

PDH/CRC

Friday 20 December 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the autumn term, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. This term has been incredibly positive and filled with achievements and events that reflect the hard work and dedication of our students and staff.

One of the standout moments of the term was our Community Christmas Concert on Tuesday night. It was a truly amazing and festive event and we hope that all the parents and family members who joined us would agree that it was a wonderful celebration of our students' talent and the joy of the season.

There have been many other successes this term. Our sporting achievements have been outstanding, with teams excelling in rugby, netball, football, hockey, cross-country, and gymnastics. We were also thrilled to open our brand-new astro turf facility, which will provide even more opportunities for our students to engage in sport and physical activity. Additionally, we have been able to offer ski lessons at the local dry ski slope as an exciting extra-curricular activity, which has been well received by students.

Year 11 had a valuable and inspiring Work Ready Day, preparing them for their future endeavours, they spent the day rotating around a number of workshops aimed at giving them the knowledge and skills for them to decide their next steps. Over 35 employers were involved in the day offering advice and guidance on what employers are looking for from the future workforce. We are very proud of the Year 11's and received many positive comments. Former student Andrew Foster who is Director of Programmes at the Newcastle United Foundation said of the students: *"The Year 11 cohort were honestly brilliant, one of the best whole year groups I have worked with. All students were engaged and contributed to all the tasks."*

Other students demonstrated their mathematical prowess when we hosted our annual Primary Maths Challenge day in November, where we were joined by pupils in Year 5 and 6 representing a number of our catchment Primary Schools, from Great Orton, Stoneraise, Kirkbampton, Ivegill, Thursby, Raughton Head, Rosley, Cumwhinton, High Heskett, Cummersdale, St. Michaels, Fell View and Wreay. During the morning, in teams of three, the pupils rotated around maths challenge games which were supervised by Year 7 students. After lunch the pupils all sat the National Primary Maths Challenge paper which challenges problem solving and reasoning skills. Team Challenge winners from the morning were: 1st place - Ivegill, 2nd place - Rosley/Thursby and 3rd place - Kirkbampton.

As we continue with our focus on behaviour for learning we are proud to report a significant increase in student achievement logs, a testament to the positive learning environment and the commitment of everyone involved. We have celebrated this increase with Celebration Assemblies, Reward Parties and The Headteacher Student of the Term, where a student from each year group was nominated by their Head of Year to enjoy breakfast with the Headteacher in recognition of their outstanding achievements and contributions this term, these were Year 7 Rirhandzu, Year 8 Mabel, Year 9 Erin, Year 10 Phoebe, Year 11 Phoebe, Year 12 Joseph & Anna and Year 13 Erin & Freya.

HEADTEACHER VJ JACKSON BSc (Hons) | DEPUTY HEADTEACHER PD HAMMOND BSc (Hons) | DEPUTY HEADTEACHER CJ ATKINSON BA (Hons)

Registered Office: Caldew School, Carlisle Road, Dalston, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA5 7NN

Telephone: 01228 710044 Fax: 01228 710390

www.caldew.cumbria.sch.uk

Looking ahead to the spring term, we are excited to host our **Sixth Form Open Evening** on **Thursday 16 January**, where prospective students and their families can explore the opportunities available in our Sixth Form.

Another highlight will be the Performing Arts Department's production of *Emil and the Detectives* on Monday 5 February, which promises to be a captivating showcase of creativity and talent.

To stay informed about all our news and upcoming events, we encourage you to follow **Caldew School** on Facebook.

In the new term, we will continue to focus on behaviour for learning, with particular emphasis on high attendance as we aim to achieve our school target of 94%. Weekly prize draws for 100% attendance will continue as part of our efforts to celebrate and encourage commitment. We will also be focusing on punctuality to lessons and maintaining high standards of uniform, ensuring students are ready to learn and represent the school with pride.

Please can you support us by ensuring your child returns to school in January in correct uniform, particularly regarding jewellery, sports trainers, piercings and false nails. To maintain a consistent and professional appearance, we ask for your support in ensuring that students adhere to our uniform guidelines.

We have been sent some information from Cumbria Police on Sextortion please follow this link to access:

https://downloads.ctfassets.net/kw9k15xztrs/5qUjWH22zafQQrM6PD4vPQ/eef2d8929fd71d91ada587429d8488fa/back_to_school_digital.pdf?lang=en-GB

Thank you for your ongoing support throughout this term. We hope you have a restful and enjoyable holiday season and we look forward to welcoming students back in the new year, ready for another term of growth and success.

Yours sincerely

P Hammond

Mr Paul Hammond
Deputy Headteacher