



# Calday Grange Grammar School Newsletter

**15<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

Mon	18 <sup>th</sup> September	
Tues	19 <sup>th</sup> September	
Weds	20 <sup>th</sup> September	Staff Training Day (school closed to students during day) Open Evening 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Thurs	21 <sup>st</sup> September	Open Evening 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Fri	22 <sup>nd</sup> September	

## **MESSAGE FROM MR MARK RODAWAY**

Welcome back to a new academic year. The students have settled back into school easily and I extend a particular welcome to the 226 new Year 7 students and the 229 students who have made the transition from Year 11 to Sixth Form. I am confident that, with the hard work of staff and students alike, we will be celebrating the success of your sons and daughters in the future. We look forward to an exciting and productive year.

## **STUDENTS PRESENTED WITH INSPIRING DIGITAL ENTERPRISE AWARDS (iDEA) BY HRH THE DUKE OF YORK**



We were delighted to welcome HRH The Duke of York to school on Tuesday to present Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award (iDEA) to a group of Year 9 and Year 10 students. iDEA is a programme that helps develop digital and enterprise skills. Through a series of online challenges and events, students gain career-enhancing badges, unlock new opportunities and, ultimately, gain industry recognised awards that help them stand out from the crowd. HRH presented a total of 103 awards (the most awards presented to any institution in the world) and provided students and parents with his views on preparing young people for future careers and ensuring that they have the flexibility of learning that will be required in the employment market of the future.

The iDEA programme is part of a suite of opportunities that Calday Grange Grammar School provides in support of its long standing mission statement of 'developing the whole person'. The opportunities include the Duke of Edinburgh Award, National Citizenship Service, the Combined Cadet Force, high quality sport, drama and music.

The Duke was surprised to learn that he was the first royal visitor to the school in its 381 years history. Due to the building work being undertaken at the school, HRH had to enter the building via the dining room. Upon seeing the construction of a new entrance to the school, he commented that he would welcome the opportunity for a longer visit and, if possible, formally open the new entrance to the school.

Mr Rodaway thanked Prince Andrew for giving up his valuable time and presented him with a copy of the school's history, a school scarf and golfing umbrella.

We would like to congratulate all the students who have achieved their Bronze Award. This is a tremendous achievement and you should be justifiably proud.

## OPEN EVENINGS & OPEN DAY

Our Open Evenings will take place next Wednesday (20<sup>th</sup>) and Thursday (21<sup>st</sup>) September from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm. We also have an Open Day on Thursday from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and 2.00 pm to 3.15 pm.

### *Desperately Seeking Tour Guides!*

We are looking for students in Years 8 to 13 to assist on the two Open Evenings (5.30 pm to 8.00 pm) as tour guides. If your son/daughter is interested in helping out on either or both evenings please ask them to see Mrs Ellis (PA to Headteacher) for a permission form. Please note that students are not in school during the day on Wednesday but would be needed from 5.30 pm onwards.

## DEADLINE FOR POST RESULTS SERVICES

Deadline for post results services for GCSEs and A Levels is on Monday 18th September, further information about the services available and how to apply can be found on the school webpages and was included with examination results. <http://www.calday.co.uk/page/?title=Results&pid=38>

## FOR THE ATTENTION OF YEAR 13 STUDENTS – APPLYING FOR UNIVERSITY ADMISSION TESTS

If students need to apply for a university admissions test, such as BMAT, then they will need to check the deadline and apply via the exams office before the specified deadlines, some tests also have fees attached to them. For more information, please visit the admissions testing website <http://www.admissionstesting.org/>

It is the student's responsibility to check with their university if they need to take an admissions test and which one, however Mrs Montgomery will also be able to assist them if they are unsure.

## ACTIVITIES & CLUBS

**Chess Club** - every Tuesday and Thursday lunchtime in W3. 1.00 pm to 1.45 pm.

**Junior Choir** starts on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September for years 7-9 at lunchtime. Try if you can to bring a packed lunch to C1 or request a lunch queue pass from Mrs Powell to guarantee we can start the rehearsal at 1.10pm. No audition, just come along if you enjoy singing. If you wish to do basketball and choir you can do both activities on alternate weeks.

**Senior Choir** starts on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September for years 9-13. Try if you can to bring a packed lunch to C1 or request a lunch queue pass from Mrs Powell to guarantee we can start the rehearsal at 1.10pm. No audition, just come along if you enjoy singing.

