

January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope it is not too late to wish you a happy New Year and that you and your family managed to have a restful holiday despite these challenging times.

I would like to take this opportunity to outline some important dates that are coming up in the near future.

As you may know already, the Year 8 Parents' Evening will take place on **Thursday 4th February**. As a result of the current lockdown this will be a 'virtual event'.

The Parents' Evening Booking system will open on **Wednesday 20th January** at 6pm and close on **Tuesday 2nd February** at 8am. Please use the link below to create your appointments as normal <https://calder.schoolcloud.co.uk/> Once you have made your appointments you will be sent an e-mail with a link to what will be a video based evening.

Please click on the following link should you wish to access a parental support guide <https://support.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/category/823-video-parents-evenings>

Please can I make you aware that there is a known issue with the Parents' Evening system involving iOS, the operating system used by iPhones/iPads. Parents joining a video call using an iPhone/iPad running iOS 14.2 are likely to experience stuttering audio which may stabilize itself after some time. This is caused by a bug in iOS 14.2 which is logged on Apple's bug tracker. Any android tablets/phones however should work fine as well as desktop computers and laptops. This issue however did not cause any major problems for the recent Year 10 and 11 online evenings, which were a great success, being popular with both staff and parents.

In advance of this evening, your son/daughter's most recent tracking information will be sent to you in the week beginning **Monday 1st February**. Discussions with subject teachers will be the normal 4 minutes in duration and will focus on student effort and application both in school and in remote learning. Conversations will however need to be succinct as there is a 'timer cut off' at the end of each booked session. Having said this, our use of this system so far has been highly successful and very popular with both parents and staff.

If you have any further questions, do please contact the Head of Year 8, Mr Pyrah jpyrah@calderlearningtrust.com

Kind regards,

Chris Washington
Associate Deputy Headteacher