



CALDAYLIFE



Staff Charity Football Match Raises £4,356 for Macmillan Cancer Charity

On Wednesday, 15th May, a spirited charity football match between Calday Grange Grammar School and Hilbre High School culminated in a thrilling 4-2 victory for Calday Grange Grammar School. This special event, which took place at the esteemed Tranmere Rovers Football Club, saw a turnout of over 700 staff, students and parents from both school communities.

The excitement on the pitch was palpable as both teams displayed remarkable sportsmanship and skill. Despite the competitive nature of the match, the true winner of the day was the Macmillan Cancer

Charity, for whom an impressive £4,356 was raised. The event didn't stop at the final whistle; a friendly penalty shootout followed the main game, with Hilbre High School emerging victorious.

The charity match provided a wonderful opportunity for both schools to come together in support of a worthy cause. The collective efforts of the players, spectators and organisers highlighted the strength of community spirit and the shared commitment to making a positive impact.

A special thank you goes to Tranmere Rovers Football Club for their generous support in hosting the match. Their involvement was instrumental in the success of this event, providing a professional and welcoming environment for all participants and spectators.

Calday Grange Grammar School and Hilbre High School extend their deepest gratitude to everyone who attended and contributed to this remarkable fundraising effort. The funds raised will go a long way in supporting the vital work of Macmillan Cancer Charity, aiding those affected by cancer.





Message from the Headteacher

As we come to the end of another academic year, it's the perfect time to reflect back over the last 10 months at what we as a school have achieved.

As I look back and reflect on the beginning of the academic year, it is tinged with sadness due to the tragic events of the M53 bus crash. I'm pleased to say that the community pulled together at this difficult time and it demonstrated the important role that schools play in trying to re-establish some kind of normality following such awful events.

The academic year 2023-2024 has been filled with outstanding achievements across the whole school community. These demonstrate the wide range of opportunities our students have. Their experiences go way beyond the classroom and help to shape well-rounded citizens and the leaders of tomorrow.

It has been a busy year, as it always is at Calday, but an enjoyable one and we are proud that our students have so many opportunities to shine in so many different ways.

So, a huge 'thank you' to the staff who make these things possible and a personal 'thank you' from me to our students for being so fabulous.

I wish you all a wonderful summer break. Relax and recharge ready for another unforgettable year at Calday!

Mr S Gray



A Journey of Discovery: School's China Exchange Trip Unveils Wonders of the East

From October 13th to October 27th, 19 eager students embarked on an unforgettable adventure as they participated in the annual China exchange trip. Under the guidance of Mr. Gray and Mrs. Gan, these students had the opportunity to explore the captivating cities of Shanghai, Hangzhou and Beijing, as well as the surrounding towns and villages.

The purpose of the trip was not only to broaden their horizons but also to create lasting friendships with Chinese students from one of China's top secondary schools, nestled in the beautiful and vibrant city of Hangzhou. The experience provided our students with a unique insight into the real China, far beyond what textbooks can offer.

One of the highlights of this incredible journey was the chance to immerse themselves in both the ancient and modern aspects of Chinese culture. From the high-tech contemporary designs of daily life to the serene beauty of traditional living environments, our students had a front-row seat to the fascinating contrasts of China.

The itinerary was packed with exciting activities. Apart from visiting world-famous landmarks like the Great Wall and the Forbidden City, our students had the chance to ride the lightning-fast Shanghai Maglev train, a technological marvel that left them in awe. The adrenaline rush continued as they ascended to the 116th floor of the towering Shanghai Tower, offering breathtaking panoramic views of the city below.

This exchange programme is organised annually, providing an incredible opportunity for students from Year 9 to Year 13 who are learning Chinese to participate. It's an educational journey that goes far beyond the classroom, offering a cultural immersion experience like no other.

The China exchange trip has become a cherished tradition at our school, and it continues to offer our students a window into a world filled with wonders and opportunities for personal growth. We eagerly await next year's adventure and the new batch of students who will embark on this incredible journey of discovery.





Year 8 Students Embark on Exciting Outdoor Odyssey at Conwy Centre, Anglesey

Year 8 students have recently embarked on a thrilling outdoor adventure at the Conwy Centre in Anglesey. Over the course of an action-packed week, these young adventurers undertook a series of challenging outdoor activities that pushed their limits and fostered teamwork and personal growth.

The students arrived at the Conwy Centre with excitement and anticipation, ready to take on the great outdoors. This immersive experience offered them a chance to connect with nature and develop valuable life skills while having a blast.

Students tried a variety of different activities over the course of their stay. From paddle boarding and canoeing to zip wires, nightlines and high ropes.

Students faced their fears, push their limits and reach new heights, both physically and mentally. Beyond the thrills and excitement, this outdoor adventure provided Year 8 students with essential life skills, including teamwork, communication, resilience, and self-confidence. The picturesque Anglesey landscape served as a stunning backdrop for countless moments of personal growth and camaraderie.

With this adventure behind them, the Year 8 students return home with a sense of accomplishment, a deeper connection to nature, and lasting memories of an unforgettable outdoor odyssey at the Conwy Centre in Anglesey.





Mountain Biking Club Takes on Llandegla

On Sunday 16th June, our Mountain Biking (MTB) Club embarked on an exhilarating adventure to Llandegla, catering to all levels of experience and skill. The club was divided into three distinct groups, each designed to provide a tailored experience for its members.

Group 1: New Riders

Our newest members formed Group 1, focusing on mastering the core basic skills of mountain biking. These eager riders spent the day learning essential techniques and building confidence under the guidance of our experienced instructors. Their enthusiasm and determination were truly inspiring, and we look forward to seeing their progress in future rides.

Group 2: Jumps and Bike Handling Master Class

Group 2 consisted of riders looking to refine their skills with a specific focus on jumps and bike handling. This master class was a fantastic opportunity for

these riders to elevate their abilities, tackling challenging terrains and perfecting their technique. The day's activities included a series of exercises and practical sessions, ensuring that every rider left with enhanced skills and a sense of accomplishment.

Group 3: Advanced Riders on Black Runs

The most experienced members of our club formed Group 3, taking on the demanding black runs of Llandegla. These trails are known for their difficulty, requiring advanced bike handling and a high level of endurance. Despite the challenging nature of the course, our riders tackled it with determination and skill, showcasing the high standards of our club's top-tier athletes.

The trip to Llandegla was a resounding success, providing a day of learning, skill development and thrilling adventure for all involved. We are proud of the dedication and passion displayed by our club members and look forward to many more exciting outings.



Eco Group Connect with Scientists in Antarctica, Highlighting Global W

In an inspiring collaboration between education and science, students from the Eco Group recently visited Eureka Science + Discovery in Seacombe for a unique educational experience. The highlight of their visit was a live Q&A session with scientists aboard the RRS Sir David Attenborough research ship, currently stationed in the Antarctic.

Organised by Wirral Council, the visit helped students better understand the issues global warming and on the planet. The event at Eureka Science + Discovery, a hub for scientific learning

and exploration, provided the perfect setting for this interactive experience.

During the Q&A session, students connected via satellite link to the team of scientists on the RRS Sir David Attenborough. This state-of-the-art polar research vessel, named after the renowned naturalist and broadcaster, is equipped with the latest technology for climate research. The scientists onboard shared their insights and findings on climate change, particularly its effects on the Antarctic region.

The students, from six Wirral schools, posed thoughtful and pressing questions about global warming, its consequences, and what can be done to mitigate its impact. Topics ranged from melting ice caps and rising sea levels to the importance of sustainable living practices. The scientists emphasised the urgency of addressing climate change and encouraged the students to be proactive in their communities.