**Senior Band** (orchestra) will be starting Thursday 21st September 1.00pm and **Junior Band** will start on Friday 21st September 1.00pm. All rehearsals will be held in C2. Students in years 7-13 are welcome to join either or both groups

Junior Band - students who have just started an instrument up to grade 3 and all students in years 7-9 above grade 3.  
Senior Band - Students in years 7-13 above grade 3 standard on their instrument.

We will be preparing pieces for the The Christmas Concert which will be held on 20th and 21st December. All year 7 students will have the opportunity to perform at this event.

## CROSS COUNTRY AND RUNNING

Mr Isherwood and Mr Lamprey are organising the cross country and running in school. All students are welcome to attend the running sessions which are Monday and Wednesday lunchtimes. Students should meet in the Gym changing room at 1.00 pm. They are also using the Birkenhead Parkrun as a training session. If any students wishes to participate in the Parkrun they will need to register and print off their barcode.

We will shortly be looking for runners to help us fulfil the fixtures. Students should see Mr Lamprey or Mr Isherwood if they wish to run.

## LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS

It has been a busy couple of weeks. On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September we delivered library induction sessions for all Year 7 and Year 12 students. It is fantastic to see the facility being so well used throughout the day but we would like to remind students about the following:

- Please remember to return any borrowed items by their due date. You can find our Overdue Books Policy on our website here: <http://library.calday.co.uk/>
- Please follow the Library Code of Conduct at all times, in particular the rule about remaining quiet and respectful of others in this learning space.
- No food or drink except bottled water is permitted in the main library or G16.



### For Year 7 and 8 students

To encourage reading for pleasure in the transition from Primary to Secondary School, the Book Trust runs the 'Bookbuzz' scheme; each participating student can select up to a maximum of 5 books for the greatly reduced cost of £3 each from a short-list of 12 popular titles. Students will have the chance to browse the books and if they wish to purchase one (there is no obligation) then parents will be asked to pay via the Bookbuzz payment item on ParentPay. There is a limit of 100 books this year. Further details will be sent via email to parents and students in due course. For further details see <https://www.booktrust.org.uk>.

## STAFF DONATE TOWARDS LUCY'S PINEAPPLE FUND

Staff recently contributed to Lucy's Pineapple Fund which has been set up to help raise £300,000 to fund alternative treatment for Lucy Moroney who has an inoperable brain tumour. Mr Lamprey took part in an impromptu 10k on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September where he passed on staff donations to the charity. A total of £735 was raised to support this cause from this run. Please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/lucy-pineapple> if you would like to contribute to this worthwhile cause.



It has been a busy start to the term for our in-house catering team and more students than ever are choosing to dine with us at the School. We have increased our food production to meet demand and all students, even those arriving late to lunch have a choice of food to purchase.

However, we cannot always guarantee that a student's first choice will be available right through to the end of lunch service. We monitor this carefully to ensure a balance between food choice and avoiding excessive food wastage.

The new canopy has been well received by students and is used at break and lunchtimes. In conjunction with the new furniture in the dining hall, our seating capacity has now increased from 216 to 432 leading to less pressure for seats and a calmer and quieter lunch for our students.

We would like to thank parents for topping up their child's lunch account on ParentPay in advance of the start of term. If you have any queries with any of the ParentPay functionality please email our team at [parentpay@calday.co.uk](mailto:parentpay@calday.co.uk)

We do allow a small overdraft balance to provide parents and students with a buffer in case your online top ups are too late to be available to spend at break or lunchtime. If your account goes overdrawn, you will receive a system generated email each day until it is cleared. The School reserves the right to stop providing meals once your overdraft balance reaches £5.00, however genuine cases of hardship or other issues are dealt with sensitively and discretely.

### Did you know?

#### Want to know what your child is eating

To find out all you have to do is log into your ParentPay account and under the section called 'Lunchtime meal activity' which should be half way down the screen click on 'lunchtime' under the column heading 'Details' as below:

#### Lunchtime meal activity

Date	Child	Details	Amount
Wed 13	Andrew	<a href="#">Lunch time</a>	<a href="#">£2.80</a>
Tue 12	Andrew	<a href="#">Lunch time</a>	<a href="#">£1.10</a>
Mon 11	Andrew	<a href="#">Lunch time</a>	<a href="#">£2.50</a>
Fri 08	Andrew	<a href="#">Lunch time</a>	<a href="#">£2.40</a>
Thu 07	Andrew	<a href="#">Lunch time</a>	<a href="#">£1.80</a>

You will then see all of the items that your child has purchased for the current week and this information is updated on a daily basis.

