



Calday Grange Grammar School

Newsletter (Friday 8th February 2019)

Mon	11 th February	Scholastic Book Fair
Tues	12 th February	
Wed	13 th February	
Thurs	14 th February	
Fri	15 th February	School closes for half-term break (non-uniform day in aid of Refilwe)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday 25 th February	School reopens for all students
Tuesday 26 th February	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Thursday 7 th March	Year 9 Immunisations
Wednesday 20 th March	Sixth Form Subject Choice Event
Wednesday 27 th March	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Friday 29 th March	School closes for Easter break (Non uniform day)

YEAR 8 FOOTBALL

The Year 8 football team are the first in the country to reach last four of the National Elite Cup this year. On a bitterly cold Friday morning, the men in maroon travelled away to take on one of the best footballing schools in the country, Thomas Telford. Calday had the lion's share of the possession in the first half, and were rewarded following a well-worked set-piece. **Blackie** whipped in a dangerous corner, and **Allport** found himself striking home with a well-controlled finish.

The CGGS boys continued to pressurise the home team, and ended the first half with a second goal, when **Allport** hit a 25-yard free-kick past the 'keeper for his 30th goal in Calday colours since the start of year 7.

Dogged defending and two outstanding saves from MOTM, **Wiggins**, meant that Calday held onto their clean sheet and await the Semi-Final draw on 11th February with a well-deserved 2-0 away victory.

Well done to **all** players involved and thanks to the parents who came to support.



ENGLISH INDOOR ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Many congratulations to Flynn Jones (11GZ), Findlay Laffey (11GZ), Henry Smith (L6B2), Jonathon McEvoy (L6G3) and Edward Smith (9BX) who are all members of Liverpool Victoria Rowing club in Wallasey training on the docks and indoors. On Sunday 4th February, they competed in the English Indoor Rowing Championships at the velodrome in Manchester achieving some brilliant results.

- Flynn Jones won gold in the Junior age 16 2000m race in an amazing time.
- Henry and Jonathon won gold as part of a 4-man team competing in the junior age 18 3000m race.
- Flynn and Findlay competed in a 4 person mixed team winning a bronze medal in the Mens Junior age 16 3000m event.
- Edward competed in the Junior age 14 event and although didn't win a medal achieved a personal best in his category.

SKI TRIP TO ANDORRA



48 students from Years 8 to 12 visited Vall Nord in Andorra in December. All the students enjoyed a busy week. There were blue skies each day and the students took part in a number of activities including 5 hours of ski lessons each day and one day spent skiing in fancy dress.

Watch this space for details of this year's trip which will be released next week. The word on the grapevine is that it's Italy this time!

KING HENRY VII RELAYS

On Wednesday 6th February, we took 2 teams to this event and when you consider that we had the two youngest teams in the competition, to come 28 and 44 out of 56 school was a fantastic achievement.

The fastest lap was 10.58 on an undulating 2.3 course with some off road as well. The winning team time was 71.26. Our times were as follows:-

Team A total 81.42
Alex Poulston 13.01
Sam Brocklehurst 13.56
Dan Hayes 13.01
Leo Nilsson 15.23
Will Sutcliffe 13.27
Luke Hampshire 12.52

Team B total 89.50
Jack Bernham 13.38
Antony Foster 15.02
Archie Lynch 15.34
Leo Ferdenzi 15.46
Greg Hill 15.35
Tom Dougherty 14.13

Our next race is at Grand Prix Princes Park in Liverpool tomorrow (9th February). You will need your barcode and it is a 9.00am start. We hope that you can come and support Will Hampshire (Year 7) as he runs his 50th Parkrun. It would be great to support Will as he has been a regular attender at training and he always has a smile when he runs - latest research shows that running whilst smiling makes you go faster!

GERMAN EXCHANGE

Our students were in Europaschule Gladenbach from 20th to 27th January as part of our German Exchange programme. Reports from their trip can be found via the link below:-

<https://www.europaschule-gladenbach.de/index.php/aktuelles/berichte/1086-england-austausch-tag1-exchange-england-germany-day-1>

It was a very successful exchange and many of the students would like to have stayed longer. This year's Year 9 classes will have the opportunity to take part in the exchange next year. Mrs Wiseman would like to thank all the students who took part on the exchange for getting involved and participating in all events and interacting so well with their partners and all the other students on the exchange.

