

Calderglen High School Newsletter

Points of interest

- Our School Priorities 2008/09
- Celebrating Success
- Attendance at school
- Parent Forum News
- Christmas Fayre
- Contact us

Inside this issue:**Pupil Achievements** 2**Promoting Positive Behaviour in class** 2**Curricular Developments** 3**Parent Workshops** 3**Dates for your diary** 4**School Clubs** 4**Parent Council Information** 4

Our Senior Prizewinners

Welcome to our school newsletter. It is our intention in our second year as a school to develop and increase our methods of communication and this new style of newsletter is one of our changes. We have also developed our school website and we will use this as a way of keeping you in touch with what is going on in the school. The website address is : www.calderglen.s-lanark.sch.uk and we are adding to the information available on a daily basis. We look forward to another successful year ahead, building on the excellent start of last year!

I am pleased to say that the pupils have settled very well this term and look very smart in school uniform.

School Priorities

In order to ensure that pupils' attainment and achievement is of the highest standard, our priorities for this year will focus on:

- (i) improving attainment and achievement
 - (ii) continuing to build our school community
 - (iii) developing our skills and expertise
 - (iv) self evaluating leading to improvement
- In order to support these priorities, we will

look at a development programme to ensure excellence in learning and teaching and involve everyone in our school community in identifying our strengths and areas for improvement. Every month, the newsletter will return to each of these themes in more detail to update you on our progress

Tony McDaid
Head Teacher



Some of our first year pupils

Celebrating Success in Calderglen High

We are fortunate that many pupils in Calderglen High School achieve outstanding success in a number of areas. Please let us know about pupils' achievements or notable contributions to local or national events. This information is necessary so that we can celebrate achievement both informally in discussions with pupils and formally through our Awards Ceremonies, our School Prizegiving and by publicising the success

within and beyond the school. In the longer term, such information also assists us in providing references for pupils seeking employment or moving on to Further and Higher Education. We also pass on relevant details of pupil achievements to South Lanarkshire Council's scheme for Recognition of Achievement. Last year some of our pupils were invited to a Council wide Achievements Ceremony. Please pass on, or



Last year's Scottish Cup Wining Under 15 Girls' Football Team

Celebrating Success - Recognising Excellence

I have included some recent examples of the range of success that our pupils have achieved. I am sure you will be impressed! Success includes:

- (i) Carly Frame 4S2 (kayaking) and Anna Doig 4S3 (canoeing) representing the Scottish Sea Cadet team in London.
- (ii) Taylor Ronald (3T1) continuing to make outstanding progress in skating. Taylor skated in a recent Under 19 competition in London which include all of the best skaters from all over Britain, finishing 7th out of 30, which was a great achievement for her age.
- (iii) Jack Dawson (3T3) participating in the British Karate Championships.
- (iv) Trampolining success. For Amanda Daley (3S4) who was successful in

a recent trampolining competition in Perth, while Linzi Campbell,(1T2) Pamela Clark (2C3) and Carla Mills(2S2) represented Scotland in a recent competition in the Czech Republic. Pamela gained first place in her age group.

(vi) Gavin Perry winning the Foulger Trophy at a recent bowling competition. Gavin, the youngest player in the tournament, beat off stiff competition to win this prestigious event.

(vii) Nicky McMutrie (4T1) continuing her outstanding progress in athletics in Scotland by winning national titles in shot putt, javelin and discuss.

(v) Craig McMahon (5S2) and Lewis Hunter (5T3) taking up their places at the RSAMD Junior Academy of Music. Both boys had to beat

off stiff competition to gain a place at the prestigious RSAMD.

(viii) Sam McMutrie (4C3) has been filming as the lead role in the forthcoming BBC production '*Half Moon Investigations*'. We look forward to seeing the programme on television as it also involves more than ten of our pupils participating as extras.

(ix) Our Calderglen High Golf Team, winning the South Lanarkshire Schools' Golf Championship. Congratulations go to Stuart Houston, Ross Gillan and Alan Welsh in winning the team competition . Alan was the overall individual champion and Ross was runner-up.