### Automated Low Balance Alerts

We know that our parents are busy and are unlikely to check their ParentPay accounts on a daily basis. To support you ParentPay offers the facility to send email alerts to parents to let you know that your child's catering balance is low, allowing you to top-up and giving you assurance that your child always has funds available for their break-time snacks or lunch. We encourage all of our parents to set up a low balance alert for their account.

To Set-up a Low Balance Alert

1. Login to your ParentPay account in the normal way
2. Select 'Profile' at the top of the screen and then 'Alert Settings'
3. Select 'Balance Alert' and choose a minimum amount for your child's account. We would recommend an amount of approximately £3.00, however it a choice for parents to make based on how much their child normally spends
4. Select the 'email alert' tick box – this choice is free, if you choose text messages then ParentPay will charge you
5. Press to blue 'save box' to ensure that your preferences are saved
6. You will then receive an email confirming your preferences and they should be active within 24 hours

### Daily Spend Limits

Our cashless catering system has the ability for parents to choose individual daily spend limits for their children. As a default the system is set with a daily limit of £6 per day, however we can amend this manually on the system for you. If you require a higher or lower daily spend limit please get in contact with us via [parentpay@calday.co.uk](mailto:parentpay@calday.co.uk) or send a letter to the School Office and we will process the changes for you.



## Free School Meals

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](#)

### GERMAN TEXTBOOK AMNESTY

Following a review of textbooks, we seem to have fewer textbooks than we had this time last year. If your son studies, or has studied German at any point in his school career, could you please check your homes for any German textbooks sitting on bookshelves. We would be extremely grateful for the return of any unused books, particularly "Echo Express" levels 1 and 2. Your son can bring any books to H4, or ask his form tutor to pass them to Mr Wood.

### GENERAL STUDIES IN YEAR 13

This academic year, Mr Byrne will continue to teach General Studies for Year 13 and organise the visits to Oxbridge. All Year 13 students should now have signed up for General Studies lessons on the form supplied by Mr Byrne during form time this morning.

If any Year 12 students are interested in applying to Oxford or Cambridge, they should attend a meeting with Mr Byrne next Friday (22<sup>nd</sup> September) at 1.10 pm in H13. He will also be holding a discussion group for those who are interested every second week (same time and venue).

### EVENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER AS PART OF BRAIN AWARENESS WEEK

There is an opportunity for those wanting to study brain research and neuroscience, including biology, cell physiology & pharmacology, genetics, health sciences, medicine and psychology to attend an event at the University of Leicester on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March as part of their brain awareness week. This is suitable for potential medics/scientists/psychologists etc. For further details please visit <http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/npb/news-1/baw>

### CANTEMUS AT CALDAY – COMMUNITY CHOIR

Our community choir is currently recruiting new members. If you are thinking of joining a choir why not pop along next Tuesday for a free taster session. Don't worry, no auditions are held. The choir meets in the Common Room from 7:30pm to 9:30pm during term time. [www.cantemusatcalday.co.uk](http://www.cantemusatcalday.co.uk)

### YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHERS COMPETITION

UCL IOE CI (University College London, Institute of Education, Confucius Institute) 4th Annual Young Photographers Competition has started to accept entries. Any student aged 18 years and under is welcome to enter. Entries will be exhibited in the main IOE building, as well as at another exciting venue in London which will be confirmed shortly. Prizes for winners and runners-up include up to £200 worth of Amazon vouchers.

#### Categories

- China in Bloom – Single photo category
- China in Fashion – Single photo category
- China on the Move – Portfolio Category (5 photos)
- UCL IOE CI 2017 China Study Camps – Single photo category
- My Life and China – UK-based single photo category

Entrants should include a title with all single photo categories and should include a paragraph of approximately 100 words about the photographs for portfolio entries. Enquiries and entries should be sent to Miss Lu, [yishan.lu@calday.co.uk](mailto:yishan.lu@calday.co.uk) by Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November.

**EASYFUNDRAISING.ORG.UK**

**UPDATE: Thank you to all parents who have supported the school. To date 141 of you have signed up and helped raise over £1000.** To join please follow the simple steps below:-

1. Head to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cggs](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cggs) and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, simply go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and then start shopping. The donation reminder will remind you.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to Calday Grange Grammar School for no extra cost whatsoever!

We will use any income from easyfundraising to help support and develop sport, extracurricular activities and student enrichment.

Download the App and/or install the [donation reminder](#) on your web browser. There are no catches or hidden charges, it won't cost you a penny extra so please help us to raise funds. Thank you for your support.

**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](http://www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk) to complete the short questionnaire.

## 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](http://www.calday.co.uk/bursary)

**OR CALL INTO THE FINANCE OFFICE FOR A FORM**



**Calday Grange**  
Grammar School