TERM DATES FOR SEPTEMBER 2019 to JULY 2020

Could we please make parents aware that due to changes in the 11plus arrangements we have had to change the planned inset day in September 2019 from Wednesday 18th September to Monday 23rd September. We have now also placed the final inset day and this will take place on Monday 6th January 2020. The updated list of term dates is included at the end of this newsletter for your information.

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCIES

The terms of office for three of our Parent Governors will end in March 2019 and we will therefore be looking to fill these vacancies as soon as possible. Documentation will be sent to eligible parents (via students) next week. If you do not receive this documentation, please contact Mrs Ellis on 0151 6252727.

SIXTH FORM SUBJECT CHOICES EVENT

Our next sixth form event for Year 11 students will take place on Wednesday 20th March 2019 commencing at 6.00 pm. This is an opportunity for students to find out more detail about the subjects that they are interested in studying at A Level, as well as a chance to see the facilities and enrichment activities available in the sixth form.

They will be able to attend 20-minute subject seminars, hosted by teachers, and to meet students who are currently studying for these A Levels to ask any questions that they may have. Our Year 11 students and parents will receive more information shortly.

YEAR 9 IMMUNISATIONS

Immunisation letters have now been distributed to Year 9 students. Could we please ask parents to ensure that the forms are returned (even if your child is not having the immunisation) by Monday 25th February. Should you have any queries please contact Mrs Humphreys at the school.

MANDARIN EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME – STUDENTS TAKE PART IN ENRICHMENT DAY AT UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

On 1st February, a group of 26 Year 7 students under MEP (Mandarin Excellence Programme) went to the University of Leeds to participate in Chinese workshops together with three Chinese teachers: Ms Gan, Ms Sun and Mr Lyu. The Mandarin Excellence Programme is a unique intensive language programme funded by the British government, which will see at least 5,000 pupils in the UK on track to achieve the goal of fluency in Chinese by 2020. Our school joined in the programme last year.

The events started with some singing by a band named Transition. The students were divided into small groups of five or six pupils, working together to compose their own lyrics for the band's well-known song '对不起，我的中文不好' ("Sorry, my Chinese is not good"). The Calday students were one of only two groups to perform in front of the whole audience, despite the fact that they had only practised their performance for twenty minutes. In the afternoon session, our students also had some fun with Chinese translation exercises and cultural introductions. The singing contest came at the end of day; our students performed two Chinese songs in a row whilst the rest of the schools only sang one. At the end, we received the award for the best boy group with our students' outstanding singing performance.

It was a very positive experience for everyone and a great start to the boys' learning experience. Our team of 26 boys have been able to learn more about the Chinese language and culture. Through the workshops, the boys were inspired and motivated by the university students who studies Chinese, and our students have become more passionate and determined to excel in their Chinese studies. Well done to all the students involved!

Create and edit stories



Song writing



CASHLESS CATERING UPDATE



ParentPay System Issues

We would like to thank parents and students for their patience whilst we have experienced payment issues with the ParentPay system. This has been a national problem that has affected thousands of schools; however, it appears to be operating satisfactorily at the moment. We are sorry for any inconvenience that this has caused you.

To enable our students to continue to purchase food and drink we have temporarily increased the overdraft limits this week. These will be reduced to the normal level of £5 next Monday.

Please ensure that your child's lunch account is topped up on a regular basis. We will email parents each day if your child's account is overdrawn to remind you to top their account up



Automated Low Balance Alerts - Catering

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 them know that their child's catering balance is getting low. That way you can top-up when needed and have assurance that there are funds available for your child's 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 'Communication'** at the top of the screen and then **'Alert Settings'**
3. Select **'Balance Alert'** and choose a minimum amount for your child's lunch 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. If you have more than one child at the school then you can set an individual alert for each child.
4. **Select the 'email alert' tick box** – this choice is free, if you choose text messages then ParentPay will charge you
5. **Press the blue 'save box'** to ensure that your preferences are saved – if you scroll down to the bottom of the screen you will find this.
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 or send a letter to the School Office and we will process the changes for you.

