



Caldew School News

Spring 2008



Dear Parents,

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter. We are trying to modernise the look of our publications and I would welcome your thoughts.

Please e-mail me and let me know on the email address below.

I was delighted at the improved turnout at the last Caldew Forum Meeting held on Tuesday 4 March. The evening started by reviewing our current uniform and views were aired regarding other possibilities in the future. The visit to the

Design and Technology Department was really popular as was the presentation from Mr Greenwood. At our next Forum Meeting on Thursday 1 May uniform suppliers will be in attendance with samples of jumpers, blazers and outdoor jackets. I hope we have an excellent turnout for this event. It is vitally important that parental views contribute to the impending decisions we will make regarding changing the uniform. Once again pupils are welcome to attend this event with their parents. The forum starts at 6.30pm in the library. It will also include an opportunity to visit the science department to learn more about the work undertaken there. To book your place on the parents forum, please fill out the slip at the back of the newsletter or email the office to confirm your attendance.

Many pupils are now focusing on examination preparation Please encourage use of the school website and in particular www.samlearning.com which has revision modules and past papers at all levels. If pupils spend regular time using the materials it will improve final grades. Please encourage regular ,short, active revision session in coming weeks. Success is not achieved with ease and we want all of our pupils to aim high and do their best in order to reach their target grades. The pupil logbook also has useful advice about how to revise effectively. The forthcoming holiday should include time for revision sessions as well as eating Easter eggs !

I hope you enjoy reading the Newsletter and remember it can also be viewed on the school website www.caldew.cumbria.sch.uk

Have a very Happy Easter, the school Summer term returns starts on **Tuesday 8 April**.

Geoff Toogood
Headteacher

gbtoogood@caldew.cumbria.sch.uk

Picture: Unusual Viewpoint by Jess Young, GCSE artwork 2007.

My Generation

By **Ananta Handley (11)**

My generation

Yet to go

Going down in history

Everyday saying do'h!

New things are done

Even the boring and the fun

Rightfully to be the best generation

Although you might have guessed.

There is no better generation yet

Is that right you might ask?

Of course we say

Nothing's better than my generation.

My Generation

by **Sam Richards (14)**

Back in my day, we used to play out,

But now it's all changed, and they all just shout.

Back in my day, we used to dress up,

But now it's all changed, and they're all just scruffs.

Back in my day, we used to care,

But now it's all changed, it's all about hair.

Back in my day, we used to help out,

But now it's all changed, what's that all about?



Talkin' Bout my Generation – Poetry winners

A group of Caldew School students are celebrating following the printing of their poetry in a national publication.

Picture: Ananta Handley and Same Richards with the published anthologies.

Eighty-six students have been chosen to have their work published in the Young Writers publication "Talkin' Bout my Generation" which showcases the best poetic talent selected from thousands of up and coming writers nationwide and published in a special Cumbria edition.

Caldew School's English Department is following a long tradition of having poetry published and this work was chosen from work the students covered during the departments celebration of National Poetry Day in October 2007.

The Young Writers editorial team select poems on the basis of the student's imagination, perception and expression, they were asked to think about the meaning of living in society today or to see themselves through the eyes of others.

Yvonne Norden, Literacy Co-Ordinator at Caldew School said :

"This is the fourth consecutive Young Writers anthology in which our successful writers have been published and the volume of entries has increased dramatically. 151 Caldew students are now published writers! The students love to see their work presented in such a professional format which gives their work credibility and value. It also breaks down the perceived barrier between "proper" writers and our potential young writers of the future."

STOP PRESS.....

Having just completed the Trial SATS exams with all year 9 pupils I would like to say, first of all, how well the exams went, and how pleased we were at the exemplary behavior of the pupils who seemed to remember exactly what was required of them in exam conditions – Well Done!!

HOWEVER... There were far too many pupils who turned up at the exams without the proper equipment and so I would like to, politely, remind parents that all pupils should be equipped **at all times** with a pen, pencil, eraser, ruler and CALCULATOR. Also, for exams they will need a protractor and compass. We do not have enough calculators in the department to lend to pupils when the whole year group are doing exams and would not like to see pupils disadvantaged because they haven't brought one with them.

Thank you.

Maximize your potential Theatre performance.

All Year 11 pupils took part in a one hour theatre production aimed at supporting students with a exam survival guide leading up to their forthcoming examinations. The Theatre company "Maximize your potential" visited the school from Chichester and performed a short play on exam preparation, the theatre was set up in a exam room setting and aimed to explain to the students what you can do to ensure that you go into a examination well prepared and confident.



