



# Calday Grange Grammar School

## Parents' Newsletter

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Mon	13 <sup>th</sup> March	
Tues	14 <sup>th</sup> March	
Weds	15 <sup>th</sup> March	
Thurs	16 <sup>th</sup> March	
Fri	17 <sup>th</sup> March	

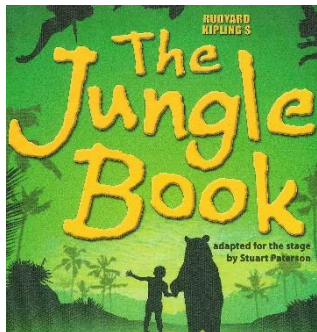
### STUDENT SUCCESS

Congratulations to Adam Stoddart (Yr 11) who was selected to take part in the national finals of the Bebras Competition. He attended Oxford University on 22nd January and although he did not take one of the top places on the day, he found the event very informative and a great experience. We have 120 students taking part in a new competition which targets the top computational thinkers. Bebras have now selected the students and they will take part week commencing Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

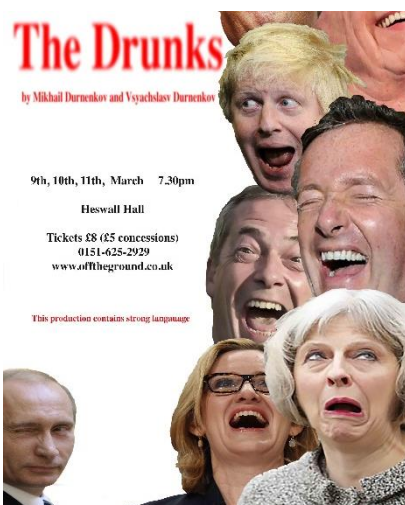
### MOBILE PHONES

We have had a positive reaction from students this week regarding the use of mobile phones and the need to ensure that they are used appropriately and in line with the new school mobile phone policy. As mentioned in last week's newsletter, with effect from Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March, students mobile phones will be confiscated if they are used inappropriately. They will be placed in a sealed bag; students will be issued a receipt and will be allowed to collect their phone at the end of the school day. Continued breaches of school policy may result in further action being taken.

### NEWS FROM THE DRAMA



On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March Calday Plays presents its latest production, *The Jungle Book*. This classic tale is brought to life by over 60 students from year 7-12. Tickets are selling quickly and Friday's performance is already sold out. Tickets for Wednesday and Thursday can be purchased online at the school shop (via the parents section of the website) or from the English or Drama departments.



Next Thursday, Friday and Saturday 20 Calday students and ex-students will be performing in *The Drunks* at Heswall Hall. **Off the Ground's** senior group present this modern tale of corruption, lies and stupidity. A small Russian town is trapped in a seemingly endless cycle of drunk, frequently inept and ridiculous politicians who have fought and cheated their way to the top. They push propaganda, they intimidate their people, they threaten the media - all to maintain their ill-gotten positions of power.

When Ilya, a shell-shocked soldier who can no longer drink, returns from the front lines in Chechnya, he is hailed as a hero. Caught in the eye of a political tornado, he is pulled from side to side as the leaders of his hometown manipulate him to further their own agendas.

First performed by the **RSC**, this play is more relevant in our current political climate than ever before. Inspired by Gogolian comedy, it cuts to the core of small-town bureaucracy, with eerie echoes of larger national and international problems. Tickets are available from [www.offtheground.co.uk](http://www.offtheground.co.uk) or on the door.

### EXAMINATION TIMETABLES

Next week students who are entered for GCSE or GCE examinations this summer will be issued with their individual examination timetables via their form tutors. Please ensure that you make a copy of this and keep it safe.

On the school website you will also find a copy of the notice to parents about timetables, along with the provisional school timetable which provides information about rooming of examinations

<http://www.calday.co.uk/page/?title=Timetables&pid=39>

### **'RAISE A GLASS FOR ADAM'**

Many parents will recall that sadly last year we lost one of our sixth form students, Adam Clift, to Burkitt's Lymphoma. His friends are trying to raise money for Bloodwise by asking everyone to donate to their fundraising page [https://www.justgiving.com/RaiseAGlassForAdam?utm\\_source=Sharethis&utm\\_medium=fundraisingpage&utm\\_content=RaiseAGlassForAdam&utm\\_campaign=pfp-email](https://www.justgiving.com/RaiseAGlassForAdam?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraisingpage&utm_content=RaiseAGlassForAdam&utm_campaign=pfp-email).