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS



BOOK FAIR NEXT WEEK

Our annual Book Fair will be held in the LRC from Monday 11th to Friday 15th February with hundreds of new teenagers' fiction and non-fiction books and items of stationery to browse and buy. **No cash** is to be brought to school, your child will give you a yellow slip containing their choice of items, price and payment/collection information. Purchases should be made through your **ParentPay** account via the **Scholastic Book Fair item**. For parents preferring to pay by cash, we can issue a PayPoint barcode upon request, which can be used in shops displaying the **PayPoint** symbol.

There is a strict deadline of **8:00am Monday 25th February for payment**.

Years 7, 8 and 9 students will be attending the fair during their English lessons, whilst students in all other years are welcome to browse the fair in the LRC during break and lunchtimes.

Last year, sales totalled an amazing £1391.30, which meant that we gained over £830 in commission to spend on new books for both G16 Junior Library and the main LRC!

Thank you for your continued support.

Children's Mental Health Week

This week is Children's Mental Health Week. Research by the National Literacy Trust shows that children who enjoy reading are 3 times more likely to have good mental wellbeing than their peers. See the report here: <https://literacytrust.org.uk/research-services/research-reports/mental-wellbeing-reading-and-writing/>

New Books



We have lots of new books to choose from this month, including a superb range of both fiction and non-fiction from the wonderful Book Trust. This free School Library Pack is primarily for students in Years 7-9, and includes books across three categories: Future Classics, Reluctant Readers and Non-Fiction. Further details can be found here:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/programmes-and-campaigns/school-library-pack/mainstream-school-library-pack/>

Other new additions to the LRC this month include several titles that students have requested, such as:

- *The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day*, Christopher Edge's third fantastic book with a Science fiction theme aimed at Years 7-9
- Several dyslexia-friendly thrillers from the publisher Barrington Stoke
- Rick Riordan's *Magnus Chase book 9 from the nine worlds*
- For older readers, various Stephen King novels
- Non-fiction titles include great books about teenage well-being by Nicola Morgan and a book about the environment aptly named *This Book Is Not Rubbish!*

Another Author visit!

On the first day after half-term, Monday 25th February, we hope to welcome Simon James Green, author of the hilarious *Noah Can't Even* and *Noah Could Never*, who will talk to our Year 9 Students. There will also be an opportunity to buy his SIGNED books. Further details will be sent to Year 9 parents via email.

Year 7 Diary of a Wimpy Kid diary writing competition

Well done to those Year 7 students who, despite their busy schedules, have submitted an entry to this National Literacy Trust competition at such short notice. Good luck!

VAPING

Vaping is not allowed on the school site. Anyone found vaping will have their equipment confiscated and it can either be collected by parents or be destroyed at the end of the year.

BUS TRAVEL

Could parents please ensure that their child has emergency bus fare available in case they should lose their bus pass. The service buses are directed not to accept passengers who do not have a bus pass or money to pay. If a student has difficulty getting home, they should see a member of staff who will be able to assist.

UPCOMING CHARITY EVENT IN AID OF REFILWE

We will be holding a staff coffee and cake morning with raffle on Friday 8th March in aid of Refilwe. If anyone would like to donate cakes or raffles for this event it would be greatly appreciated. If you are able to assist, please contact jane.rowlands@calday.co.uk

CHARITY NETBALL MATCH

On Thursday 14th February, a team of Year 13 girls will take on a team of Year 13 boys in a charity netball match. The match will be held at lunchtime in one of the cages at the back of the school. Students who wish to come along and support the teams are asked to make a £2 donation in aid of the Teenage Cancer Trust.

MESSAGE FROM UNILEVER REGARDING UNILEVER APPRENTICESHIPS OPEN EVENINGS

Come and join us at our Port Sunlight Office & Factory site to learn more about Business & Technology, Supply Chain & Engineering and Research & Development apprenticeships here at Unilever! You will have the chance to meet some of our current and graduated apprentices who will be able to share their journeys and experiences so far as well as apprentice managers. You will also have the chance to learn more about the brands and functions that make up Unilever. These events will take place on 13th February and 7th March but you will need to register.