The event also featured a virtual tour and information of the vessel built at Cammell Laird shipyard. This



Exploring Russian Culture in Georgia

A group of students ranging from Year 9 to Year 13 delve into the rich world of Russian studies. In light of current travel restrictions, the school has crafted a unique trip to Georgia, an ex-Soviet Republic, offering students an immersive experience into Russian culture.

The journey has taken these young explorers to a diverse range of locations, each contributing to their understanding of Russian heritage and history. Some of the highlights of their itinerary include:

Stalin's Underground Printing House Museum: Students had the extraordinary opportunity to visit the secret house of Joseph Stalin's Underground Printing House Museum. This historically significant site sheds light on a lesser-known aspect of the Soviet leader's life and work.

Georgian National Museum Treasury: The group explored the treasure trove of Georgian history and culture at the Georgian National Museum Treasury. This

visit allowed them to appreciate the deep cultural connections between Georgia and Russia.

Leo Tolstoy's Residence: One of the highlights was visiting the house where the renowned Russian writer Leo Tolstoy resided and wrote his masterpiece, "War and Peace." It provided a unique insight into the life and times of this literary giant.

Mtskheta – Ancient Capital and Religious Center: The students had the privilege of visiting Mtskheta, an ancient capital and religious centre of Orthodox Christianity. This UNESCO World Heritage site offered a glimpse into the spiritual aspects of Russian culture.

Gori – Birthplace of Stalin: As part of the journey, the students explored Gori, the birthplace of Joseph Stalin. This visit provided valuable historical context to the era of Soviet leadership.

Uplistikhe Cave Town: The itinerary also included a visit to Uplistikhe Cave

Town, one of the key points along the ancient Great Silk Road. This ancient site showcased the historical connections and trade routes that once linked Russia and Georgia.

Perhaps one of the most awe-inspiring moments of the trip was captured in a photograph of the students in the Kazbegi mountains, a mere 7 kilometres away from the Russian border. The backdrop of the 14th-century Gergeti Trinity Church, perched atop a mountain at 2170 meters, added to the allure of the experience.

This journey has not only enriched the students' knowledge of Russian culture but has also fostered a deeper appreciation for the historical and cultural connections that transcend borders. The immersive experience in Georgia has allowed these young minds to explore Russia's rich tapestry of history, literature, and art without leaving the expanse of the ex-Soviet Republic.

Learning Challenges

allowed students to truly understand the amazing engineering feat of the vessel and also see what it's like for the scientists and crew living on board.

Some of our students were also interviewed by ITV Granada and BBC Radio Merseyside





Superwhite Christmas Appeal

In a heartwarming display of community spirit, the Tranmere Rovers Football Club's SuperWhite Christmas Appeal turned into a resounding success this holiday season. Hundreds of toys and gifts were generously donated by our school community.

As the distribution day approached, volunteers from the club, including staff and players, came together to sort and package the gifts. Their efforts ensured that each present was thoughtfully matched with a child or teenager in need, adding a personal touch to the gesture.

On the distribution day, the joy and gratitude were palpable. Families and children, invited to the club's premises, received their presents with wide smiles and shining eyes. For many, these gifts represented more than just a festive gesture; they were a symbol of the community's care and support during challenging times.

Thank you to everyone who donated to this worthy cause. As the holiday season continues, the impact of this initiative resonates beyond the tangible gifts. It's a reminder of the power of kindness and the difference a community can make when it comes together for a common cause.

Calday Triumphs in Regional Bar Mock Trial, Securing Spot in National Competition

In a remarkable display of legal acumen, the Bar Mock Trial Team from Calday clinched victory in the Regional Heats of the Bar Mock Trial Competition held in Chester this Saturday. This success has earned us a prestigious spot at the National Bar Mock Competition to take place at the historic Old Bailey (Court of Appeal) in London in 2024.

The Bar Mock Trial Competition is a unique event that pits students from different schools against each other, simulates real court cases. Participating teams engage in a mock trial in front of an actual judge, who then decides the winner based on their performance. This year, we demonstrated exceptional skill and strategy, leading to a decisive victory.

The journey to triumph wasn't easy. We faced stiff competition from previous champions Wirral Grammar School for Girls and Upton Hall FCJ, who finished second overall. Despite the challenging opposition, we showcased our prowess in legal reasoning and courtroom etiquette, ultimately emerging as the top contenders.

This victory is not just a testament to the team's hard work and dedication but also highlights the importance of practical legal education in schools. Through participating in such competitions, students gain invaluable experience and insights into the workings of the legal system.

With their sights set on the national title, the team is gearing up for what promises to be an intense and rewarding experience at the Old Bailey. Their success serves as an inspiration to their peers and a reminder of the potential that lies in the pursuit of academic and extracurricular excellence.



Great Calday Cake Off!

In October, Year 7 students displayed their baking prowess in the Great Calday Cake Off, blending culinary talent with charity.

The dining room was transformed into a showcase of stunning cakes, varying from multi-tiered wonders to intricately themed designs, demonstrating the students' creativity and skill.

Judges, including staff and Sixth Form students, faced the tough task of assessing these cakes on appearance alone. Eli S triumphed as the winner, with

John F and Michael W in second and third place. Post-competition, the cakes contributed to a charity sale for the Macmillan Coffee Morning, remarkably raising £587 for cancer support.





Mayor of Wirral Joins Calday Grange Grammar School in Remembrance Service



On a crisp and solemn Armistice Day morning, students, staff and distinguished guests gathered at Calday Grange Grammar School to honour and remember the sacrifices made by veterans and service members. The highlight of the event was the presence of the Mayor of Wirral, who attended the school's moving Remembrance Service and participated in the commemorative activities.

The event began with a respectful and heartfelt introduction by the school's headteacher, Mr. Gray, who emphasised the importance of remembering those who gave their lives for the sake of peace and freedom. He also extended a warm welcome to the Mayor of Wirral, highlighting the significance of his attendance on this significant occasion.



The combined cadet force (CCF) of Calday Grange Grammar School played a pivotal role in the Remembrance Service. Dressed in their smart uniforms, they showcased their discipline and precision during the banner drill. Their impeccable performance served as a poignant reminder of the discipline and dedication exhibited by those who have served in the armed forces.



The bugle call of "The Last Post" echoed through the school grounds, marking the moment of reflection when everyone paid their respects in silence.

The entire school community coming together to observe a two-minute silence was a poignant reminder of those who made

the ultimate sacrifice during times of conflict. The ceremony reaffirmed the school's commitment to instilling in its students the values of respect, remembrance, and gratitude.

Armistice Day at Calday Grange Grammar School was a deeply moving and respectful event that united the school community in paying homage to the brave individuals who have defended their country. The presence of the Mayor of Wirral added a touch of honour and significance to the occasion, making it a memorable and meaningful day of remembrance for all in attendance.



Soaring High: Our CCF RAF Section Secures a Spot in the National RAST Competition!

Exciting news from the Combined Cadet Force (CCF)! Our school's CCF Royal Air Force section achieved a remarkable feat, securing second place in the prestigious Royal Air Squadron Trophy (RAST) regional competition at CTC Inskip. Competing against the top CCF RAF sections from Scotland, Northern Ireland and Northern England, our team displayed exceptional skill and dedication.

This significant accomplishment means we're now set to compete in the national RAST competition, where CCF(RAF) sections from across the country will vie for the coveted trophy. The national stage is set at RAF Halton next year, and we're thrilled to be part of this prestigious event.

