



Caldy Grange Grammar School Parents' Newsletter

2nd April 2015

Mon	20 th April	All students return UCAS Evening CAPS Meeting (7.00 pm Ridger pub)
Tues	21 st April	
Weds	22 nd April	
Thurs	23 rd April	
Friday	24 th April	

MESSAGE FROM MR RODAWAY

We come to the end of another busy term which has again seen many outstanding achievements by our students.

When we return on Monday 20th April, our older students will be involved in the stressful period of external examinations and we hope that they use the time over the Easter break wisely to reinforce and consolidate their learning. We will continue to ensure that they are supported both academically and pastorally during this busy time.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you and your family an excellent Easter break.

FEEDBACK FROM YEAR 10 PARENTS' EVENING

Thank you to all parents and students who attended the Year 10 Parents Evening on Wednesday 1st April 2015. The attendance rate was 93%, which is outstanding. At the parents evening we issued a questionnaire, based on the Parent View questionnaire that many parents have already completed online.

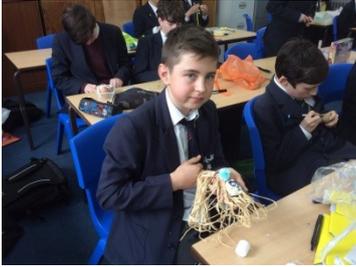
- Of the 168 students in the year, 156 sets of parents attended.
- 35% of parents completed and returned the questionnaire.
- The results are published below.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't Know
My child is happy at school?	76%	24%	0	0	0
My child feels safe at school?	78%	22%	0	0	0
My child makes good progress at school?	68%	28%	2%	0	2%
My child is well looked after at school?	61%	33%	2%	0	4%
My child is well taught at the school?	53%	40%	2%	2%	4%
My child receives the appropriate homework for their age?	39%	40%	11%	2%	8%
This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved?	45%	47%	4%	2%	2%
This school deals with bullying effectively?	32%	41%	5%	0	22%
The school is well led and managed?	54%	43%	0	0	3%
The school responds well to any concern I raise?	51%	36%	2%	0	11%
I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress?	56%	41%	4%	0	0
Would you recommend this school to another parent?	72%	22%	2%	2%	2%



FROHE OSTER!

This week Year 9 German classes have been doing Easter crafts! Below are a few photographs from the classes.



'DRIVE TO ARRIVE' PROGRAMME FOR U6 STUDENTS

When we return after the Easter break, all our U6 students will be involved in a 'Drive to Arrive' programme being run in collaboration with Merseyside Fire Service. This will take place on Wednesday 22nd April at 1.40pm and students therefore will NOT be allowed home study on that day.

The Fire Service has attended 1 session already with all form classes to present their 'Drive to Arrive' programme. This is aimed directly at young drivers and passengers and deals with all the issues that cause and contribute to road traffic accidents involving young people. It seems from the positive feedback we have had that the sessions have been both informative and thought provoking.

The information thus far has been imparted in a classroom setting and the activity on 22nd April will be far more practical in nature. Students will observe what happens in the aftermath of an accident, through a reconstruction. A couple of students will be asked to volunteer to play the part of the casualties in the accident but these volunteers will be sought in advance and will be consenting participants.

The aims of this activity are as follows –

Basic first aid information will be provided

Students will gain an insight into how they might be able to assist if they ever come across the scene of an accident during their lifetime.

If they are ever unfortunate enough to be involved in an accident they will have a greater understanding of the role of the emergency services and the actions they are likely to need to take; knowledge and understanding can be very beneficial in such situations.

If you have any concerns about the activities which will be taking place please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Owen on kate.owen@calday.co.uk

UCAS EVENING

The Lower Sixth UCAS evening for parents and students will be held on Monday 20th April from 7.00 pm till 8.00 pm in the main hall. Mrs Rivett will provide information about the university application process and our Careers Advisor, Mrs Montgomery, will also be there to answer any questions.