JustGiving sends your donation straight to Bloodwise (formerly Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research) and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, so your donation is worth even more. Please help us support this worthwhile cause.

### **PARENTPAY & CASHLESS CATERING**

#### **American Express**

ParentPay have advised us that with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 they will no longer accept American Express (Amex) cards. This is a commercial decision taken by ParentPay because of the cost of collecting payments using these cards. From 1<sup>st</sup> April onwards, Amex cardholders will need to select an alternative stored card when paying or enter new card details to use on ParentPay.

#### **Timing of Lunch Top-up Payments**

We would like to remind parents that top-ups must be made at least 30 minutes before the start of break or lunch, if they wish the credit to be available for their child to use on the same day. Our till system and ParentPay are not synchronised during break or lunchtime service and therefore any top-ups made during this time will not be available on the till system. As a reminder break starts at 10:40am and lunch at 12:50pm

**The School will not serve food to students who lack sufficient funds in their cashless catering accounts and would like to remind parents that it is their responsibility to manage their child's cashless catering account sensibly. In those circumstances parents are advised to provide their child with a packed lunch to ensure that their child is able to eat during the school day.**

### **SPORTS NEWS**

Don't forget that you can follow us on twitter @CGGSport for the most up-to-date sports news.

### **EASTER SOCCER CAMP**

To give students in years 7-9 the opportunity to enhance their football skills KH SoccerSchool is hosting an Easter Soccer Camp (see flyer at the end of the newsletter). The camp will take place from 10th-12th April at Glasspool Fields and will be run by Kevin Holsgrove, an ex Caldean and professional footballer (also one of the school's football coaches).

The course will focus on a mix of technical drills, fun activities and mini world cups. The cost of the course is £80 and there are a number of registration details required. To pay online visit [www.khsoccerschool.ml](http://www.khsoccerschool.ml) or alternatively send a cheque into school marked for the attention of Kevin Holsgrove, enclosing your son's name and form.

## **CAREERS INFORMATION**

### **(\*NEW\*) AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND UNIVERSITY OPEN DAYS**

On Friday 17 March and Saturday 18 March, Study Options will be holding Australian and New Zealand University Open Days. These are free information events aimed at students (and schools) who would like to find out more about university options in Australia and New Zealand.

**Friday 17 March, 1.00pm - 4.30pm** Council House, Victoria Square, Birmingham, B1 1BB

**Saturday 18 March, 1.30 pm - 6.00pm** Australia House, Strand, London, WC2B 4LA

Representatives from Australian and New Zealand universities will be present at the events to speak with prospective students in person. Study Options' Open Days are held twice a year, in March and November, and are a great opportunity for students to get more information and talk to representatives from the universities face-to-face. For the majority of the universities, these are the only in-person events they undertake in the UK. The Open Days are open to students, parents and schools. Please register for a place: [www.studyoptionsopendays.com](http://www.studyoptionsopendays.com) and for further information please visit [www.studyoptionsopendays.com](http://www.studyoptionsopendays.com)

### **(\*NEW\*) FULLY SPONSORED DEGREE IN NAUTICAL SCIENCE**

The Conway Merchant Navy Trust are advertising a fully sponsored degree in Nautical Science at LMJU. This includes all fees and accommodation and those successful will need to spend a total of 12 months at sea. The following criteria are required: 112 UCAS points and English and Maths at grade C/4 or above and relevant A Levels in either, Computing, Business, Geography, Economics, IT or Maths.

For more information please contact. [training@conwaymtrust.info](mailto:training@conwaymtrust.info) or [A.D.Wall@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:A.D.Wall@ljmu.ac.uk).

### **(\*NEW\*) BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION APPRENTICESHIP WITH RATHBONES**

Rathbones, one of the UK's leading providers of investment management services for individuals, charities and professional advisers, are currently looking for Business Administration Apprentices. More details about the vacancy can be found at <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/-77776>.