The competition was a comprehensive test of various skills integral to the RAF. Our team showcased their proficiency in

multiple areas:

Drill Sequence: Demonstrating impeccable coordination and discipline, our team secured 3rd place.

Uniform Inspection: Our cadets' attention to detail earned us 4th place, highlighting their commitment to maintaining high standards.

Command Tasks: Illustrating strong leadership and teamwork, the team impressively finished in 2nd place.

First Aid Scenarios: Facing challenging situations, our cadets showcased their critical medical skills and placed 5th.

Shooting Competition: With steady hands and focused minds, the team achieved 5th place.

Aircraft Recognition: Our cadets' keen eyes and extensive knowledge led to a 4th place finish.

RAF Service Knowledge Test: Demonstrating an in-depth understanding of the RAF, the team earned an impressive 2nd place.

Competing against 11 other formidable teams, our cadets' achievements in each category are a testament to their hard work, discipline and passion for the RAF. These results not only reflect their individual dedication but also signify the strength of our CCF programme in nurturing young talents.

As we prepare for the national competition at RAF Halton, we carry with us the pride and support of our school community. This achievement isn't just a win for our CCF section; it's a triumph for our entire school. Let's rally behind our cadets as they continue to aim high and represent us on the national stage.

Yr 9 Embrace the Festive Spirit in a Fun Run to Support Koz Agam School

In the true spirit of the holiday season, Year 9 students participated in a Festive Fun Run, transforming their energy and enthusiasm into a charitable endeavour. The event, set to repeat on Wednesday, aims to raise funds for the Koz Agam School, demonstrating the power of community and the joy of giving.

Decked out in a colourful array of festive attire, students gathered, ready to run, jog and walk the designated course. Their outfits, ranging from Christmas jumpers to Santa hats, added a dash of holiday cheer to the event. The festive atmosphere was

palpable, with students and teachers alike sharing in the excitement.

The Fun Run is part of a wider fundraising by Calday Grange Grammar School to support The Halo Trust to support education in conflict-affected areas.

The money raised is going to help rebuild classrooms, repair infrastructure and provide a safe and welcoming learning environment for students at Koz Agam School in the Pachir WA Agam district, Nanhahar province.





A Splash Of Purple: Raising Awareness and Funds for Testicular Cancer

November at our school was not solely about the autumnal changes but also about making a significant difference. Following an enlightening visit from the OddBalls Foundation at the start of the month, our Year 12 and 13 students embarked on a meaningful journey to raise awareness about testicular cancer.

The OddBalls Foundation, renowned as the UK's leading charity in the battle against testicular cancer, delivered compelling assemblies to our senior students. Their message was clear and powerful: educating about testicular cancer, destigmatising the conversation, and promoting regular self-checking for early diagnosis. Their slogan, “#FightingCancerTakesBalls” perfectly encapsulates their bold and proactive approach to this critical issue.

In response to their inspiring visit, our Sixth Form students participated in the ‘Splash of

Purple’ event, a unique initiative that takes place throughout November. Students were encouraged to add a touch of purple to their outfits, symbolising their support and solidarity in the fight against testicular cancer. This simple yet impactful gesture was a visual reminder of the importance of cancer awareness and the power of community action.

We are thrilled to announce that through this initiative, our school has raised over £500! This remarkable achievement is a testament to the compassion and commitment of our students. A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who participated and donated. Your contributions not only aid in raising funds but also play a vital role in spreading awareness about this critical health issue.

The OddBalls Foundation’s mission is not just about raising funds; it’s about saving

lives through education and early detection. By participating in this event, our students have not only contributed financially but also joined a larger movement of awareness and prevention.

Our school is proud to have supported such a noble cause. This event has been a profound reminder that when we come together as a community, we can make a significant impact. We extend our gratitude to the OddBalls Foundation for their invaluable work and for giving us the opportunity to be a part of this essential conversation.





Winter Sounds: A Magical Musical Journey



Calday transformed into an enchanting musical paradise as it hosted the eagerly awaited "Winter Sounds" carol concert in December 2023. This standout event in the school's yearly calendar featured a diverse lineup of performances from the school band, wind band, jazz band, and a variety of choirs, weaving a captivating musical narrative.

The concert opened with a candlelit performance by the Year 13 students, demonstrating their impressive musical talent and enthusiasm. Their opening act set a joyful and expectant mood throughout the auditorium.



Next, the Calday Choir took the stage, mesmerising the audience with their harmonious melodies. The rich combination of flutes, clarinets, oboes, and other instruments crafted a sonorous soundscape that filled the crowded hall with beauty.



The first segment concluded with a communal rendition of 'Hark the Herald', uniting everyone in a festive spirit.

Following a brief intermission, brimming with holiday treats, the Year 7 Choir reinvigorated the audience with a lively performance of 'Merry Christmas Everyone'. This was succeeded by a stirring rendition of 'Walking in the Air' from The Snowman, featuring three soloists that left the audience spellbound.

Adding to the night's excitement, the jazz band delivered a dynamic version of 'Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree'. Their energetic rhythms had the audience tapping along, showcasing the depth of talent among the students.

The concert reached its zenith with a grand finale that brought all performers together. This joint performance symbolised the unity and spirit within the school community and left the audience in awe of the students' and teachers' musical prowess and dedication.

"Winter Sounds" was more than a mere concert; it was a celebration of the unifying power of music, creating memories that will last long after the final note had faded. As the attendees departed with beaming smiles and cherished memories, the atmosphere was abuzz with excitement and a renewed appreciation for the musical arts at Calday Grange Grammar School.



Senior Awards Evening

Calday Grange Grammar School's Senior Awards Evening, a much-anticipated event in the school calendar, unfolded in a grand fashion in July, celebrating the exceptional achievements of its students.

The event, held in the school's main hall, was attended by proud parents, teachers, and governors. The air buzzed with excitement and pride as students, dressed in their finest, awaited the recognition of their hard work and dedication throughout the academic year.

The ceremony began with a warm welcome by the headteacher, who commended the students for their resilience and outstanding accomplishments. The highlight of the evening was the address delivered by Mr. Michael Twist, the school's former deputy head. Known for his dynamic leadership and deep commitment to education, Mr. Twist's speech was both moving and motivational. He spoke about the importance of hard work, perseverance, and the courage to dream big. His message, punctuated by anecdotes from his own experiences in education, resonated deeply with the audience.

The awards segment of the evening saw a range of accolades bestowed upon deserving students. Categories spanned academic excellence, sporting achievements, artistic talents, and contributions to community service. Each recipient was met with applause and cheers, a testament to the supportive spirit that characterises the Calday Grange community.

The evening concluded with a vote of thanks by the head boy, who expressed gratitude to the teachers and staff for their unwavering support. The headteacher echoed these sentiments, highlighting the collaborative efforts of the entire school community in fostering an environment where students can thrive and excel.

As the event drew to a close, parents and teachers mingled, sharing stories of student achievements and discussing the inspiring words of Mr. Twist. The sense of community and shared success was palpable, a fitting end to an evening that celebrated not just academic success, but the development of well-rounded, future-ready individuals.



Liverpool-Based Charity 'Cells' Leads Empowering Workshops for Young People

'Cells', a renowned charity acclaimed for its impactful work with young people, hosted a series of engaging workshops aimed at guiding young people towards positive life choices. Known for its award-winning initiatives, Cells operates out of Liverpool and has earned widespread praise for its unique approach to youth engagement.

The charity's staff, consisting of individuals who have personally navigated the challenges faced by today's youth, including rehabilitated ex-offenders and victims of crime and abuse, bring a wealth of real-world experience to their roles. Their dedication is not just in sharing their stories

but also in providing training and support to guide and motivate the participants throughout the sessions. This approach is central to Cells' mission of deterring young people from making the same mistakes as their staff once did.