NEXT MEETING OF CALDAY ASSOCIATION OF PARENTS & STAFF (CAPS)

The next CAPs meeting will take place on Monday 20th April at 7.00 pm at the Ridger pub, China Farm Lane West Kirby, CH48 9XW (please note change of venue). For more information please email CAPS@calday.co.uk or visit www.caldaygrangegrammarschool.co.uk

FRENCH EASTER REVISION SESSIONS

Mr Desse will be running Easter revision sessions as follows:-

GCSE	7th April	9.00 am -12 noon
AS	7th April	12.30 pm -3.30 pm
A2	13th April	9.00 am to 3.30 pm

APPEAL FOR COMPRESSOR/FOOTBALL PUMPS

Does anyone have a spare compressor/football pump that they no longer need and would be willing to donate to the school! Any donations would greatly assist our lunchtime supervision staff as the students are constantly asking for their footballs to be blown up! Any spare pumps etc can be left at Reception for the attention of Mrs McIver.

VACANCIES

We are currently have the following vacancies:-

- Teacher of English
- Teacher of Geography
- Teacher of Physics
- Learning Supervisor

If you are aware of anyone who may be interested in any of these vacancies please direct them to the school website for further details.

We also require a Teacher of Music (maternity cover). Further details can be obtained from Mrs Ellis on 0151 6252727.

CALDAY GRANGE GRAMMAR SCHOOL STUDENTS SUPPORT AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



Head Teacher Mark Rodaway gave his approval for a dramatic demonstration of on-going CGGS students' support for Amnesty International campaigns yesterday.

WHO CARES ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS? WE DO!

When everybody arrived at school they were greeted with the sight of the slogan FREE SHAKER AAMER displayed prominently and any thought that this was an "April Fool" was quickly dispelled when it was explained that we are all fools if we think that human rights are 100% safe even in our own country.

The focus of the Amnesty International Awareness Day was on the plight of Shaker Aamer, who has experienced torture of various kinds at the hands of his American guards in the

Guantanamo Detention Centre at their military base on the eastern end of the island of Cuba in the West Indies over the last 13 years - even though he has never been charged with any offence and has twice been cleared for release, the first time being in 2007.

During the whole of the lunch break students volunteered to don orange jumpsuits and to be "jailed" wearing blindfolds in small cages at the foot of the main steps leading up to the entrance to the school. It was also explained to them that a carefully-delineated chalked area demonstrated the very strict confines of the cell in which Shaker Aamer has spent 23 hours out of every day for 13 years.

Year 10 parents could have been forgiven for being slightly bemused by what greeted them when they arrived at school for their sons' parents evening. Guarded by Rachel Meyer, Dan McCarthy, Luke Needham and Sean Smith were languishing in the tightly-constricted cages to a commentary including such phrases as "You're in Guantamo International laws don't apply here. Forget about ever being released".

Calday has a proud tradition of student activism in the cause of Amnesty International Human Rights campaigning stretching back many years. The 2015 Amnesty Awareness Day was testimony to the enthusiasm and initiative of a dynamic quartet of Year 13 students, comprising Dan McCarthy, Rachel Meyer, Luke Needham and Sean Smith, and the loyal backing of Khaled Ahmed, Ewan Brett, Will Hepworth and Alex Pirmohamed from Year 12. The **CGGS Amnesty International Facebook page** is a must-visit page to see what is going on and is evidence of the lead given by the Year 13 students to all who care about human rights. You do. Don't you?

APPEAL FOR BONE MARROW DONOR REGISTER

Have you thought of joining the bone marrow donor register? Thought you were too old? Think again! You can register up to the age of 55 with the following website:

www.deletebloodcancer.org.uk. (they send you out a cheek swab in the post and you post it back).

You may also have heard of an urgent appeal to find a local boy, 7-year-old Finn McEwan, a stem cell donor - it has been in numerous newspapers, on Facebook, Twitter and is currently being supported by Everton FC (they are holding a registration event over the weekend).

The need for a donor is extremely urgent - they have suggested one must be found in the next couple of months if he has a chance of surviving. On top of having a rare form of cancer that does not respond to chemotherapy, he has now also been diagnosed with Leukaemia and is being given chemotherapy daily for 4 weeks.

So far the response from the general public has been amazing and resulted in Anthony Nolan Trust having to employ more staff to deal with the demand. Obviously this response is fantastic but still no match has been found for Finn.

Please take 5 minutes to find out a bit more about Finn and register.

[facebook.com/FinnsFight](https://www.facebook.com/FinnsFight)
News article

FUNDING FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Thank you to all parents who have so far made a contribution to the school fund in support of the school extra-curricular programme. We greatly appreciate your support and would urge other parents who have not yet done so to make a voluntary donation of £40 per student. To make a payment, please go online to your school SCOPAY account and select, School Fund 2014-2015.