A fantastic achievement.



Our seniors, supporting first year pupils

"Being able to help others less fortunate has been a life changing experience"
Jacqui
McKendrick

One of the most significant examples of success within our school is how our pupils contribute to making our society a better place. Therefore, we are very proud of some contributions made by our pupils across a range of year groups.

Our current S2 pupils raised almost three thousand pounds for the St Andrew's Hospice towards the end of last session. The event, organised by Miss McTavish, was a huge success and involved the majority of the year group . Two of our senior pupils,

Jacqui McKendrick (6C3) and Robert Collard (6T1) took part in a trip to Croatia with '*Touch the World*'. Robert and Jacqui spent time working with under privileged children. Both described their time in Croatia as life-changing.

Hong Tai Chan (5T3) has been selected to travel to Brazil next summer as part of a 'Frontiers' Project which is focussed on conservation.

I am delighted to say that our sixth year pupils have led by example in the first few

weeks of term. They have demonstrated outstanding leadership skills in how they have supported our new first year. They acted as buddies within the first few days of the term and are now involved in a mentoring programme, ensuring that first year have a friendly face and a fellow pupil to support them. Many have also volunteered to work with pupils in Sanderson High this year. They are a credit to our school.



Some second year pupils celebrate making it to the top of Tinto.

Celebrating Success - Confident Individuals

Pupils will also be able to gain recognition for positive behaviour within class and throughout the school. They

will be able to achieve this through the Calderglen Credits System, Praise Postcards and Planner Stamps. Pupils

have been told how they can achieve recognition for their hard work and good behaviour at recent assemblies.

Celebrating Success - Successful Learners

We are delighted to highlight many examples of success at the recent SQA examinations.

There was success both individually and collectively. For example, there was an increase from 2008/09 in S4 pupils gaining 5 Credits or more at Standard Grade.

A special mention goes to Debbie Falconer who managed to gain 3 A's in Advanced Highers and a further

A pass in Higher (on top of 5A Higher passes in S5) and becomes the first Calderglen High pupil to attend Cambridge University, where she will study Medicine.

Many of our senior pupils gained places in a variety of courses. The courses range from medicine, law, business management aeronautical engineering, teaching, sports science, music, drama environmental and social

sciences among many more. A mention also goes to six seniors who gained a place on Stirling University's Sports Studies Course. The University is the premier sports university in Scotland. We will also continue to follow Cara Jamieson's progress, who has moved to study and train at Newcastle University. Cara will be part of the British Olympic Programme preparing for the 2012 London Olympics.



Last sessions School Captains all heading off to university

Celebrating Success - Effective Contributors

Even at this early stage in the new term, pupils have had the opportunity to demonstrate how they can become effective contributors.

This included a large number of S3 pupils who participated in an Enterprise 'Buzz' activity. The pupils demonstrated their enterprising abilities in a series of workshops. The pupils in-

volved were commended by the workshop leaders.

All S3 were present for a thoughtful performance by the 7:84 Theatre Company. The performance dealt with issues relating to racism and intolerance and all of the pupils in third were praised for their respectful approach during the performance.

S1 pupils enjoyed a visit from well known children's author Brian Moses. The visit, organised by our new librarian Mrs Thomson, was very entertaining. The visit involved Brian reading from a selection of his poems in a highly stimulating manner and there was also the opportunity for some interaction with the pupils.

'Debbie Falconer becomes the first Calderglen High pupil to attend Cambridge University, where she will study Medicine'.

School Priority: Improving Attainment and Achievement

Curricular Review

As part of improving attainment and achievement within the school, we will carry out a major curricular review this session.

The review is based on developing a 'Curriculum for Excellence' and we intend to look at our current practice, and make changes ensuring the curriculum enables our pupils to be:

Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Effective Contributors and Responsible Citizens. As you can see, many pupil already demonstrate these capacities.