Throughout the day, our students engaged in four comprehensive workshops covering critical topics such as prison life, gun, gang, and knife crime, drug abuse, the impact of crime on families and the dangers of controlling and exploitative relationships.

These workshops are designed to be educational and interactive, combining

presentations, videos, role-play, group activities and discussion periods to ensure a dynamic learning experience. The goal is to foster an environment where students can openly discuss these issues, ask questions, and gain insights from those who have first-hand experience.

Cells' initiative represents a significant step in addressing the challenges faced by young people today. Through education, awareness and the sharing of personal experiences, the charity aims to inspire and empower the next generation to make informed and positive life choices.





Holocaust Survivor and Author Inspire Students on Memorial Day

On the solemn occasion of Holocaust Memorial Day, a group of Year 9 History students had the extraordinary opportunity to participate in an educational and moving event. Organised in collaboration with the National Literacy Trust, the students attended a live interview with Holocaust survivor Mala Tribich and renowned children's author Tom Palmer, who penned the book "After The War."

During this enlightening session, Mala Tribich shared her harrowing yet inspiring life story, detailing her experiences growing up in a Polish ghetto during the Nazi occupation. She recounted the struggles and hardships she faced as a young girl, providing the students with a deeply personal insight into one of history's darkest chapters.

The narrative continued as Mala described her life after the war, including her journeys to Sweden and England. The students were particularly moved by her emotional recollection of reuniting with her brother, the only other surviving member of her family. Her story highlighted the importance of resilience, hope, and the enduring strength of the human spirit in the face of unimaginable adversity.

Complementing Mala's powerful testimony, Tom Palmer discussed his book "After The War", which is based on real events and experiences of child Holocaust survivors. His insights offered a unique perspective on how literature can help young people understand and empathise with the experiences of those who lived through the Holocaust.

The event also included an exploration of various books and resources about the Holocaust, available for students to borrow from the school library. This selection aimed to encourage further reading and research on the topic, helping students gain a deeper understanding of the historical context and the impact of these events on individuals and communities.

8HS Triumphs in the 'Road To Nangarhar' Challenge to Support Afghan School

In an extraordinary display of determination and solidarity, the students of 8HS have successfully completed their ambitious 'Road to Nangarhar' challenge, a school initiative aimed at supporting the refurbishment of Koz Agam Primary School in Afghanistan. The final leg of their journey was celebrated with a challenging climb on the school's climbing wall, marking the end of a series of endurance events including swimming and walking.

Nangarhar, the Afghan region where the Koz Agam Primary School is located, has been a focal point of the students' efforts. Their dedication to the cause has not only raised substantial funds but also heightened awareness of the difficulties faced by children in conflict-affected areas.

The 'Road to Nangarhar' challenge has been linked to the Halo Trust's efforts in the region, where they work tirelessly to defuse landmines and IEDs left behind after years of conflict. The funds raised by the students are being directed to

the 'Just Giving' page set up by the Trust, contributing significantly to making the region safer for the local community.

A noteworthy aspect of this campaign has been the involvement of Oliver Thomson, an alumnus from the class of 2014. Currently working with the Halo Trust in Afghanistan, Oliver has been an inspiration to the students, sharing his experiences in defusing landmines and the risks children in these areas face daily just to attend school.

The school extends its gratitude to the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) staff and Mr. Holmes, who played a pivotal role in facilitating the climb. Their support has been crucial in the successful execution of this event.

The 'Road to Nangarhar' challenge is a testament to the spirit of community and empathy at Calday. The school community congratulates the boys of 8HS for their remarkable achievement and thanks everyone involved for their commitment to making a difference in the lives of those in need.





Five Students Secure Coveted Places at Oxford and Cambridge

In an unparalleled display of academic achievement and commitment, Calday Grange Grammar School proudly announces the extraordinary success of its students in the competitive application cycle for the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge. This year, 17 of our dedicated scholars embarked on the challenging journey to apply to these globally renowned institutions, demonstrating their unwavering pursuit of academic excellence and a deep passion for learning.

The rigorous selection process saw 9 of our candidates being selected for interviews, underscoring their outstanding potential and the high regard in which they are held by the admissions panels of Oxford and Cambridge.

It is with immense pride that we share the news of 5 of our students being offered places at these prestigious universities, a testament to their hard work, resilience and the exceptional support provided by their teachers and mentors. This achievement not only highlights the talents and determination of our students but also showcases the high quality of education and guidance offered at Calday Grange Grammar School.

Furthermore, we celebrate the recognition of one of our students who has been placed in the pool at Cambridge, highlighting their remarkable abilities in a highly competitive field. This serves as a testament to the

extraordinary caliber of students we nurture and their readiness to excel at the highest levels of academia.

Stephen Gray, Headteacher, expressed his delight at the students' achievements, stating, "The success of our students in securing offers from Oxford and Cambridge is a proud moment for Calday Grange Grammar School. It reflects not only on the exceptional talent and hard work of the students themselves but also on the dedication of our staff who have supported them every step of the way. These achievements reinforce our commitment to fostering academic excellence and empowering our students to pursue their dreams with confidence."

We extend our congratulations to the following students for their outstanding achievements:

Advait Bavikatte, offered a place at Cambridge to study Medicine.

Zac Jackson, set to study Music at Cambridge.

Alex Poulston, accepted to study Biology at Oxford.

Siddharth Shivaram, who will pursue Medicine at Cambridge.

George Gibb, who has secured a place at Oxford.

Their success serves as an inspiration to their peers and stands as a proud testament to the quality and ethos of Calday Grange Grammar School. As we celebrate their accomplishments, we also look forward with anticipation to supporting them and future students on their academic journeys and beyond.



Robotics Team Shines at Regional First Lego League Qualifiers in Birmingham

On the 24th of February, an ambitious robotics team embarked on a journey to Birmingham, participating in the much-anticipated regional qualifiers of the First Lego League (FLL) – a prestigious international robotics competition aimed at kindling interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

The competition, known for its challenging yet inspiring format, requires student teams to construct and programme autonomous robots using LEGO. These robots are then put to the test on a themed playing field, where they must navigate, complete tasks and solve problems aligned with the year's theme. Beyond the realms of robotics, the teams engage in research and presentation of solutions to real-world

problems linked to the competition's theme, showcasing their prowess in teamwork, critical thinking, and creative problem-solving.

FLL's ethos is to cultivate an environment of teamwork, innovation, and problem-solving, making STEM fields both fun and engaging. It aims to encourage young minds to delve into the exciting potential that these areas hold, fostering a new generation of innovators and thinkers. Although the team did not secure a place in the national finals this year, their spirit and determination did not go unnoticed. They were honoured with the Rising Star Award, a testament to their dedication to pushing boundaries and thriving amidst new challenges. Their journey was not just

about competing but also about learning, growing, and embracing the essence of innovation and teamwork.

Adding to the accolades, George H was nominated for the Coach Award by a parent, highlighting the significant impact of guidance and mentorship on the team's journey. As the team reflects on their journey, their achievements at the FLL regional qualifiers in Birmingham stand as a beacon of their hard work, resilience and unwavering spirit. With eyes set on the future, they continue to inspire and be a testament to the power of youth engagement in STEM.

Calday Celebrates Early World Book Day Success in National Reading Quiz

In a heartwarming prelude to World Book Day celebrations, a group of five avid readers have made an impressive mark at the National Literacy Trust's National Reading Champions Quiz held at Birkenhead School. The event, which attracted 21 teams from 11 different schools across the region, saw our students securing a commendable joint second place in a fiercely competitive round.