MATHS DROP IN SESSIONS

Year 12 & 13 Tuesday's P4 in G11 and Wednesday's P5 in G15
Year 11 support sessions will also take place on Wednesday's P5 in G11

RUNNING THE SPRING 10K IN AID OF WIRRAL MIND

After vowing she would never do it again, Miss Trotter has twisted her own arm into running the Spring 10k again, this time for Wirral Mind. If anyone has any spare pennies they would like to donate to this wonderful cause, the link is <https://www.justgiving.com/Cat-Trotter1>. Thank you!

LAUNCH OF THE CALDAY SHOP

We have recently launched a new school shop. The shop will be open during lunch breaks each day and will be staffed by sixth form students and volunteers working towards their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award.

The shop will be the main collection point for items purchased from the school online shop. We have also introduced a range of products that students can buy over the counter including a range of stationery items and sports products. For a full list of items available to purchase please visit the school website : www.calday.co.uk/shop

UNDERGRADUATE TASTER DAY

Loughborough University is holding an undergraduate taster day on Thursday 23rd April, with sample lectures from leading academics in the fields of;

Engineering and Regenerative Medicine
Business and Economics
Geography, History and RS
Science
Psychology and Sociology
Art and Design

Students are welcome to attend on their own or with parents. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. To book a place or find out more visit www.lboro.ac.uk/inspiringminds or call 01509 222488.

REFILWE SUNSET SNOWDON HIKE

Mr Kavanagh is leading a walk to the summit of Snowdon on Saturday 16th May to raise money for Refilwe. We will be leaving Calday at approximately 1 pm and back by approximately 1 am. Any parents and students interested please email him on Robert.kavanagh@calday.co.uk

SPORTS CAMP (Tuesday 25th to Thursday 27th August 2015)

This is available to any child aged 7 and above (girls and non-Calday pupils are actively encouraged to come along). The 'new' Year 7 entrants will be grouped together, giving them a chance to meet new friends, whilst familiarising themselves with members of staff and the facilities before they officially arrive in September. This has proved to be an excellent introduction to their new school.

Forms will be available from the school reception, school website and also via <http://thejuniorcamp.eventbrite.co.uk>

STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO DESIGN A STAINED GLASS WINDOW TO CELEBRATE THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF CADETS IN CALDAY (PLEASE NOTE EXTENDED DEADLINE)

2016 will be the 100th Anniversary of Cadets in Calday. In 1916 a detachment of the Officers' Training Corps was formed in the school which is now the Combined Cadet Force. We wish to commemorate this by installing two stained glass windows above the main entrance doors and we are offering students the opportunity to enter a competition to design it.

Their design should incorporate images which show a simple theme for each of our Navy, Army and Air Force sections (possibly a dinghy for Navy, a bell tent for the Army, and a glider for the Air Force). The CCF crest should also be included. The windows each measure 85 cm by 110 cm.

Completed entries on A3 or A4 paper (including name and form) should be submitted to Reception by Friday 1st May 2015. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to email the CCF at ccf@calday.co.uk or to see Mr Adcock, CCF Contingent Commander.

PSYCHOLOGY A LEVEL REVISION CLASSES

A2 drop in session/revision session continuing as normal, from 3.35 pm until 4.30 pm, on Thursdays with Miss Whittle in B6. Also, weekly AS revision sessions from 3.35 pm to 4.30 pm take place on Tuesday's.



CALDAY ASSOCIATION OF PARENTS AND STAFF (PTA)

Would you like to join a friendly group of parents and teachers in planning and organising events to benefit the students in the school and the community at Calday? For more information please email CAPS@calday.co.uk or visit www.caldaygrangegrammarschool.co.uk



We are once again collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. There is a post box situated outside the Administration Office for the students to place vouchers in. Thank you for your support.

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.

You simply need an email address and a password to register. Once your login has been activated, it only takes a few minutes to choose answers to 12 short questions about the school.

Please remember that you can give your opinion through Parent View at any time during the school year. At the time of an inspection, you can refresh or resubmit your views and the facility will overwrite your previous response so that only one 'view' for each parent, per school, is held.