



Calday Grange Grammar School

Parents' Newsletter

Friday 21st October 2016

Mon	31 st October	Students return to school
Tues	1 st November	
Weds	2 nd November	
Thurs	3 rd November	
Fri	4 th November	

STUDENT SUCCESS

Swimming News:

Five squads attended the English Schools Swimming Association Gala on the 7th October. The boys were a credit to the school and produced some excellent swims. Congratulations to the Intermediate A team (Harry Ball, Christian Allen, Cameron Jacobie, Dominic Bell) who won northwest silver in the medley and will find out shortly if they have qualified for the national final in London in November.

LIVERPOOL PHYSICS OLYMPICS



Last Saturday Calday entered a team into the 25th anniversary Liverpool Physics Olympics. This is an event open to all schools and is aimed at sixth form students. The team had to do tasks ranging from sending code in a noisy environment, to finding the density of a fly (not a real one!) as it fell through oil and identifying elements from the spectra they produce. When you bear in mind that our team were all in year 12 and a lot of their rivals had an extra year's physics under their belts they performed fantastically. They came 13th out of 34 teams overall, and were in the top 5 in one of the events. Well done to Niall Mitchelson, Gautham Ravichandran, Joshua Rodgers and Alejo Vega.

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?

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

The school photographs have also arrived and have been distributed to students via their form tutor.

UPDATE ON THE INTRODUCTION OF PARENTPAY

We are delighted with the response we have received from parents regarding the introduction of ParentPay. Thank you to those of you who have activated your account and returned the Biometric consent form.

So far over 54% of you have activated your ParentPay account and begun to top it up with money in preparation for our cashless catering go live date on Monday 21 November. If you haven't done this yet, we urge you to do so as soon as possible. We have concerns for those who haven't responded yet as your child may not be able to purchase food and drink from the dining hall with effect from 21 November. If you have mislaid your letter with your username and password you may collect it from the school's reception desk between 9am and 4pm during the half term break, alternatively your child can pick the letter up from the Admin Office on Monday 31st October.

We've received 61% of biometric consent forms and we're busy recording your responses in preparation for our Biometric recording days on 11 and 12 November. If you haven't returned your consent form yet we'll be getting in touch with you over half term. We'll need the signed form back on Monday 31 October, please here for a copy of the [Biometric Consent letter](#).

If you have any questions about the process please [visit our website by clicking here](#). If you need to ask us a question, please drop us an email to parentpay@calday.co.uk.

SIXTH FORM INFORMATION FAIR

We will be 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.

The evening will be an opportunity for students to:-

- visit subject displays and seek advice from staff about choosing the right A level subjects;
- speak to representatives from several universities;
- find out information regarding other career paths available for post-16 and post sixth form;
- receive information and advice to help you negotiate the changing picture around A levels;
- find out more about life in the sixth form and the extra-curricular activities available by talking to current sixth form students.

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

YEAR 11 TRIAL EXAMINATION TIMETABLE

The Year 11 trial examination timetable is now available on the website:<http://www.calday.co.uk/page/default.asp?pid=39>

CASHLESS CATERING – LAUNCH DATE 21st NOVEMBER 2016

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.

As a reminder for parents we are making these changes to realise the following benefits:

- Detailed parental online reporting of student purchases from all school catering outlets
- Easy online credit top-ups with debit or credit card
- Option of PayPoint top-ups at local stores for those parents who don't wish to pay online
- Elimination of the need for students to carry cash to purchase their break-time snacks and lunch
- Assurance for parents that their money is being spent for the purpose it was given
- No risk of money being lost
- Reduced risk of bullying
- Easy and discrete administration for free school meals

Please note that the **Free School Meals daily allowance will increase to £3.20 per day** when cashless catering is introduced which will allow eligible children to enjoy a snack and a drink at breaktime and a hot meal and drink at lunchtime. To find out further details of how to apply please follow the link to our Free School Meals page www.calday.co.uk/freeschoolmeals

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 [school website](#).

CAREERS

- ***NEW*** '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.
- ***NEW*** 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.
- ***NEW*** 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.
- Any students interested in becoming a Pilot, or an Air Traffic Controller, may wish to attend a careers exhibition on Saturday 5 November in London. The exhibition includes what airlines look for when recruiting new pilots, costs, university degrees and flying for the military etc. For full details please visit www.pilotcareernews.com/live.
- For students interested in Pharmacy, there is an open afternoon at Wirral Teaching Hospital (Arrowe Park) on Tuesday 25 October at 1.30 - 4.30. Presentations about how to become a Pharmacist, tours of the dispensary and aseptic suite. To reserve a place email, wih-tr.PharmacyAdminTeam@nhs.net or contact Pharmacy Admin team on 604 7761. Full details are available on the poster outside of Mrs Montgomery's office.

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

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT WORK

Please note that over the October half-term there will be further building work taking place on site and therefore we ask parents to take care should they come onto the school site. Please note that the exit of the main carpark will be closed at certain points during the week and the overflow carpark next to the playing fields will also be closed due to ongoing maintenance.

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

SPONSORED FOOTBALL MATCH



There will be a 6 hour sponsored football match for Year 7 to 9 students taking place on Monday 24th October in aid of Tranmere Rovers Disadvantaged Supporters. Details have been sent via SchoolComms but please do not hesitate to contact Mr Bosworth if you require any additional information.

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