



NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 31

Foreword by Mrs Green - Deputy Headteacher

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a well-earned break, after a windy, wet and cold half term? Reflecting that we are now half way through this academic year, my thoughts turn to what we have achieved and what we still need to concentrate on. It is also almost a year since I rejoined the staff at Easter 2006 and we have gone through GCSE and A Level results in the summer (our best ever) and Year 11 have just completed their Mocks: the wheel goes round again. Perhaps it is time for me to step out of my "bulldozer" and to "fly the helicopter" for a little while – to look at the bigger picture.

There have been so many changes to the school since I left in 2002 and we continue to build on our successes: as a Sports College and as a boys' Grammar School. The young men in our care, going out to be the backbone of the twenty-first century, deserve the best that we can offer. One exciting development has been the Parents' Information Evenings held in November, so that our parents could be fully informed about our curriculum support in school. The turn-out was pleasing on both 23 and 30 November, with over

200 parents coming to hear about "learning styles & revision techniques", our PSHE programme (including Sex Education) as well as "targets, tracking and monitoring" and updates on Behaviour for Learning. The positive feedback from the evenings has ensured that they will be on the programme next autumn for parents who missed these, or if their son has moved into the next key stage. Mrs Hickmore and Mr Kay launched our Yr 11 students into the post 16 world with their information evening in December and with an "introductory morning" only last week. Hopefully their hard work following the mocks, supported by parents and us, will assist them in making informed choices for September 2007.

To encourage the attitude of academic excellence and achievement must remain one of our most important tasks. Mrs Hickmore and Mr Cossins interviewed many of our Yr 12 students after their AS level results and will continue their pro-active support in every way. The UCAS applications are in and the hard work continues to bring the grades that clinch the places. Lower down the school, I have

interviewed, with the Mrs Brooks and Mr Wilson, the Key Stage Managers, nearly 100 students in the last two terms. Using our progress grades, as well as other indicators, we have continued to track potential under-achievers and place them in our "mentor" programmes: striving always to increase self esteem and support. This takes a variety of forms: encouraging good work and study habits, ensuring quality and depth to work, creating good revision notes or just keeping a "weekly eye" on "at risk" students.

We have here, at Carre's, some of the most caring and dedicated teachers and support staff that I have had the privilege to work with in over three decades: they are committed to helping all of our boys achieve their potential. If the boys take their advice, support and guidance this year will be another successful year. The view from the helicopter is most encouraging: smart young men (of body and mind) with pride in themselves and their school, with the opportunity to achieve highly and go on to their adult life well equipped for a changing and demanding world.

Mrs Y Green

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Curriculum Update

This academic year we decided that we would introduce two information evenings for parents of our KS3 and KS4 boys. The evenings were divided into three parts on both evenings:

23 November 2006 - Key Stage 4:

- 1 Tracking and monitoring - a Parents' Guide
- 2 Study and Revision Skills
- 3 Behaviour for Learning - a Review

30 November - Key Stage 3

- 1 Tracing and Monitoring - a Parents' Guide
- 2 The Pastoral Programme - Sex Education and how we teach it
- 3 Behaviour for Learning - a Review

Following these meetings, the Tracking Programmes have now been extended from year 11 (who were our highest priority) to cover Year 10, with interviews about to take place for Years 8 and 9. The purpose of all of these "Mentor" programmes is to support the boys in their studies to help prevent them "cruising" to under-achievement. The progress grades, the academic data and targets that we have, as well as the behaviour for learning consequences, are all used to ensure that our students are working to the best of their ability.

We plan to have these put on the calendar for the Autumn Term, specifically for new Year 7 parents and those entering the "GCSE Zone", but if parents missed the evenings this year, they might like to come next time.

Fundraising at Christmas

Boys from 8B and 8C raised £122.55 in the two weeks before Christmas for "Oxfam Unwrapped" and the "Seeing is Believing" charity.