The quiz, a celebration of literary knowledge among young readers, featured eight rounds of challenging questions spanning various children's book genres, from the

intriguing realms of Crime and Mystery to the dynamic world of Sport. Despite the tough competition, our team showcased their extensive reading prowess, narrowly missing the chance to advance to the national finals in London by a mere point.

This year marked the first time the school participated in the annual competition, setting a high standard for future entries. The commendable performance of team members Eric T, James R, Isaac B, Oba P and William L not only highlights their personal achievements but also underscores the importance of reading and literacy

development among young people.

As World Book Day approaches, the team's success serves as a timely reminder of the joy and benefits of reading. The school has already expressed its intention to return to the competition next year, hopeful for another chance to shine on the national stage. In the meantime, congratulations are in order for the brilliant bookworms who have represented their school so excellently and have inspired others with their passion for reading.





Calday Grange Grammar School's "Pinocchio" Charms Young Audiences Across Wirral

In an enchanting day that captured the imaginations of young minds, students from Calday Grange Grammar School took to the stage at the Floral Pavilion Theatre, presenting a captivating performance of the beloved classic, "Pinocchio", to an audience of primary school children from across the Wirral.

The event, organised as part of the school's commitment to community engagement and the arts, saw talented students from various year groups come together to breathe life into the timeless tale of a wooden puppet's quest to become a real boy. Under the guidance of the school's dedicated drama department, the cast and crew worked tirelessly for months, honing their skills in acting, set design and stage management to ensure a performance that was both professional and profoundly moving.

The Floral Pavilion Theatre, known for its commitment to fostering local talent, provided the perfect backdrop for this magical journey, allowing the young audience to immerse themselves fully

in the world of Pinocchio. From the mischievous escapades in Pleasure Island to the dramatic rescue from the belly of the whale, the performance was a rollercoaster of emotions, filled with valuable lessons about honesty, bravery and the power of dreams.

Schools from across the Wirral participated in the event, with hundreds of primary school children attending the performance. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with many teachers and students praising the quality of the production and the engaging nature of the performance. "It was a truly magical experience for our pupils," remarked one primary school teacher. "The message of the story, combined with the enthusiasm and talent of the Calday Grange students, made it a memorable outing."

Mr. Stephen Gray, Headteacher, expressed his pride in the students' achievement, stating, "This performance is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and creativity of our students and staff. It's wonderful to see them share the joy of theatre with

younger members of our community, inspiring the next generation to dream big and pursue their passions".

The success of "Pinocchio" at the Floral Pavilion Theatre marks another milestone in the Schools ongoing mission to promote the arts and community engagement. Plans are already underway for next years performances, with the school committed to offering more opportunities for students to explore their talents and make a positive impact on the community.

As the curtains closed on this magical afternoon, it was clear that the students of Calday Grange Grammar School had not only entertained but had also sparked a love for the performing arts in the hearts of young children across the Wirral, ensuring that the legacy of "Pinocchio" and the lessons it teaches will continue to live on.





Dragons' Den House Competition Ignites Young Entrepreneurs

Calday Grammar School's eagerly anticipated Dragons' Den house competition, unfolded into an eventful day brimming with entrepreneurial flair and innovative pitches. Six spirited teams entered the den, each with a unique business proposition aimed at addressing real-world issues, ranging from personal fitness and sustainable gardening to health and wellness solutions.

The array of business ideas pitched to the dragons included Sportify, a personal trainer app designed to tailor fitness routines to individual needs; Clean Kicks, a mobile shoe cleaning business offering convenient doorstep service; Vape Pure, a novel approach to quit vaping within 100 days through a specialised filter device; Grow, a seed subscription app paired with expert support for budding gardeners; Reviva-Lyte, an electrolyte-based hangover remedy drink; and Grow Buddy, a device engineered to track and enhance plant health.

Each team pitched to our esteemed dragons. Alan Thompson, a distinguished Calday alumnus and founder of hi-impact, an EdTech company; Paula Basnett, a leading figure in Wirral's business development and the driving force behind Wirral Chamber; Adrian Hall, a software engineering veteran and co-founder of the BAFTA award-winning mobile game, Golf Clash; Mark Palios, a seasoned professional in the realms of sports and

business and the revitaliser of Tranmere Rovers FC; and Jill Jones, a trailblazer in the accounting industry with extensive leadership experience.

After rigorous deliberation and insightful feedback from the dragons, Reviva-Lyte (Archie W, Yr 13, Hollowell), the electrolyte-based hangover remedy drink, emerged victorious. Its innovative approach to addressing a common social ailment, combined with a clear market demand, impressed the judges the most. Clean Kicks (Harrison O'N, Yr 7, Bennett) secured the second place with its mobile shoe cleaning business, demonstrating a keen understanding of consumer convenience and market trends. Vape Pure (Safwan I & Connor D, Yr 10, Hollowell) clinched the third spot, offering a promising solution to the prevalent issue of vaping through a scientifically backed device.

Our winners will now embark on an array of amazing experiences from a helicopter ride, speed boat experience and track days. The competition showcased the remarkable talent and entrepreneurial spirit of Calday Grammar School students. It provided them with a valuable platform to present their ideas in front of an esteemed panel of business leaders, gaining not only critical feedback but also a real-world experience of what it takes to succeed in the competitive business landscape.

The success of Reviva-Lyte, along with the recognition of Clean Kicks and Vape Pure, highlights the diverse range of innovative solutions the students brought to the forefront, marking another successful chapter in Calday's commitment to nurturing the next generation of entrepreneurs.



Calday Celebrates Musical Talent at Annual House Music Concert

Calday's hall was abuzz with excitement as it hosted the much-anticipated annual House Music Concert. The event, which showcased the winners of the House Music Competition, turned out to be a spectacular celebration of musical diversity and talent, drawing in a large crowd of parents and students, all eager to support their houses and enjoy an evening of exceptional performances.

The concert kicked off with a rousing rendition of "Proud Mary" by the Hollowell Ensemble, setting a high bar for the evening. A particularly notable debut came from the intermediate guitar group, who chose "Wipe Out" and the iconic "Game of Thrones Theme" for their first-ever performance. The young guitarists displayed remarkable skill and coordination, earning them a standing ovation from the appreciative audience.

The house choirs, representing the three houses of Calday Grange, each took to the stage to perform their chosen pieces. Their harmonies and the sheer variety of their musical selections showcased the wide range of vocal talents within the school, contributing to the event's atmosphere of camaraderie and friendly competition.

However, the highlight of the night was undeniably the show-stopping performance by the Hollowell Senior Rock Band. Their renditions of "White Room" and "Layla" were not just performances but experiences, drawing the audience into a world where classic rock reigned supreme. The band's technical prowess on their instruments, combined with their palpable passion for the music, resulted in a performance that was both electrifying and emotionally resonant.

The concert concluded with the winning house, Bennett's Choir, leaving the evening on a high note, with participants and audience members alike basking in the glow of shared musical joy. Mrs Gilbert and Mrs Powell expressed their heartfelt thanks to everyone who came out to show their support, emphasising that the success of the event was a testament to the community's strong spirit of encouragement and appreciation for the arts.





Students Impress at National Bar Mock Trial in London

In a remarkable display of advocacy and legal acumen, students from our school participated in the esteemed Bar Mock National Competition, which took place at the iconic Royal Courts of Justice in Central London on Saturday, 16th March. Competing against other regional champions from across the United Kingdom, our team demonstrated exceptional skill and dedication.