Valentines Roses

Year 11 pupils from the CoPE group took their business skills to new heights during February with a entrepreneurial way of raising money for the Eden Valley Hospice Jigsaw appeal. Hearing that the children's unit costs over £500,000 per year to run the group of 21 pupils worked in groups of four to sell roses to their friends and family. Karl Hartley acted as general manager and contacted local businesses to get the best possible price for the roses to maximise profit and also contacted the local press to arrange publicity. A total of 270 roses were sold and over £300 raise for The Jigsaw appeal. The students are choosing a gift to purchase off the Jigsaw appeal wish list and this will be handed over to the children's unit in the near future.

Ex pupil Richard in line for top award

Caldew ex pupil Richard Dyer who left Caldew in 1999, contacted us to tell us that he is in line to win a top award for the enterprising website he set up skiddle.com. Richard, who has also worked for the BBC set up the web based business from a base in Preston, and is the fourth busiest nightlife site in the UK with over 600,000 unique visits per month. The BIBA (Be Inspired in Business) awards are tipped as the Oscars for business and Richard will attend then glitzy award ceremony with over 700 other brightest business stars.

Richard, who's parents still live in Carlisle will be popping in to school shortly to talk to students about his enterprising business.

Attendance – Do you know your child's attendance?

As we are all aware, attendance at school is a legal requirement and links directly with the attainment of pupils. Due to this, and Caldew wanting the best for our pupils, over the last two terms we have been successfully working on raising the overall attendance at the school. We have introduced a range of procedures including making sure all students are aware of their own attendance and linking this to a traffic light system, Green - Excellent (100% -94%), Amber - Beware (93.9% - 86%) and Red – Danger (Below 86%).

If a student scored 90% in an exam or test we would think that was an excellent result, however 90% attendance over an academic year amounts to missing 4 weeks of school, which as I am sure you will agree would be of concern. Even more concerning a student whose attendance is 80% over 5 years will have missed one whole year of their education.

We have also been running attendance based assemblies and rewarding 100% attendance, our Education Welfare Officer has also been working with groups and individual students who's attendance is in the Amber and Red categories.

This year at Caldew we have raised our average attendance to 93% but with your help we would like to aim higher.

P Hammond
(Senior Leader Pupil Welfare)

Sports News

NETBALL. Caldew has enjoyed some recent success with netball . The Year 7 netball team beat Trinity School 9-0. Amy Ellams was named player of the match Also congratulations go to the Year 9 netball team as they took joint place in the Carlisle schools netball tournament . They shared first place with William Howard School, Brampton winning all their games except against William Howard where the score was 5-5.

The Year 9 netball team beat Austin Friars School 5 -0 in the Carlisle schools netball league having earlier won the Carlisle schools netball tournament at NCTC, winning all their games and scoring a total of 52 goals throughout the duration of the tournament.

GYMNASTICS. Two gymnastics teams also took part in the Cumbria Schools Gymnastics competition with fantastic performances. Both teams just missed out on medals and came fourth in their age groups. Rebecca Allen did particularly well and took individual fifth place out in the Under 13 division out of a total of 38 gymnasts.

DANCE Eighteen Year 11 pupils took part in the ACE Dance festival at the Sands Centre . They performed alongside 15 other schools in front of an audience of over 1000 people, putting on a outstanding performance.

Stop press

Three Caldew students, Annie Coupland, Ashleigh Hunter and Victoria Armstrong have been chosen for the City Netball Team and will go to the County trials in May this year.

Three Netball Teams competed against St Aidans Last week all enjoying comfortable 10-2 wins



Photo's: Caldew School winning Badminton and Netball teams. Pictures courtesy of Cumbrian Newspapers.

TEAM SPORT EVENT. The PE department organised a Inter Team Sport event for Year 7. Every child in the year was involved in either football or netball competitions all afternoon and did really well despite the inclement conditions. In the football competition, Team McBride were the overall winners with Team Gray as runners up. In the netball competition, Team Gray won with Team Worthington runners up. Well done to all in year 7 for taking part. All year groups will have the opportunity to take part in inter house sport before the end of the year. The idea is to increase the amount of opportunities that all pupils in Caldew have to participate in competitive sport.

BADMINTON. Congratulations to Kieran Parrinder who was crowned number one in the county at the under 13 county championships in Barrow. Lauren Little also won the doubles and Ben Purdham came second. At under 17 level Adam Howie, Adam Blamire, Dan Cottingham and Josh Stephenson held there own at the county tournament over half term and special congratulations to Amy Dickinson who won the singles title and Rebecca Livingstone who won the doubles with her partner. The next round of matches will now be after Easter.

Sports News

COUNTY FOOTBALL_ Congratulations to Sean Willis, Danny Baugh and Lewis Gardner who have all been selected to represent Cumbria at under 14 schools football.