Raffle tickets were sold and money was collected at the "Weakest Link - Staff Special Edition" on the last day of the Christmas term. Alex Kay in Year 11 won the £20 HMV voucher and there are three unclaimed prizes. The unclaimed numbers are: 129 Pink, 54 Pink, 443 Blue.



The money is going to be put towards a toilet and a fresh water supply from "Oxfam Unwrapped" and to send money to the "Seeing is Believing" charity (highlighted in The Times, December 2006)

A big thank you to all the boys who contributed time and money.

Mrs Y Green - Deputy Head

Tesco Computer for Schools Vouchers

The scheme starts again on 5 March and finishes on 13 May. Last year we collected 19763 vouchers and we already had 11498 vouchers banked from the previous year, so we had 31261 to spend and we bought a RM laptop and case. Please could you think of us again this year when you do your weekly shop or fill your car up with petrol. There will be a collection box outside of the office.



Many thanks.

Jackie Burrows - IT Department

School Travel Plan

As part of a Lincolnshire County Council Initiative, the School has been asked to prepare a Travel Plan. This involves assessing the current travel arrangements for staff and students and the on-site traffic management. As a result of this, a School Travel Plan is being produced, which will highlight those areas where improvements could be made.

To encourage schools to take part, there is a small (very small) financial incentive to complete a Travel Plan.

One aspect of the Travel Plan is a

survey of “users”. The students have already taken part in a “Hands Up” survey concerning their travel arrangements. It is now the turn of staff and parents. The staff will have received their survey by the time this Newsletter is published. For parents, a short questionnaire is attached to this Newsletter. I would encourage you to complete the form and return it to me by Friday 2 March. Your help is much appreciated. Further information is available from Mr John Kyte at the school.



World Challenge



As you are probably aware, we are organising a trip to the India Himalayas in July 2008. We now have a website that people can access:

www.world-challenge.zentix.net

This will give details of what is being organised, events, fundraising etc.

There is also an on-line quiz and for this, please contact myself or Chris Walker -11Y

Steve Lord

Music Lessons

Could students please remember to check music registers so that they don't forget to attend lessons. **ALL** lessons are charged for unless there is a school reason, ie exams, educational visit or sporting event.

Please do not be afraid to talk to your tutor if you have a time slot that doesn't suit - especially after

school lessons, where you may need to catch a school bus, or are just needed home promptly for family reasons. Your tutor will happily try to accommodate you at a different time.

Any queries regarding lessons must be referred to Miss Parker, queries regarding invoices to Tina Green in the Bursar's office.



Prizegiving 2006



On Thursday 14 December 2006, prizes for the academic year 2005 - 2006 were distributed by Mr Ian Fytche, Chief Executive of NKDC.

In his speech, Mr Reading celebrated the excellent results of the previous year, where records were broken at all examination levels. He especially stressed the success of the school at GCSE, where we are now placed second within all of the county's performance of boys in grammar schools. With a 100% pass rate of five or more A* - C grades and, even more impressively, over 98% success, including English and Maths, Carre's was the most successful boys' grammar school in Lincolnshire.

The essence of Carre's Grammar School is captured in the new award of the Andrew Rees Memorial Prize, celebrating the Spirit of Carre's. The award this year was presented to Sam Garwood, as the Year 7 student who has demonstrated the capacity to strive for success in many fields and participate in the fullness of life at our school. The award itself is a fitting tribute to the memory of a young man who

would himself have demonstrated such a spirit.

