



Calday Grange Grammar School Parents' Newsletter

9th JANUARY 2015

Mon	12 th Jan	
Tues	13 th Jan	
Weds	14 th Jan	Year 12/13 Trial Examinations commence (finish 21 st January)
Thurs	15 th Jan	
Fri	16 th Jan	

OXBRIDGE

There will be a meeting for those interested in applying to Oxford or Cambridge in H24 at 12.00 on Thursday 15th January. If students have any queries they should see either Mr Byrne or Mrs Montgomery.

STUDENT ABSENCE

If you are calling to report your child sick could you please ensure that you provide a reason for their absence i.e. flu, sore throat etc. This will then ensure that our records are completed correctly as we have been notified by the Local Authority that recording the absence as unwell is not a satisfactory reason.

Could we please also remind parents that if you wish to take a student out of school for any reason other than a medical or dental appointment, an 'Application for Leave of Absence' form should be completed (this can be downloaded from the Forms and Documents section of the school website). Completed forms should be returned directly to Mrs Storey (Director of Student Services). We ask that you do not send emails to either the school or form tutors as there is a possibility that these may not always be processed appropriately through the system.

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.

YEAR 7 RESIDENTIAL

The Year 7 Residential will take place in May. Details will be emailed out to all Year 7 parents imminently with the on-line payments becoming available over the weekend. More information will follow in March but should you have any queries please contact Mr Lamprey or Mr Douglass.

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.

CHESS

There will be an Inter-School Chess Competition at Thingwall Recreation Centre on Thursday 15th January from 5.30pm to 7.30pm. All students are welcome to attend.

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.

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.



SPORTS NEWS

On Friday 19th December, Mr Miller, Mr Hayes, Mr Broadhurst and Miss Jones took 25 rugby players from Years 7-9 to watch Sale Sharks vs Exeter Chiefs. It was a fantastic evening which was topped off with 2 of our students winning the half time Zorbing race against 4 other Sandbach Boys in front of 3000 people. Their prize was 2 tickets each to watch Sale Sharks vs Northampton Saints.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE INFORMATION EVENINGS

Oxford and Cambridge will be putting on **two information evenings** for parents/guardians of high-achieving Year 12 students in **Southport (20th January)** and **Liverpool (21st January)**. These free events will aim to explain what it is like to study at a top university and how students can make themselves competitive applicants, as well as providing information on finance and student welfare.

The evenings will be informal drop-in events but we have been asked to give an estimate of numbers. If you would like to attend (students may also accompany their parents/guardians if they wish) could you please contact Reception at the school by Friday 16th January.

The venues and contacts for the two information evenings are as follows:

Tuesday 20th January (18:00-19:30) Christ the King Catholic High School, Stamford Road, Southport PR8 4EX. **CONTACT: Elaine Tennyson, tennyson@christtheking-school.com**

Wednesday 21st January (17:30-19:00) Alsop High School, Queens Drive, Liverpool, L4 6SH. **CONTACT: Kirsty Busby, k.busby@alsophigh.org.uk**

GCE RESITS SUMMER 2014

Entries must be made 12th to 16th January 2015 at the Exam office. Applications must be made in person and will not be accepted unless accompanied by a completed application form (available from Form Tutors from 5th January 2015) and the correct fee.

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.

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.

VACANCIES

We currently have the following vacancies:-

Cleaner

10 hours per week – 7.00 am to 9.00 am each day. Please see website for further details.

Catering Assistant (Bank)

We are looking to employ bank staff who are able to provide cover as and when required. If you are interested in these positions please contact Mrs Ellis on 0151 6252727

Technician (Design & Technology)

This vacancy has been readvertised. Please see website for further details.

CHRIS SALMON POETRY COMPETITION

The Chris Salmon Poetry Extravaganza takes place annually in memory of poetry-loving Chris Salmon, a student at Calday Grange Grammar School who tragically died from a rare streptococcal infection in February 2009 aged just 15.

The theme of the competition for 2015 is 'Light'. The closing date for applications is **15th January 2015**. Entry is free and there are cash prizes for all winners. Entry forms are available from www.chrissalmon.org.uk and should be returned to Diane Mitchell at Birkenhead Library or returned via email to dianemitchell@wirral.gov.uk. Alternatively, students may submit their entry to either Miss Sweet or Miss Jones in the English office but it must be attached to an entry form.

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/>