The competition was structured over three challenging rounds where our students tackled complex legal issues. In Round One, they faced off against Calthorpe Park School, taking on the prosecution in the case of R v Hynes, which centred on the new laws regarding public assembly and protest. The

second round saw them in defence against Truro and Penwith College in the case of R v Newton, which dealt with issues of computer misuse. The final round had our students switch sides in R v Hynes to defend, this time against Northampton School for Boys.

Although our team did not clinch the national title, they performed admirably and received extensive praise from the judges for their persuasive arguments and professional demeanour. The feedback from actual judges who presided over the cases highlighted the depth of our team's preparation and their poised courtroom manner.

Special accolades were awarded to Ryan S and Oscar L, who acted as Defence Barristers in the second round's R v Newton. Their outstanding performance earned them recognition as the best performing barristers of that round—a significant honour given the high calibre of the competing schools.

This experience has not only provided our students with a unique opportunity to engage with real-world legal challenges but also highlighted the strength and potential of our future legal minds. The school community is immensely proud of their achievements and looks forward to seeing what these promising young barristers will accomplish next.





Calday Wins Innovation Award For AI-Powered Stethoscope at National Raspberry Pi Competition

In an inspiring showcase of young talent and ingenuity, Calday Grange Grammar School has clinched the Year 12/13 Innovation Award at this year's prestigious Raspberry Pi Competition, hosted by PA Consulting. The team consisting of talented sixth-form students, Darragh E, Nithin R and Abel K, has created a revolutionary medical device that could potentially transform the way cardiac irregularities are diagnosed.

The award-winning project features a low-cost, 3D-printed digital stethoscope equipped with cutting-edge artificial intelligence (AI) developed by the students themselves. This innovative device listens to heart sounds and uses the AI model to accurately diagnose heart conditions such as arrhythmias and murmurs. Impressively, the AI model boasted a 98.2% accuracy rate during tests conducted by the students.

The digital stethoscope is designed with both affordability and accessibility in mind, aiming to make advanced medical tools available to a broader range of healthcare professionals, particularly in under served areas. The cost-effective production and ease of use of the device represent significant strides towards democratising medical technology.

Following their success at the competition, the students are now engaging with several teaching hospitals to explore the practical application of their invention in real-world medical settings. This collaboration aims to validate the effectiveness and reliability of their device in everyday clinical use.

The Raspberry Pi Competition, an annual event aimed at fostering innovation and creativity among UK students, provides a platform for participants to apply their coding and technological skills to solve real-world problems. Calday Grange Grammar School's achievement not only highlights the potential of young minds to impact the field of healthcare technology but also sets a remarkable example of how academic projects can translate into practical, life-saving applications.





Alumni News



Former Head Boy, Felipe Pacheco, Stars as Gregor Samsa in Metamorphosis

Internationally renowned theatre company Frantic Assembly dazzled Liverpool audiences with its latest production of "Metamorphosis" at the Liverpool Playhouse. This captivating rendition of Franz Kafka's iconic work promises an unforgettable theatrical experience, featuring Calday's former head boy, Felipe Pacheco, in the lead role of Gregor Samsa.

Frantic Assembly, celebrated for its innovative and thought-provoking productions, is known for pushing the boundaries of traditional theatre. Their adaptation of "Metamorphosis," crafted by the acclaimed writer Lemn Sissay, breathes new life into this classic tale of transformation and alienation.

Felipe Pacheco, who previously graced the halls of Calday, returned to share his expertise and passion for the performing arts with the school's students.

His return to the spotlight as the lead character in "Metamorphosis" serves as a testament to the talent cultivated within our drama department.

The play embarks on a four-month tour, with stops at various venues across the country, including The Lowry, before culminating in an eagerly awaited run at the Lyric Hammersmith in London.



Mr Geoff Poole 1939 - 2023

It is with deep sadness that we learnt of the passing of Mr Geoff Poole on 29th October. Geoff was a long serving member of staff who worked at the school for 38 years. He was originally recruited from ICI in the early 1960's by Headteacher, Mr Peter Cross, to put hockey on the map. Geoff taught chemistry, organised hockey and was Deputy Headteacher for 23 years prior to his retirement. He was a well-respected member of staff who was highly thought of by colleagues and students alike. Our thoughts are with his family at this difficult time.



We are thrilled to extend our heartfelt congratulations to our former student, Aaron James (@aaron.james_30), on his sensational EFL League Two debut for Wrexham A.F.C!

Alumnus Shines on the Field

Aaron James, not only an exceptional football talent but also an outstanding student, has showcased his remarkable ability to strike a perfect balance between pursuing a professional football career and excelling academically. He's truly a shining example of what can be achieved with dedication and passion!

During his time at Calday Grange Grammar School, Aaron achieved an impressive feat by securing 3 A* grades, a testament to his commitment to his studies. He was also a Senior Prefect, demonstrating his leadership qualities and commitment to our school community.

Aaron's journey from our school to the professional football stage is an inspiration to countless aspiring athletes among our Calday students. His success reminds us that with hard work, perseverance and unwavering dedication, dreams can indeed become a reality.

We couldn't be prouder of Aaron's achievements and wish him continued success in his football career with Wrexham A.F.C. We look forward to following his exciting journey on the field!



Former Student and Sheffield Wednesday Star Will Vaulks Honoured with EFL Community Player of the Year Award

We are thrilled to share the news that former student Will Vaulks, now a celebrated midfielder for Sheffield Wednesday, has been honoured with the prestigious English Football League Community Player of the Year award. This accolade recognises his exceptional contributions to charitable causes, including his significant work with the Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice and the Baton of Hope suicide prevention service.

The EFL Community Player of the Year award is given to players who demonstrate outstanding community engagement and use their platform to make a positive impact. Will's commitment to these causes extends beyond the football pitch, highlighting the importance of supporting off-field initiatives.

At the awards ceremony held at Grosvenor House in London, 30-year-old Will expressed his gratitude and reflected on the importance of his off-pitch activities: "It's really important we raise awareness for off the pitch matters, it's nice to be recognised and win an award for the things that mean a lot to me. What we do off the pitch is so important, as footballers we have a platform to give back, and I'm really grateful I can do that."

This year marks a significant milestone for Will as it is the third time he has been recognised in the Championship division and his first win of the overall title. His involvement in the Baton of Hope relay race, a poignant event that involved bereaved family members carrying a silver baton from Glasgow to London, was particularly noteworthy. Will's personal connection to the cause, having lost both

his grandfathers to suicide, adds a deeply personal element to his advocacy.

The Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice, based in Sheffield, has been a beacon of support for families seeking an alternative to hospital care for over 15 years. Will reaffirmed his support for this 'most worthy cause' upon signing with Sheffield Wednesday.

We at the school are immensely proud of Will's achievements and his dedication to making a difference in the community. His journey from school fields to professional football pitches, and now to a champion of charitable causes, is an inspiration to us all.

Congratulations, Will, on your well-deserved recognition. Your school community is cheering you on as you continue to achieve on and off the field.



Save the Date

Alumni Ball

Friday 23rd May 2025

More information and tickets available soon



English Schools Cross Country Cup

In a stunning display of athletic prowess and teamwork, both the Junior and Senior cross-country teams made a remarkable showing in the semifinals of the prestigious English Schools Cross Country Cup, hosted at the scenic Sedbergh School in Yorkshire. Demonstrating exceptional endurance and skill, the Senior team impressively clinched 2nd place overall, while the Juniors were hot on their heels, securing a commendable 3rd place overall.

