11-16, Age 16-18 and Adults. Entries are welcome from all Wirral Residents/pupils. Entries must be on or attached to an official entry form which will be available from the charity's website. For full competition details, visit www.chrissalmon.org.uk

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/>

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.