Feb 13th session: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/unilever-apprenticeships-port-sunlight-tickets-54980344691>

Mar 7th session: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/unilever-apprenticeships-port-sunlight-tickets-54980478090>

Unilever Apprenticeships applications are now live! To find out more please visit: www.unilever.co.uk/careers/apprenticeships. We hope to see as many of you here as possible!

Best wishes
Unilever Apprenticeships

OXBRIDGE

Has your son or daughter ever thought about going to Oxford or Cambridge University? In the minds of many, these universities may seem like an impossible aspiration. However, both Oxford and Cambridge are very keen to interview and accept students from the Northwest (Cambridge even has a team dedicated to maximising applications from Merseyside).

Both universities have a different approach to recruitment than many universities. They are interested in potential, teachability and look for people who are enthusiastic and passionate about their subject. They are not always looking for a top set of grades at GCSE.

Students are welcome to come along to the Oxbridge group meetings which will focus on preparation for Oxbridge. These meetings will take place each Friday of week 2 at 1.00 pm in D34.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR URGENT SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

If parents have an urgent safeguarding concern outside of school hours they should call the Local Safeguarding Board Central Advice and Duty Team on the following numbers:-

Monday to Friday 9-5 606 2008
In an emergency please call 999

Outside of these hours 677 6557

EASYFUNDRAISING.ORG.UK

To join please follow the simple steps below:-

1. **Head to 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 have 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.

CAREERS INFORMATION

THE LIVERPOOL WHAT CAREER LIVE? & WHAT UNIVERSITY LIVE?

There is an event planned for Saturday 23rd March at Liverpool Exhibition Centre to help students decide about University or Apprenticeship. Students will have access to Top Employers and Leading Universities and also a Careers Advice Lounge and 60 Seminars. To book a free place visit whatcareerlive.co.uk or call 0208394 5290.

APPRENTICESHIPS AT UNILEVER

Unilever are now open for Business Administrator apprenticeships, starting in March 2019! Including Customer Development (sales), Human Resources and Marketing. For further details, please visit <https://www.unilever.co.uk/careers/apprenticeships/>

POLITE REMINDERS

■ COMMUNICATION WITH THE SCHOOL

At Calday Grange Grammar School we are committed to treating everybody with respect and courtesy, and to giving you a polite and effective response should you contact us.

Our staff also have the right to work in a safe environment, free from verbal abuse and other intimidating behaviour directed at them. We will take effective measures to support any employee who is subject to any inappropriate behaviour. We therefore ask that parents respond to this by showing polite, respectful behaviour when in contact with our staff either in person, in written correspondence or via a telephone conversation. Thank you for your support.

■ PARKING & DROPPING OFF STUDENTS

We ask that parents do not drop-off their children 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

We would also like to remind parents and students that parking on some parts of Column Road is illegal and that cars parked inappropriately may be ticketed by the police who conduct regular checks on the area. Please ensure that cars are parked sensibly elsewhere and that they do not block access for those who live in the vicinity of the school. Thank you for your assistance.

■ COLLECTING STUDENTS WHO ARE ILL

Could we please remind parents that if students are ill and wish to go home, then they must report to First Aid in the first instance and not ring their parents directly to ask them to collect them. The Administration Team will then ensure that the normal procedures are followed to arrange for students to go home due to illness. 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. We would be grateful if you could take the opportunity to visit www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk to complete the short questionnaire.

SUPPORT FOR THE CHRISTOPHER SALMON FOUNDATION

The Christopher Salmon Foundation will benefit until November 2019 from the Co-op Local Community Fund and we would be very grateful for your help please in getting as many people as possible to register as a Co-op member and then to choose us as their Co-op Local Community Cause. As every time members shop at the Co-op, 1% of what they spend on Co-op branded products and services helps fund community projects like ours. Members can shop at any Co-op Group stores across the UK to raise money for us. You can support us by joining the Co-op using the following link (there is no charge) <https://www.coop.co.uk/membership> and once registered just sign into your membership account and choose The Christopher Salmon Foundation as your our Co-op Local Community Cause. Our cause reference number is <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/30411>. We are going to use the money from this to assist with funding 2020 Poetry Extravaganza, as it will be our 10th year of running the competition and to mark this occasion we would like to make it a very special event . We are looking to hold the awards evening at the Floral Pavilion and to try and secure a renowned/famous poet to be our host for the evening.