Form and Progress Prizes awarded as follows:

7B Form	Thomas Hodge
7B Progress	Philip Smith
7C Form	Alistair Macpherson
7C Progress	Jack Curson
7L Form	Charles Pearce
7L Progress	Alex Foster
7W Form	Peter Carey
7W Progress	Daryll Wells
Old Carre'sians' Prize for Progress and Effort - Yr 7 - Paul Haw	

8W Form	Conor Rankine
8W Progress	Tom Watson
8Y Form	Tom Cunningham
8Y Progress	Not awarded
8Z Form	Kieran Hardern
8X Progress	Cory Stobart
Old Carre'sians' Prize for Progress and Effort - Yr 8 - Adam Maddy	

9W Form	Harry Stubbs
9W Progress	Michael Evans
9X Form	Freddie Bell
9X Progress	Nathan Bryning
9Y Form	Nick Britten
9Y Progress	Sam Gartside
9Z Form	George Grant
9Z Progress	Joe Spencer
Old Carre'sians Prize for Progress and Effort - Year 9 - Edward Glenn	

10W Form	Richard Rosa
10X Form	Matthew Light
10Y Form	Callum McConchie
10Z Form	Peter Robinson
Old Carre'sians Prize for Progress and Effort - Year 10 - David Rees	

The D H Rees Prize for Best GCSE Results went to Andrew Bell and the Audrey Vincent Prize for Best A Level Results was shared between Christopher Snell and Tom Barczak

In total over 120 prizes were awarded (full list of all prizewinners is available in the school office)

Well done to everyone!

(Photo below of some of our prizewinners - courtesy of Sleaford Standard)



"The award itself is a fitting tribute to the memory of a young man who would himself have demonstrated such a spirit"

Outstanding Student Achievement

Interview with Sam Wright - 10X (by Joshua Bryan - L6)



- 1 What is your sport?** Swimming.
- 2 Which club for?** Boston Amateur Swimming Club, Lincolnshire County, East Midlands level and on the brink of national representation (6th for “50 Breast stroke” at U14 level in Britain).
- 3 How long have you been swimming?** I learned to swim as a pastime at the age of 4 years old and have been swimming ever since, so pretty much a round decade.
- 4 How did you get into the sport?** My parents started taking me swimming to learn the basics at Cranwell, and then I caught the attention of my coach Ian Wells and he suggested that I regularly attend a swimming club when I was about 8 years old. Since then I’ve been a part of the set up at Boston.
- 5 How often do you train?** Roughly 15 hours a week. Sub-divided into: Monday morning before school (2 hours), Monday night (2 hours), Tuesday night (2 hours), Thursday morning before school (2 hours), Thursday night (2 hours), Friday night for an hour and Sunday morning (2 hours). All this is with my club coach Ian, and is flexible depending on how close up-and-coming competition is and therefore how hard I train.
- 6 What aspect of fitness is most important to focus when training?** It’s most important for me to focus on general strength and technique (press-ups and group circuit training mostly), cardiovascular endurance (constant swimming of endurance sets in the pool) and muscular stamina (on the treadmill and continued lengths). I’m not yet allowed to do full weights for insurance reasons, but will be able to in a year when I’m 15 years old.
- 7 What is your greatest achievement?** Finishing 2nd in the National Level Meet at Sheffield just a few weeks ago (January 2007), thus determining my national position as 6th overall for my age group in the country.
- 8 How many trophies/titles have you won?** Three years undefeated county champion at all breast stroke distances (2004 – present), medalling as third in the Midland Championships held in Coventry (2006) and I won the club championships in 100 and 200 breast stroke in the open age group (also 2006). There are others, but these are the most prominent for me recently.
- 9 What has been the lowest point of your career?** Aside from breaking my arm, I would say that it was hardest to comes to terms with when I simply couldn’t get my act together and physically achieve my objectives for about 6 months in early 2005 and so I didn’t record a personal best until the end of the year.
- 10 What is your advice to other youngsters interested in undertaking the sport?** If you’re serious about the sport then it’s well worth getting involved in, but you need to have commitment and physical determination. For example, I get up at 4 o’clock in the morning twice a week in order to train and improve, because without it I wouldn’t be able to offer any real threat to my competition.
- 11 Do you have a motto?** In the end, you always get out what you put in.
- 12 Is turning professional and making a career out of the sport your ultimate goal?** It’s impossible to turn professional in its own right, but most funding will come from sponsorship if you really make it to be the best of the best. Although this is a huge task, ultimately I’m aiming to focus a career on swimming and I don’t think this is out of the question if I continue to train hard.
- 13 What are your future plans in the short-term?** Over the next 6 months, I’ve got to retain my Lincolnshire county title of all three breast stroke disciplines (being held in Grantham next month), work towards winning the Midlands Championships in Coventry in June and hopefully progress to the National Championships at Sheffield the following month after earning the right to be there.
- 14 In the long term, how realistic does the 2012 Olympics in London sound?** It’s a definite possibility, but again it’s going to require much hard work to get anywhere near that level. The next stage to get to, if the 2012 Olympics in London are achievable, is the nationals and maintain a high ranking in the country.

