



# Newsletter May 22

## Who are we?

CAFA (Castell Alun Friends Association) is a small but enthusiastic group of parents and staff whose aim is to raise funds for the benefit of the students. You may even know some of us:

- Gill Roberts, Deputy Headteacher
- Victoria, mum to Ella in year 7
- Barbara, mum to Lucy in year 11 and Katie in year 12
- Debbie, mum to Jamie in year 8 and Ben in year 13
- Helen, mum to Bethan in year 10
- Sara, mum to Rhys in year 7 and Owen in year 9

We would love to welcome some new members, whether you'd like to join the meetings, offer your skills or send us any ideas or suggestions for fund raising, please email us at [cafa@castellalun.flintshire.sch.uk](mailto:cafa@castellalun.flintshire.sch.uk) or contact us through our social media accounts.

## What have been up to this year?

Despite the difficult circumstances of the pandemic, in the last year you helped us to raise an astounding £3959.77! With that money we were able to fund:

- Notice boards for around the school £2170
- A business studies trip £160
- Resources for health and social studies £531.50
- Languages online subscriptions £150
- Chromebooks for performing arts £492
- New novels for the English department £135.83
- Reading pens for the Nurture Group £429
- Chromebooks for the Nurture Group £666
- New keyboards for the music department £1112.45



This year we will continue to raise money and liaise with the various school departments to help supply resources and equipment that the students can benefit from.



## CAFA funded Chromebooks (by Sharon Nesbitt)

The Chromebooks have been a massive help in all aspects of production and in all departments. The incredibly long battery life when compared with other types of computers is amazing as it allows anyone on the team to take a Chromebook with them knowing they'll have plenty of time before the battery dies. They have allowed us to start utilising features such as Google Drive and much more, with shared documents for each different project being worked on, ensuring that everyone has the same information all the time. They have also massively reduced disruption during our lessons as rather than having to go and find a computer, or all share one computer, we're able to now just get a Chromebook and do whatever is needed. The Chromebooks are a true asset and we're very thankful to CAFA for providing us with them.

## CAFA funded resources for languages 2021-22

(by Ciara Brennan)



CAFA very generously funded a subscription to the Atantot website for the whole of the Modern Languages department this year. The

site provides a wide variety of interactive resources for French, German and Spanish for use in the classroom and on individual devices such as Chromebooks. Teachers have enjoyed using this site for classroom starters and plenary activities and students have been able to continue using the site at home as they all have a login. The site has provided new, motivating ways to learn and practise key vocabulary and structures in all three languages. This has proved invaluable for students from Year 7 through to GCSE and beyond.

Not surprisingly, the Fling the Teacher game is one of the most requested by students of all ages!

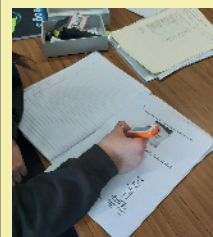
Another resource funded by CAFA was a subscription to the Textivate website. Teachers and students can input any text into their



Textivate account, and it automatically creates online exercises for students. This provides instant, interactive comprehension material tailored specifically to each group or student. This resource has been particularly effectively used with KS4 and KS5 students to enhance vocabulary acquisition alongside their reading and writing skills.

Both resources have enabled students to carry on their learning outside of the classroom and have added a new, different dimension to language learning. We are very grateful to CAFA for the opportunity to invest in these technologies as they enhance our students' enjoyment and engagement in their language learning journey.

## CAFA funded reader pens for the SEN department



The reader pens are currently used across all years to support students during class, assessments and exams. This allows students to be more independent with their own learning experiences.

## Our latest project:



In celebration of the Jubilee, CAFA are currently working with the school to purchase a picnic bench which will be sited in the quad for the use of the students.

### Coming soon...

- Car Boot Sale (on school grounds) July 9<sup>th</sup>, more details coming soon.
- Coach trip to the Christmas Markets: date TBC
- Christmas Tree, after last year's amazing response we will once again be selling live Christmas trees. Our customers were blown away by the quality last year and we already have repeat orders!
- We will also be present at the upcoming year 7 intake evening on July 5<sup>th</sup>



When you shop with Amazon Smile, Amazon will make a donation to our fundraising. And it's so easy to do! Simply scan the QR code below, follow the URL and start shopping.



Many thanks to everyone already supporting the lottery. Draws are weekly and as well as being in the draw to win the local prize, supporters are included in a weekly national draw to win £25,000. Anyone can join and all support is gratefully received, please scan the QR code to find out more information and sign up



### Jubilee Luxury Hamper Raffle

In honour of the Jubilee we are raffling off this stunning luxury hamper full of goodies so you can have your very own Jubilee afternoon tea.

Contents include Prosecco, wine, coffee, speciality teas, chocolates, biscuits, crisps, cakes and jam. But the celebrations don't stop there! Also included are a Scentsy warmer and wax worth £50, a voucher worth £20 from the Red Lion Penyffordd and a voucher worth £20 from Jemoleys Penyffordd.



Tickets are £1 per entry and are on sale now until Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May. Winner to be announced 27<sup>th</sup> May

Parents of pupils in the school can pay via School Gateway (preferred option, you can enter as many times as you like) but the raffle is also open to the wider community where tickets can be purchased via Rocket fund on the following link or QR code

<https://rocketfund.org/p/Jubilee-prize-draw>



Hamper prizes kindly donated by:

Red Lion Penyffordd <https://www.redlion-penyffordd.com>

Jemoleys Penyffordd <https://www.jemoleys.co.uk>

Co-Op in Hope, Morrisons in Saltney and

Jenna Mitchell - Scentsy <https://twinkletoes.scentsy.co.uk/consultant/bio>

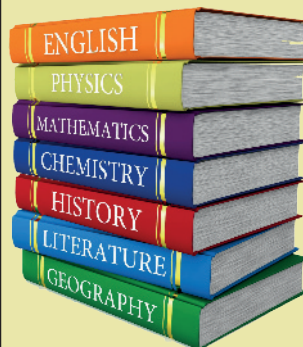


Shop with over 3,100 retailers and easyfundraising will give a donation to the school every time you make a purchase. Retailers include eBay, Amazon, John Lewis, B&Q, booking.com and loads more. It won't cost you anything.

Signing up to support Castell Alun Friends' Association is really easy. Just scan the QR code, fill in your email address, set a password and your account is set up. No other information is needed. You can then go via easyfundraising to do your shopping and we'll get a donation every time. There is no catch or hidden cost; it's just a really easy way to raise extra money for the school.



### Book Donations



Do you have any unused text books or revision books? We are hoping to set up a text book stall at our car boot sale on the 9<sup>th</sup> July for parents whose children are starting their exam years. We will soon be setting up a drop off point for donations (details coming soon). If you have any (current) text books or revision books you would like to donate please send them to our drop off point or get in touch via social media or by email [cafa@castellalun.flintshire.sch.uk](mailto:cafa@castellalun.flintshire.sch.uk)

Want to keep up to date with events? Find us on social media