The races were highlighted by the outstanding performances of Alex P and Tom S, star runners, who left the competition in their wake. Both athletes dominated their respective races, establishing sizeable leads and effortlessly maintaining them, showcasing their exceptional talent and training.

Their victories have propelled both teams to the much-anticipated English Finals, set to take place at the esteemed Woodbridge School in Suffolk on the 4th of December 2023. Here, they will vie for the coveted title of the best cross-country school team in the nation. This prestigious event not only offers an opportunity for glory but also serves as a testament to the dedication, spirit, and athletic excellence that both teams have consistently displayed. It's a moment of pride and excitement for the school.



Cross Country Teams Shine at National Finals

The 2nd December 2023 marked a significant milestone for Calday Grange Grammar School's athletics programme, particularly in the realm of cross country running. Our school had the honour of sending two talented teams to compete in the prestigious English Schools National Cross Country Cup, held at The Woodbridge School in Suffolk.

Despite facing a challenging and icy course, our Senior team demonstrated exceptional skill and determination. Competing against a strong field of 27 teams from across the country, they secured an impressive 7th place finish. A special commendation goes to Alex P, who achieved an outstanding 3rd place in the individual rankings among 162 senior runners. This is a testament to his dedication and hard work in preparation for the event.

Our Junior team, participating in their first national final, also showed great promise and resilience. They finished 26th, an admirable achievement considering the high level of competition and the

challenging conditions of the course. This experience has undoubtedly provided them with invaluable exposure and learning opportunities that will aid their development in the sport.

These achievements underscore Calday Grange Grammar School's growing reputation in the cross-country running arena. We can now proudly assert that we have one of the best cross-country teams in the country. The dedication, perseverance, and talent displayed by our athletes are a source of immense pride for our school community.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the students who participated, their coaches and everyone who supported them in this journey. Their success is a reflection of the hard work and team spirit that is consistently nurtured at Calday.

As we celebrate these achievements, we look forward to continued excellence and more such inspiring performances from our athletes in future competitions.

Calday Wins Matthew Jordan Wirral Schools Golf Championship!

Four Students from Calday took on Wirral Grammar School for Boys, Birkenhead School and St. Anselm's College in the 2nd Matthew Jordan Wirral Schools Golf Championship at Bromborough Golf Club in April 2024 and won the championship.



Year 13 Student George Colquitt Shines as a Runner-Up at the Wirral Sports Awards 2023

In a night filled with excitement and anticipation, George Colquitt, a Year 13 student at our school, received well-deserved recognition at the Wirral Sports Awards 2023. George's exceptional commitment and achievements in the sport of sailing led to his nomination for the coveted title of 'Young Sportsperson of the Year.' The awards ceremony took place on the evening of October 17th at the prestigious Floral Pavilion, attracting sports enthusiasts and athletes from across Wirral.

George's journey in the world of sailing has been nothing short of remarkable. His passion for the sport ignited at a young age, and over the years, he has dedicated countless hours honing his skills and pushing the boundaries of his capabilities. His love for the sea and sailing quickly turned into a pursuit of excellence, making him a standout candidate for the 'Young

Sportsperson of the Year' award.

The Wirral Sports Awards brought together a multitude of talented athletes, showcasing the diverse sporting excellence that Wirral has to offer. George found himself in a highly competitive category filled with young athletes who had demonstrated exceptional achievements in their respective sports.

Despite the stiff competition, George's accomplishments in sailing were enough to secure him the runner-up position in the 'Young Sportsperson of the Year' category. His achievement reflects not only his dedication to the sport but also the support and guidance he has received from his family, coaches and the school community.

The school community couldn't be prouder of George's accomplishments. His achievements serve as an inspiration to

all students, demonstrating the rewards of perseverance, determination and dedication. George's story encourages young athletes to dream big and strive for excellence in their chosen sports, knowing that with hard work and commitment, they too can achieve remarkable success.

As George continues to pursue his passion for sailing, we have no doubt that he will achieve even greater heights in the future.



Bronze Medal For Calday Student



The 9th World Kungfu Championships commenced in Emeishan City, Sichuan Province, China on the 25th August 2023. The event attracted 6,649 participants including athletes and coaches from 53 global destinations. They assembled in Emei to showcase their abilities, learn and promote camaraderie through martial arts. Often dubbed the "Wushu Olympics", the biennial World Kungfu Championships is presently the premier and most impactful sporting event in the global wushu arena.

Dominik L, Year 11, is a member of the Great Britain Wushu Team. He is also a multiple

time British Champion, two times European Champion and has achieved 7th place in Indonesia at the 8th World Junior Wushu Championship in 2022.

In August 2023, Dominik competed at the 9th World Kungfu Championships in the straight sword category and won the bronze medal.

He also competed as part of the Great Britain Wushu Team in a group performance. The team placed 4th overall.

Congratulations to Dominik and the team!



ESport Victory!

Year 11 Triumphs at the Tranmere Rovers E-Sport Competition.

Our Year 11 students have scored a monumental win in the Tranmere Rovers E-Sport Competition – a thrilling contest aimed at promoting the new BTEC qualification by Tranmere Rovers FC.

They impressed the judges with their ingenious Media Campaigns targeting diverse demographics to promote the BTEC. Their creativity, teamwork and dedication were on full display, and it paid off in grand style.

We're incredibly proud of their achievements and the recognition they've earned for their hard work.

Rising Ski Stars Shine at North West Federation Schools Race

On Saturday 16th March, Jack W. (Y9) and Sol C. (Y7) represented the school at the North West Ski Federation schools race at Pendle Dry ski slope in Lancashire, which is the home slope of GB racers, Dave 'Rocket' Ryding, Rob Holmes and Charlotte Holmes.

116 skiers from primary through to Sixth Form schools across the North West competed in individual timed races and also school teams (of 3-4 skiers). Many children experiencing their first ski race and as always Pendle ski

club and their wonderful team of volunteers provided meticulous organisation, race commentary and the legendary BBQ and pies. The lower senior boys (Years 7-9) category was a large and competitive group and some superb skiing from Jack W. saw him placed 6th, only 0.36 of a second behind the top 3!

Sol C. also displayed some great skiing, improving his second run time by almost 2 seconds.

The final races of the day which were mixed teams (children from different schools and age groups) for the head-to-head dual Slalom which were fiercely fought with some nail biting finishes. Sol C. and his team were successful in gaining the first place after the elimination rounds and being awarded the much coveted prize of Easter eggs.



Calday Emerged as Champions of the U14 State Hockey Cup 2024

On Wednesday 8th May 2024, the Calday U14 boys hockey team travelled to the Nottingham Hockey Centre to compete in the U14 State Cup. The group stage witnessed some of the finest hockey Calday has played all year, with remarkable goals from Awan, Miles, and Rushton, and creative play from Bratherton, Hartley and McCabe. Defensively, Possoz, Wilson, Cookson and goalkeeper Price formed a formidable barrier, successfully keeping opposing teams at bay.

Despite being placed in a tough group, Calday's thrilling end-to-end hockey saw them advance to the semi-finals. The semi-final match was a tense affair, with neither side able to break the deadlock, leading to a penalty shootout. Keeper Price made a crucial save, and Hartley scored the decisive penalty, propelling Calday into the final.

The final started dramatically, with Calday conceding a goal just 20 seconds in. However, the team quickly turned the game around. Skipper Will Miles rose to the occasion, scoring a hat-trick and securing a 3-2 victory for Calday.

In a brilliant display of skill and determination, Calday emerged as champions of the U14 State Cup, marking a significant achievement for the team.



