



# Calday Grange Grammar School

## Newsletter (Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019)

Mon	25 <sup>th</sup> February	School reopens for all students
Tues	26 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Wed	27 <sup>th</sup> February	
Thurs	28 <sup>th</sup> February	
Fri	1 <sup>st</sup> March	

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 9 Immunisations
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Sixth Form Subject Choice Event
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	School closes for Easter break (Non uniform day)

### SENIOR QUIZ TEAMS



Last week, our two Senior Quiz teams excelled in the North West heat of the national Schools' Challenge competition at Bury Grammar School. Sixteen teams took part on the day, and the standard was extremely high. Both Calday teams were unbeaten in the group stages, winning victories over teams from Bury Grammar School, Manchester Grammar School, Stockport, Bolton, Cheadle Hulme and Birkenhead schools which meant that they had to meet each other in the semi-final draw.

After a dramatically close match, the A team just shaded it and then went on to beat Merchant Taylor's in a high scoring, hard-fought final.

Calday A - Tom Owen, Dan Millard, Matthew Minnis and Maaz Majeed – are now North-West champions, and look forward to meeting their North-East counterparts (tbc) in the national semi-finals. Well done to all - they were fantastic ambassadors for our school!

### CHRIS SALMON POETRY EXTRAVAGANZA

Many congratulations to George Rooney (Year 9) whose poem was awarded First Prize in his age group in the Chris Salmon Poetry Extravaganza 2019. George will be presented with his prize at an Award's Evening taking place at Birkenhead Town Hall on 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

### DISPERSAL ZONE

We have been asked by Merseyside Police to inform parents and students that there will be a dispersal zone implemented in West Kirby on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February and Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2019. Under S35 of the Anti-social behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 this will give Police Officers extra powers to move people away from a particular area for up to 48 hours if they are likely to cause anti-social behaviour, crime or disorder. This includes locals parks.

Police Officers may also direct a person in the dispersal area to surrender any item in their possession or control, likely to be used in behaviour that harasses, alarms or distresses members of the public (this includes bicycles used on public walkways).

Police will also be visiting licensed premises including local supermarkets and off licences to target those who commit the following offences:-

- Selling of alcohol to those under 18 years old.
- Adults buying or attempting to buy alcohol on behalf of someone under 18. Someone under 18 buying alcohol or attempting to buy alcohol.

## 'TREASURE ISLAND'



### What is a pirate's favourite choice of music? Arrr 'n' B

Calday Plays will be staging their Spring production of "Treasure Island" in the school hall on 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

Adapted from the iconic novel by Robert Louis Stevenson, this is a tale of pirate fighting, swash buckling, greed, power, intrigue and dancing goats. With a cast of over 40 Year 7 - 9 students it is a fast-paced, energetic, physical and often hilarious retelling of the classic tale.

Tickets can now be bought at <http://shop.calday.co.uk/>

Adult tickets: £10 Student tickets: £5 Family tickets (2 adults, 2 students): £25

Please note the performances will begin promptly at 7pm.

### What's a pirate's favourite country? Aaaarrrrgentina!

## C1 & C2 BUS TIMETABLE CHANGE

We have received feedback that the C1 and C2 buses often do not meet their time schedules. We have now completed an analysis, in consultation with Als Coaches, and have agreed that the time allocation needs to be amended to become more realistic.

**The new timetable can be found at [calday.co.uk/cbus](http://calday.co.uk/cbus) and will come into effect when we return to school after the half term break on Monday 25 February.**

We would like to remind students and parents that students must always produce their bus pass when boarding their bus. If a pass has been lost then a new pass can be purchased at [shop.calday.co.uk](http://shop.calday.co.uk). A temporary pass should be obtained from the Administration Office to be used whilst a new pass is being prepared.

It is vital that students board the correct bus (this is clearly marked on the bus pass). We have been informed that some students are trying to board a different bus and this has resulted in students not having a seat, which is clearly a safety issue.

We hope that these measures will resolve some of the issues that have arisen this year. The safety of our students is of paramount importance and we will continue to review the service.

## LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS



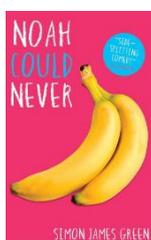
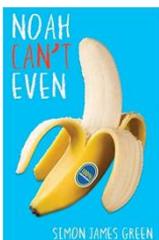
### BOOK FAIR



A massive thank you to all those who have helped to make this year's Book Fair a huge success. Final totals to be revealed after half-term. A reminder that payments must be made via Scholastic Book Fair on ParentPay by **8:00am Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February**. I will be making final orders then so there may be a short delay in deliveries.

## ANOTHER AUTHOR VISIT!

On the first day after half-term, Monday 25<sup>th</sup> 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 have been sent to Year 9 parents via email. On this occasion, boys may also bring in the cash on the day to pay for a signed book. They are £7.29 each.



## 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 18<sup>th</sup> September to Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. We have now also placed the final inset day and this will take place on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> 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. An email has now been sent via SchoolComms which provides details on the parent election. If you did not receive this email, 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> February. Should you have any queries please contact Mrs Humphreys at the school.

## 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.

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 is 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](mailto:parentpay@calday.co.uk) or send a letter to the School Office and we will process the changes for you.

## **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 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:jane.rowlands@calday.co.uk)

## **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](http://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.

## **THE LIVERPOOL WHAT CAREER LIVE? & WHAT UNIVERSITY LIVE?**

There is an event planned for Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://whatcareerlive.co.uk) or call 0208394 5290.

## **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.

### **▪ 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.

### **▪ 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.

## **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](http://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

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