Danny Baugh and Lewis Gardner. (Picture courtesy of Cumbrian Newspapers)

Football results

U12 Trinity 5 – 1 Caldew – A difficult start for the year 7 team but the boys gave a good account of themselves in their first game for the school. After going two goals down Caldew fought back with a great header from Luke Ruddick from a Dan Smales corner. Unfortunately Trinity proved too strong in the second half as Caldew made substitutions and lost some of the shape and concentration that had allowed us to compete with a very strong Trinity side for much of the game. The year 7's will be unlucky to play such a strong team again this year and can look forward to plenty of victories.

U14 Trinity 2-1 Caldew – The under 14 team had a tough start to the season with a very tricky visit to Trinity. Caldew were out of the blocks fastest and went ahead when Lewis Gardner capitalised on some sloppy defending. Caldew should have extended their lead but some poor finishing allowed Trinity back into the game just before half time. In the second half the game hung in the balance until the last ten minutes when a long throw led to Trinity taking the lead. Caldew school pushed for an equaliser and Sean Willis was unlucky with two well struck shots that just went wide.

U14 Caldew 8-0 Samuel Kings – Year 9 were back to winning ways as they cruised past Samuel Kings. Four goals in each half were enough to dispose of a hard working Kings team. Sean Willis helped himself to four goals and Cameron Coleman, Luke Cheshire, Andy Butcher and Matty Meeten were also on the score sheet.

U15 Inclusion Squad - On Monday 25 February we took a group of year 9 and 10 boys to The Sands Centre to take part in a new football inclusion scheme that allows pupils who aren't in the school to be given the chance to play 5 a side football against other schools. The boys enjoyed this and also got the chance to meet Carlisle United manager John Ward and receive medals. Everyone was excellent and won four out of five games. Top scorer for the team was Ashley Mavis with great assists by Frankie Murray and Matthew Fotheringham. David Irving and Andrew Hughes were brilliant in goal. This event will hopefully be a regular event.

BASKETBALL. Our Year 11 team took part in the Carlisle Schools Under 18 tournament and performed with great credit. Competing against some boys who were two years older our team obviously found the games quite physical. We still did well to win two games, especially beating pre tournament favourites Lime House who are into the last 16 of the national cup. Thanks to Alex Williams (year 11) for organising the team.

ENRICHMENT ART DAY

"I really enjoyed meeting new people and making new friends. I liked planning my idea alot. There was quite alot of different schools there, including Trinity, Morton and NCTC.

It was a lesson on aboriginal art. The day was really fun. I think at the end of the day I had produced a great piece of art and I just wish I could do it everyday."



Hollie Buttram

"I really enjoyed the day.

We went to North Cumbria Technology College and produced pieces of Aboriginal and African art. Using cotton buds and other media to create cultural work. I enjoyed learning different techniques and I made new friends."



Ellie Musgrave

Art Department

Enrichment Art Day. As part of the schools enrichment activities, a group of students attended a "Art Day" at North Cumbria Technology College. The students worked with other local secondary schools on African and Aboriginal art.

The students who took part were: Kieran Parriander, Amelia Butcher, Ananta Handley, Arthur Cottingham, Ellie Musgrave, Jennifer Graham, Hollie Buttram and Molly Greenaway

Celebration of achievement. High Head Sculpture Valley have once again kindly offered to host our "Celebration of Achievement" exhibition. Lakeland Spas have also offered to sponsor the achievement awards for the second year to which we are extremely grateful.

There will be prizes for each year group for effort and achievement . Watch out around school for details of the forthcoming weeks.

National pavement Art. We will be taking part once again on the National Pavement Art competition. This is a National Charity event and we are looking for volunteers to help. Heather Beattie the Art Technician organises the event. If you can help in any way please see Heather in the Art Department.

Carlisle Schools Exhibition. We have also made plans to submit work to the Carlisle Schools exhibition - A showcase of art work from Carlisle Secondary Schools at Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery from 13 September.



Caldew Summer Camp

Bookings are now being taken for the 2008 Caldew Summer Camp.

This year's camp run by qualified teachers from the school will run Monday 21 July-Friday 25 July and Monday 28 July-Friday 1 August. Cost for one week is £40, if you book two weeks the cost is £70 per student. Each day will run from 9am-3pm and is open to all children aged between 10-13 years old. The students can take part in woodwork and craft, arty craft, Music and drama, sport and Information Technology.

Places are available on a first come first served basis.

Maths Department



Intermediate Maths Challenge. A strong squad of Caldew mathematicians assembled in the hall on the morning of 7 February to attempt the UK Maths Trust's Intermediate Challenge. Pitting themselves against schools across the country who were attempting the paper simultaneously, and a comedy interlude from Mr Looker, they battled to answer as many of the complicated problem solving questions as possible.