Parental Workshops

Appropriate preparation for SQA examinations is an essential ingredient in achieving success. With this in mind, and as a way of developing our partnership with parents, we will hold a series of workshops for parents of S3/4/5/6 to help support pupils in preparation for their SQA exams.

The first event will take place on **Tuesday, 30th September** from 7.00-8.15pm for parents of **S5/6 pupils**. The evening will focus on the demands of NQs, how parents can support .

Attendance/Timekeeping

Attendance and timekeeping have a significant impact on pupil attainment. Pupils who always attend school and arrive on time achieve better grades. Your help in ensuring that your child attends school and arrives on time is essential.

If your child is absent from school, please phone the school office on 01355 588620. Could you also please also ensure that your child has a letter to give to their tutor teacher explaining the absence. As you would expect, holidays in term time are discouraged .



Outdoor Activity Trip to Narbonne

Calderglen High School

High Common Road
East Kilbride
G74 2LP
Phone: 01355 588620
Fax: 01355 588621
Email: office@calderglen.s-lanark.sch.uk
headteacher@calderglen.s-lanark.sch.uk

Dates for your diary

Friday, 26th, Mon 29th Sept

Holiday

Tuesday, 30th Sept

S5/6 Parents' Workshop

Tuesday, 30 Sept—Fri 3rd October

S4 Work Experience (Week 1)

Monday, 6th – Fri 10th October

S4 Work Experience (Week 2)

Monday, 13th – Fri 17th October

School Holiday

www.calderglen.s-lanark.sch.uk

News in Brief

School Clubs

There is a huge selection of school clubs available for your child to participate including sporting, dramatic, musical, creative, artistic and language based. The list of clubs, dates and times is currently being compiled and will be placed on the website. Please encourage your child to participate in an essential part of school life!

Uniform

Thank you for your support in ensuring that your child wears appropriate school uniform. The letter issued to all parents in July outlined our school uniform policy. If you require clarification, leaflets are available from the school office. Please avoid allowing your child to customise or accessorise their uniform. For example, the wearing of large colourful belts, tracksuit tops or non-black shoes (with multi coloured laces). This can lead to confusion over what is acceptable and appropriate uniform.

Halloween Disco

An S1 Halloween Disco will take place in the S1 House Block on Wednesday, 30th October. Tickets will be on sale soon with a limited number of places available. While dressing up is optional, there will be prizes for best dressed!!

Ramadan

Any family requiring the use of specific facilities during the period of Ramadan should contact Ms McLachlan (DHT).

Photographs and Video Recording

There will be occasions when your child may be included in projects which involve them being photographed or filmed for a variety of purposes. If for any reason you do not wish your child to be included in such projects please inform the school in writing.

School Priority: Building our School Community - Parental Involvement

Parent Forum

As part of the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006, all parents are members of the Parent Forum. However, we are fortunate to have an active and supportive Parent Council.

If you have any issues you would like to discuss about parental involvement or any other specific issues please contact akennedy@calderglen.s-lanark.sch.uk

This year, the Parent Council are looking at how all parents can be involved in the life of the school. They are also focussing on the effectiveness of our channels of communication.

With members of the Parent Council, we are currently looking at how parents are

welcomed when visiting the s-lanark.sch.uk school during the day.

'Drop-in' Sessions

We are currently making improvements to our visitor waiting area Calderglen High Joint Activities Group (currently made up of members of the Parent Council) will be holding a Christmas Fayre in the school on Sat, 22 November. There will be variety of attractions including tea room, raffles, Santa's Grotto, craft stalls, Beat the Goalie and a whole lot more. We are looking for volunteers to help set up and run these attractions. If you can help in any way, or have any ideas to add, we would like to hear from you. Please contact me by telephone or

If you have any matters you would like to discuss, please like to hear from you. Please contact me by telephone or contact Amanda on 228572 email and I would be pleased or Caroline on 231706 or to meet with you. akennedy@calderglen.s-lanark.sch.uk



Parents being shown around the new building