Outstanding Student Achievement

Matthew Petch - U63 has recently completed his Level 2 football coaching course. To gain this qualification he had to undertake 18, 20 minute skills sessions and had to coach on his own, 18, 20 minute 6 A Side games and do 40+ recoveries. The course was held at Leicester.

Liam Earth - L65 took part in the South Midlands Tae Kwon Do competition in Hereford on 4 February. He won a Gold in Team Sparring and a Gold in Individual Sparring. All winners of each adult division then fought for the title of Grand Champion, Liam won this also. His sister Lauren (SKHS) won Gold in Team Sparring and Gold in Individual Sparring. What a fantastic start to the Tae Kwon Do season and what a talented family!



Sports Round-Up



At the time of writing (30 January) our **U18** football team are through to the last 32 in the country after an excellent 2-1 win after extra time at Repton School, Derby. The goal scorers were Chris Porter and Tom Siddons. They now play Garibaldi School, Mansfield or Balby Carr School, Doncaster.

Our **U16** team are also through to the last 32 in the country, following a 2-1 away win to Ashfield School, Notts. The goal scorers were Nathan Thompson and Joe Braithwaite. They played Kingstone School, Barnsley on 31 January and unfortunately lost 5-1, a scoreline that did not reflect an even contest. The goal scorer was Nathan Thompson. They are also Lincolnshire Champions, following a fine 2-0 win against Yarborough School, Lincoln - goal scorers Ben Thompson and Nathan Thompson.

The **Year 9** football team bowed out of the Under 14 National Cup in the last 64 on 1 February. Carre's went down 1-0 to a strong and skilful team from Worksop, but showed excellent commitment and ability in pushing them all the way to the final whistle. The uneven surface made control and passing difficult, which worked against the smaller, more skilful Carre's players, but they competed well both in the air and on the ground. Particularly strong performances included Sam Ogden in goal, whose athleticism and bravery restricted the opposition to a single goal and the accurate set-piece delivery of Harry Bartlett, which caused regular panic in the opposition box. The team performed very well all season, playing a fluid passing game that opposition teams have struggled to match and losing only one other match with a weakened side against Boston Grammar.

This was the first time the school has ever had three teams through to the final stages of the National Competitions. It is now up to the U18 1st XI to fly the flag for the school in the National Cup.

Mr A Wilkinson and Mr C Greenhill

Messages from Carre's PTFA

Date of Next PTFA Meeting - **Tuesday 6 March - 7 pm, room 42** (next to gym)

5 A Side Football & Summer Fayre - **Sunday 1 July**

Wine & Wisdom Evening - **Friday 12 October**

100 Club - see attached letter



Messages from the Office

Northgate
Sleaford
Lincs
NG34 7DD

Phone: 01529 302181

Fax: 01529 413488

Email:

enquiries@carres.lincs.sch.uk

www.carres.lincs.sch.uk



- **Has anyone left a PE Kit on a train?** A red Carre's PE bag, containing red polo shirt, black shorts, white trainers and Lynx anti-perspirant has found its way to Nottingham British Rail Lost Property Office. If you think it might belong to you, please telephone 0115 9576525 and quote the reference 15084.
- **Change of Contact Details.** Please could parents let us know of any change in contact details, even if it is a change of mobile phone number. It is essential that our records are up-to-date in case of any emergency.
- **Labelling of Clothes.** Sorry to sound like a cracked record, but please, please could PE kit, bags and coats etc be labelled, even if it is only with permanent pen on a label. It helps us so much when returning items which have found their way to the office.
- **Mobile Phone Recycling.** We are still collecting mobile phones and have in fact just sent off over 30. As the school gets £2.50 for each phone recycled, it is very worthwhile. So, if you are getting a brand new mobile and have an old one you don't need anymore, or have a "brick" tucked away in a drawer somewhere, please hand it in at school office.
- **Reporting of Absences.** Please could the school office be telephoned on the first day of any absence. Thank you for your co-operation



Message from Catering Department

The canteen will be offering Theme Days during the coming months. Our first theme will be Italian. No sandwiches, baguettes or salad bar will be available on that day, therefore if you do not wish to participate you will need to bring a packed lunch. You will be informed of the menu and date nearer the time.



To help the canteen with estimated numbers, could you please complete the slip below and return it to your Form Tutor by **Friday 2 March**.

Jane Thatcher - Catering Manager

✂.....

To Jane Thatcher, Catering Manager, Carre's Grammar School

Name

Form

I will / will not* be interested in having lunch at Carre's on the Italian Theme Day.
(*delete as appropriate)

Please return by Friday 2 March

Key Stage Updates

Ice-Skating

This was enjoyed by all who were able to take part and as usual our boys conducted themselves very well. The manager of the rink was a bit frosty to begin with but by the end of the session had realised that our boys knew how to behave and grew warmer as the session went on! My thanks to those members of staff who gave up their Sunday afternoon to help with the supervision – Miss Mills, Mr Ratcliff and Mr Morley.



BfL

The second review took place in January. The good news is that the number of boys receiving C2s continues to fall. 60% of the students received no C2s and, if we count those students who received no more than one C2 during the second term, nearly 80% of the students are successfully meeting expectation for the majority of the time. The incidence of homework not being completed has also fallen from 0.85% to 0.51% of scheduled homework. The number of students receiving 5 or more C2s over the period has fallen from nearly 7% to 4 % of the student body. These students continue to receive targeted support to enable them to adopt the kind of habits that will prevent them from attracting further C2s.

On an even more positive note, the number of merits far exceeds the number of C2s. One form alone has a current tally of over 1000 merits so far this year.

After School Detention

There have been some changes made to our processes for informing parents of these detentions. In the past we relied on what we affectionately term as “boy-post”. Unfortunately this has started to prove unreliable, with boys claiming they didn’t receive letters and then not turning up to detentions. We have therefore decided to post all letters home and have adjusted our detention schedule accordingly to allow for more than 24 hours notice.

We have also amended the sanctions that apply for failure to attend detention. Failure to attend without good reason will engender a further C2 and thus after school detention. Students will be required to serve both detentions or risk a C3, internal isolation. We recognise that there is inevitably some delay between the issuing of a C2 and the serving of the detention in order to allow parents sufficient time to make transport arrangements. However, students each have their planners and should make a note in them to ensure that they do not forget to attend.

Student Survey BfL

Students in Years 7, 9 and 10 were asked to complete a survey on BfL. This is currently being processed and once they have been collated the results will be shared.

KS3 and KS4 Monitoring and Tracking

Year 10 students who were interviewed regarding unsatisfactory progress have now been allocated to a personal mentor with whom they will meet on a weekly basis to review progress against their agreed targets. The mock results of those students in Y11 who have been involved with the mentoring programme since Y10 suggest that the programme is producing the desired results.

Interviews have just been completed with Y9 and Y8 students. They will shortly be allocated to a mentor and weekly meetings arranged. The boys were on the whole very honest in their appraisal of their own progress and we are confident that they will move forward with greater commitment and that we will start to see evidence of progress that matches their ability.

Mrs R Brooks - Key Stage 3 Manager