Please see following pages for:-

Procedure to be followed in the event of adverse weather
Term dates for September 2019 to July 2020



Calday Grange Grammar School

Procedure to be used in the event of adverse weather conditions

We are committed to minimising disruption to the education of our students and we will always endeavour to keep the school open wherever possible but there are rare occasions when we will find it necessary to close the school. These are usually occasions when adverse weather means that the school site is unsafe and poses health and safety risks to the school community.

Decisions on whether or not to close the school are never taken lightly. They involve both the Senior Leadership Team and representatives of the school's Governing Body. The first consideration is always the safety of the students and staff. If, due to adverse weather conditions the staffing complement is too low, health and safety risk assessments may mean that we cannot open the school to all year groups.

Our aim is to avoid, as far as possible, any uncertainty and confusion in the event of possible school closure. We believe that the best way to do this is to communicate as fully as possible with our parents.

In the event of adverse weather prior to the start of the school day:-

A decision will be made between 6.00 am and 7.00 am as to whether the school should be open or needs to be closed. In the event of closure, by 7.30 am (wherever possible), the school will ensure that:-

- an automated text or email message is sent to parents and staff via the SchoolComms system
- the school website has been updated
- an update is available on our social media sites

Note: Please be aware that during bad weather the school will run all external examinations at the published times and students should continue to monitor the school website for details.

In the event of adverse weather during the school day:-

If the school is open in the morning but the weather conditions deteriorate during the day, we will continually assess the risks. The decision whether to close the school will be made taking into account:-

- School transport (these are often cancelled during periods of snow and ice)
- Condition of the local roads
- Weather updates through the local authority and MET office

Should the decision be taken to close the school we will inform parents via:-

- an automated text or email message sent from the SchoolComms system
- a notice on the school website
- information on our social media sites

We understand that it may be difficult for some parents to collect their child and therefore contingency plans will be put in place to ensure that the school remains open until all students are collected.

In the event of prolonged closure due to weather, parents should continue to monitor the school website as it will be updated on a regular basis with the latest information.

As we draw students from a large catchment area, parents should always assess if it is safe for their children to leave for school based on their local weather and their safety in travelling to and from school. If you decide not to send your child into school we ask that you notify the school on the day of absence via the absence line or email. This will then ensure that the absence is recorded as authorised.

We will always do everything in our power to avoid school closure and would greatly appreciate your support during these difficult times.



Calday Grange Grammar School

Term dates for September 2019 to July 2020

AUTUMN TERM 2019	
Staff Development Day	Monday 2 nd September 2019 (school closed to students)
School reopens for Y7 and L6 students only	Tuesday 3 rd September 2019
School reopens for all students	Wednesday 4 th September 2019
Staff Development Day	Monday 23 rd September 2019 (school closed to students)
School closes for half-term at the end of	Friday 25 th October 2019
HALF-TERM: Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November 2019	
School reopens for all students	Monday 4 th November 2019
School closes for Christmas break	Friday 20 th December 2019
Christmas Break: Monday 23rd December 2019 to Friday 3rd January 2020	
SPRING TERM 2020	
Staff Development Day	Monday 6 th January 2020 (school closed to students)
School reopens for all students	Tuesday 7 th January 2020
School closes for half-term at the end of	Friday 14 th February 2020
HALF-TERM: Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2020	
School reopens for all students	Monday 24 th February 2020
School closes for Easter break at the end of	Friday 3 rd April 2020
EASTER BREAK: Monday 6th April 2020 to Friday 17th April 2020	
SUMMER TERM 2020	
Staff Development Day	Monday 20 th April 2020 (school closed to students)
School reopens for all students	Tuesday 21 st April 2020
May Bank Holiday (school closed)	Monday 4 th May 2020
School closes for half-term at the end of	Friday 22 nd May 2019
HALF-TERM: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2020	
School reopens for all students	Monday 1 st June 2020
School closes for Summer break at the end of	Friday 17 th July 2020