Sysco Business Skills Academy, the company who are assisting them with this recruitment, also have a number of apprenticeship vacancies which can be found at: <http://www.sysco.uk.com/vacancies/>

### (\*NEW\*) UNILEVER APPRENTICESHIPS

The Unilever apprenticeship opportunities for September 2017 are now live on their website <https://www.unilever.co.uk/careers/apprenticeships/>.

### (\*NEW\*) THE ENGINEERING COLLEGE OPEN DAY

The Engineering College based in Monks Ferry, Birkenhead are holding an Open Day on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> from 1.00 pm to 7.00 pm. More information can be found by visiting their website [www.theengineeringcollege.co.uk](http://www.theengineeringcollege.co.uk)

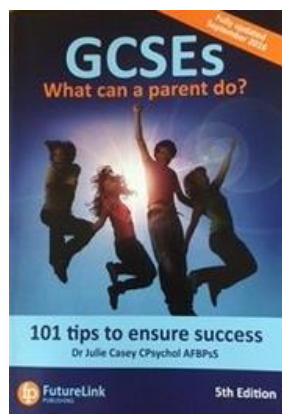
### ENGINEERING TALK

Any students in Years 11, 12 & 13 who are interested in a career in Engineering are invited to attend a talk by Emeritus Professor Gareth Padfield from the University of Liverpool on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 1.00 pm in the Sixth Form Quiet Study.

### INFORMATION SESSION ON APPRENTICESHIPS

There will be an information session about Higher level and Degree Apprenticeships on Thursday 9 March at 13.00 pm in the 6th Form Quiet Study. This is suitable for those students who are considering an Apprenticeship instead of university or alongside applying for university to keep all their options open. Any students from Years 11, 12 and 13 are welcome to attend. Please just turn up.

### A GUIDE TO GCSE EXAM SUCCESS



'A guide to GCSE exam success' which was discussed at the recent study skills evening is now in stock and available to purchase through the school shop. The booklet contains good suggestions and strategies for students and parents at all levels, not just in years 10 and 11. It offers additional tips on setting up a work corner, establishing routines and expectations, dealing with excuses, handling a lack of motivation, dealing with stress and much more. Useful appendices list the best websites, clearly explain the GCSE system and offer a 'what to do if...' guide.

Written by an Educational Psychologist with four children who have all undertaken GCSEs (with varying degrees of motivation!), the book includes a wealth of tried, practical and 'do-able' tips and ideas to support parents in supporting their children through the GCSE years. To purchase a copy please go to the online school shop at: [shop.calday.co.uk](http://shop.calday.co.uk). The booklet is priced at £2.75 and available for either collection from the school shop (open to students each day between 1:00pm - 1:45pm) or by first class post, postage costs £1.50.

### YEAR 8 OPTIONS EVENING

A number of parents have enquired about the process for the Year 8 Options. We can confirm that an information evening will be held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April but full details will be provided in due course.

### 16-19 BURSARY FUND

Many thanks to the parents of sixth form students who have responded to our recent emails and updates. Your action has allowed us to allocate a number of bursaries to support our sixth form students.

As a reminder, the school administers a 16-19 Bursary Fund on behalf of the Education Funding Agency. The fund is to provide support to students aged 16 to 19 who might struggle with the cost of full-time education. We are still accepting applications for financial support in the 2016/17 academic year.

Parents of sixth form students who are in receipt of Free School Meals are particularly encouraged to read this information and consider applying for the fund due to the high likelihood of receiving an award. Details of the 16-19 Bursary Fund can be found on the school website: [www.calday.co.uk/bursary](http://www.calday.co.uk/bursary)



Calday Association of Parents & Staff

Are you a talented singer, magician, dancer, comedian? Would you be willing to perform on the school stage to help raised funds? CAPS (Calday Association of Parents & Staff) are looking for entertaining parents and students who would be willing to offer their services for the benefit of the school.

We don't have a date set for a CAPS event of this nature, but once we have a pot of talent we would be looking to arrange a fundraiser at some point this year. If you, or family and friends, have the skills we are looking for then we would love to hear from you! Please email the CAPS Secretary on [CAPS@Calday.co.uk](mailto:CAPS@Calday.co.uk).

**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.