Calday Runners Excel at Prestigious King Henry Relay

In an outstanding display of athleticism and sportsmanship, the Calday running team made their mark at the esteemed King Henry relay race in Coventry this past Wednesday. This event, renowned as the premier inter-schools relay race in the nation, has been a fixture in the athletic calendar since 1972, showcasing the talents of young athletes, including luminaries such as Seb Coe and the Brownlee brothers, Alistair & Jonathan.

The Calday boys, demonstrating exemplary behaviour both on and off the track, ran with determination and grace. Their efforts not only showcased their athletic prowess but also their commendable conduct, earning them praise as true ambassadors of their school.

The competition was fierce, with 56 boy's teams from across the UK vying for top honours. The Calday A team, comprising Alex P, Louis H, Tom C, Oscar K, Jamie B and Josh H, delivered a remarkable performance, securing the 9th position overall.

Their achievement was particularly noteworthy as they emerged as the fastest boy's team from the Wirral, outpacing local rivals St Anselm's and Wirral Grammar, who placed 11th and 12th respectively. Alex P stood out with the 7th fastest lap of the day, a remarkable feat among 336 runners. Not to be outdone, the Calday B team, featuring Will H, Tom S, Finley M, Charlie B, William M and Charlie G also put on a

strong showing. They ranked as the 9th B team and 40th overall, underscoring the depth of talent and commitment within the Calday running programme.

The day was not only a testament to the boys' athletic abilities but also their exemplary behaviour and politeness towards race organisers and competitors alike. Their conduct and achievements have rightfully earned them praise, and they stand as a credit to their school.



Calday Year 7 Hockey Team Triumphs at Inaugural U12 ISHC Hockey Festival

The Year 7 Hockey team embarked on a significant journey to Nottingham to participate in the inaugural U12 ISHC Hockey Festival, featuring some of the top hockey schools in the country.

Schools such as Whitgift, Reeds, and Kingston, known for their dominance in national competitions, presented a formidable challenge for the Calday boys.

On the first day of the festival, the Calday team demonstrated commendable skill and resilience. Despite narrowly losing a

few matches, they secured a victory in their final game of the day with a 2-1 win, thanks to goals from Wakefield and Gibson.

After a day of intense competition, the boys enjoyed a relaxing evening at their hotel, followed by a meal at Nando's and an engaging quiz night, where Johnston and Wakefield emerged victorious.

The second day mirrored the first in terms of the high standard of play. The Calday team continued to give their all, showcasing their dedication and sportsmanship. Their

performance throughout the festival was impressive, earning them respect and recognition for representing their school with distinction.

Captain Josh Conroy stood out as the star performer of the festival, leading his team with exceptional skill and determination. The future looks promising for the Calday Year 7 Hockey team, with their performance at the U12 ISHC Hockey Festival indicating a bright horizon ahead.





Calday Year 7 Boys Stand Out in Merseyside Schools Cross Country Team

The Year 7 boys from Calday have demonstrated their athletic prowess by being selected for the Merseyside schools team, which competes against Cheshire schools. Although they are not yet old enough to be chosen for the English schools teams, their talent has not gone unnoticed.

The cross country race featured 15 runners selected from 14 different Merseyside schools. Impressively, Calday runners made up over a quarter of the team, more than any other school.

Congratulations to Orson W, Rory B, Tom S and Charlie B for earning their Merseyside schools county vests for cross country. Their outstanding performances contributed significantly to Merseyside's victory over Cheshire.

Unfortunately, Tom S was ill on the day of the race and could not participate.

Despite this setback, the Calday boys ran brilliantly, showcasing their dedication and skill. This achievement highlights the strength and potential of Calday's young athletes.

Calday Impresses at NW Touch Rugby Festival

Calday sent three teams to the NW Touch Rugby Festival, held at Orrell RUFC. The event, organised by Try Sports UK, was a resounding success, and Calday has already expressed their eagerness to return next year.

A special highlight of the festival was the outstanding performance of Calday's new Girls rugby team, who remained unbeaten throughout the event. Their

impressive display of skill and teamwork was a testament to their hard work and dedication.

Calday extends their gratitude to the organisers for the invite and looks forward to participating in future events. The festival provided an excellent opportunity for all teams to showcase their talents and enjoy a day of competitive rugby.



Year 10 Trio Selected for Sale Sharks U16 Academy

In an impressive feat, three Year 10 students from Calday have been selected for the prestigious Sale Sharks U16 Academy for next year. The selection process was highly competitive, narrowing down from 250 hopefuls to just 54 elite players.

Congratulations to Tom, Ben, and Jay for this outstanding achievement. Their dedication and talent have earned

them a place among the best young rugby players in the region, marking a significant milestone in their sporting careers.

This selection not only highlights their individual skills but also underscores the strength of Calday's rugby programme. Well done to Tom, Ben, and Jay for their exceptional accomplishment!



Louis Hatton Shines in Liverpool Half Marathon Debut

Louis Hatton, a member of Calday Running Club, delivered an extraordinary performance in the Liverpool Half Marathon on 17th March. Competing for the first time, Louis secured 19th place out of 7,412 participants, completing the race in an impressive 1:15:08.



Year 7 Reaches English Schools FA Elite Cup Final

The Year 7 team has had an incredible journey, achieving a well-deserved place in the ESFA Elite Cup Final. Their hard work and dedication have paid off, leading them to the prestigious final after a thrilling semi-final victory against Malet Lambert.

In the semi-final match, Calday showcased their resilience and skill, securing a 2-1 victory with goals from Feely and Lodge. This impressive win earned them a spot in the final, setting the stage for an exciting

showdown at Stoke City Football Stadium against Thomas Telford.

Despite their remarkable efforts, Calday was ultimately defeated by Thomas Telford in the final. However, their journey to the final and their performance throughout the tournament have been nothing short of exceptional. The entire team, along with their coaches and supporters, can be immensely proud of their achievements. Congratulations to the Calday Year 7 team

for their outstanding performance and for reaching the ESFA Elite Cup Final. This experience marks a significant milestone in their football careers, and we look forward to seeing more from this talented group in the future.



Calday 1st Team Cricket Triumphs over St Mary's



Calday's 1st team cricket squad delivered an outstanding performance, securing a victory against St Mary's College.

In a closely watched match, St Mary's College was bowled out for 128 runs, while Calday chased down the target with ease, finishing at 129-3.

Peter W was a stand out in the bowling attack, claiming four crucial wickets. Oliver A also contributed significantly, taking

three wickets. Max H led the charge in the batting department, scoring an impressive 42 runs, supported by Alfie B with 27 runs.

This comprehensive victory highlights the skill and teamwork of the Calday squad, underscoring their dominance on the cricket field. Well done to the entire team for their exceptional performance!

Sixth Form Charity Football Match

Despite the challenging weather, our Sixth Form students showed incredible spirit and skill at their Charity Football Match!

Braving the rain and wind, they played not just for glory, but for a cause much greater than any trophy.

We are proud to announce that their efforts were in aid of two remarkable charities: Tranmere in the Community and The Air Ambulance.

Each of these organisations plays a vital role in our community, and we are thrilled to support their invaluable work.

A massive thank you to all players, staff and spectators who came out in support. Your enthusiasm and generosity have made a significant impact





Calday Grange
Grammar School

16 - 19

Bursary Fund

Awards of
£800 - £1,200
to use towards

- ✦ Uniform Costs
- ✦ Books and Equipment
- ✦ Transport Costs
- ✦ Lunch

Are you or your family in receipt of benefits?

Do you receive free school meals?

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FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY PLEASE VISIT:
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SCAN ME