Picture: Alex Williams, Jenny Rogers and Jonathan Slaughter

As in the previous challenge when the dust had settled and the results were returned Jonathan Slaughter had come out on top. This time his best in school score was enough to earn himself a place in the 'Kangaroo' round taken by the most able mathematicians in Europe on 24 April, as well as a Gold certificate placing him in the top 5% of entrants countywide. Noteworthy among the other certificate winners was Jennifer Rogers whose silver was exceptional for a year 9 pupil. The certificate winners were as follows:

Gold: Jonathan Slaughter

Silver - Year 11: Alex Williams, Year 9: Jennifer Rogers

Bronze – Year 11: Duncan Hall, Rebecca Lamb, Jodie Duffy, Simon Smith, Year 9: James Taylor, Emma Dickinson, Rachael Evans, Jack Koelle, Jordan Maxwell, Amy Horrocks, Jack Shannon

The excellent turnout, in particular from year 9 means that we have high hopes of more success in this competition in years to come.

Junior Team Maths Challenge

Later in the term four year 8 pupils, Rebecca Allen, Ashley Cook, Dena Strong and Patrick Gordon were brave enough to accept the challenge of representing the school in another national competition. The north Cumbria round of the Junior Team Maths Challenge was held at Morton School. In competition with us were eleven other local schools, all aiming for a place in the national final in London. The four 45 minute round consisted of a relay, a crossnumber, a head to head as well as ten straight questions to be answered as a team. Sad to say, we did not win, but yet again the Caldew team were noticeable for the fact that they did well at the same time as enjoying themselves and getting on as a team. The team's attitude and manners did the school proud.

There is only one more UKMT event left this year – the Junior Challenge written paper will be held on 1st May.

Gifted and Talented

The Government has initiated a new national programme for gifted and talented education called "Young Gifted and Talented". The new scheme which replaces the NAGTY (National Academy of Gifted and Talented Youth) is being managed by CfBT Education Trust by the Department of Children, Schools and Families and is a not for profit organisation.

So who's it for ? It is for all learners aged 4-19 years who attend either Primary or Secondary schools to those who have been identified as gifted and/or talented. Staff of schools can provide for gifted and talented learners to enhance their development. It is for the top 10% of the ability range who are identified by schools as pupils who could benefit from work which is more academically demanding than the normal school curriculum. Activities are already offered by Caldew but the new scheme will make additional opportunities available.

What are the benefits ? The scheme will give learners and providers with access and information, activities and resources. There will also be the opportunity to non-residential summer schools, master classes and workshops.

To find out more about the programme visit the website www.ygt.dcsf.gov.uk.

English Department

Caldew English Dept Stands Up for Shakespeare

The Royal Shakespeare Company tell us that “some 400 years after they were written, Shakespeare's plays are read and studied with undiminished interest all over the world, with every culture bringing its own distinctive perspective to his work. Shakespeare can still speak to young people, inspiring them to articulate their feelings, develop their ideas and gain new insights into the world around them. It's no surprise that he remains the only writer studied by all young people in England and Wales. However, many young people first encounter Shakespeare as readers in their English classroom, often in preparation for tests or examinations. In contrast, actors and theatre practitioners work with his plays actively and collaboratively, in preparation for live performance. The RSC believe that this practical approach is the most engaging way for young people to develop a real understanding of Shakespeare's stories, characters and language.”



Therefore, Schools that *Stand up for Shakespeare*:

- Ensure that introductory teaching of Shakespeare is rooted in active, exploratory approaches.
- Maintain these approaches with older students.
- Give young people the chance to create their own performances of Shakespeare's plays.

Caldew is one of these schools and our Shakespeare 'expert', Mrs Curtis, has been quoted on the RSC's manifesto and website explaining...*"Creating ways into Shakespeare using Drama has enlivened my 'Hamlet' lessons at KS5 as much as lessons on 'The Tempest' for KS3. There is something about using the whole body to form words and visual images that makes the language come alive."*

Parents Forum Meeting.

The next school Parents Forum meeting will take place on Thursday 1 May at 6.30pm. All Parents and pupils invited to attend. Discussion for the Forum will be the school uniform and we are delighted that Alan and Sue Rogerson of the Schoolwear Centre have agreed to join us and showcase some new uniform possibilities. A visit to the Science department will also be included in the meeting. To book a place at the meeting please telephone the school office on (01228) 710044 or fill in the slip on the newsletter and return to the office.

Confirmation of attendance at the Caldew Schools Parents Forum.

I wish to attend the Caldew Forum on Thursday 1 May 2008 at 6.30pm.

Name _____ Date _____ No. People _____

Please return this slip to the Admin office or email office@caldew.cumbria.sch.uk

