

### **Carre's Grammar School**

# NEWSLETTER

February 2019

www.carres.uk

#### Useful Dates:

Wednesday 6 March Year 9 Parents' Evening

Thursday 7 March World Book Day

Year 9 – Stay Safe Presentations

Friday 8 – Tuesday 12 March Trip to Boppard

Tuesday 12 March Year 11 Information Evening

Wednesday 13 March Europe Night Concert 7pm

Friday 15 March Year 7s Big Bang Trip

Friday 15 and Saturday 16 March School Production – Macbeth

Thursday 21 March Year 11 Final Exams Information Evening

Wednesday 3 April Year 13 Parents' Evening at KSHS

Friday 5 April End of Term

Tuesday 23 April Start of Term 4

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### Foreword by Mr Law, Headteacher

**Home School Communications Policy** 

We are continually looking for ways to ensure we communicate with parents as efficiently and helpfully as possible. Thank you to all those of you have regularly taken the time to complete surveys, both online and at Parents' Evenings, which ask for your views on this, amongst other topics. The results over time tell us that this is a feature of the school which you rate highly. Likewise visitors to the school comment on the friendly reception they receive and the strong sense of community amongst staff and students. We would, however, like to draw your attention to the new Home School Communications policy that is attached to this email.

In recent years communications between home and school have shifted quite dramatically from pen and paper to email, with email becoming the preferred and predominant mode of communication. As a school we remain committed to regular and open communication with parents; however the number of emails or requests for calls and the expectation of a fairly immediate reply from some parents has increased to such a degree that we, along with many other schools, are experiencing the need to produce a new Home School Communications policy.



I hope very much that you'll agree that our first priority is to deliver high quality teaching and learning for your son/daughter. Most teachers have up to five lessons teaching per day plus tutor time, lunch duties and activities, and after school practices and clubs. Teachers cannot, therefore, monitor and manage their inbox or return calls during lessons or at other times in the day, when they should be planning and preparing for lessons, assessing student work or carrying out school duties. As Headteacher I expect my teachers' priority to be fully prepared, focused and engaged with students and supporting their learning.

Your child's tutor will also have a demanding teaching timetable and Heads of Year in our school, just like others, benefit from only a few hours extra non-teaching time a week to work on behalf of students with particular pastoral needs. Whilst administration staff, support staff and senior leaders may be able to access emails more routinely, their primary function is also to support teachers and students.

Can I encourage you, therefore, to have a read of the new policy. I offer my reassurances that it isn't designed to limit your involvement in your child's schooling. As parents we may feel that it is perfectly reasonable to ask for updates about our child's progress or behaviour and the occasional request might be manageable; however, if the parent of every child a teacher teaches asks for bespoke feedback just once in a year that would, on average, generate over 300 required responses.

The school already works hard to provide parents with timely and informative information concerning their child's progress throughout the year. Currently these are: four progress and effort reports, one full report and one parent teacher meeting each year. In addition to this staff may also telephone, write or email a parent to inform them of a serious incident or serious ongoing concerns about a child's behaviour or attitude to learning.

We also provide an online system that enables parents to view their child's attendance at lessons, behaviour and achievements by simply logging in. Parents are encouraged to use this facility. There are, therefore, many ways in which information is easily and readily available and we are not removing the chance for you to communicate with the member of staff who is most likely to be able to address any important issues you have.

We do, however, need to encourage some parents to consider the speed or regularity with which they contact school on matters that their child may well be able to deal with themselves. I hope the policy offers some clear and reasonable guidance regarding what you can expect from staff who will never be delaying replying to you but are simply in a classroom, out on a sports pitch, planning a residential trip, running a revision club, assessing work, undertaking training or working on a myriad of other tasks in support of the students in our care.

I hope that you will assist us in our quest to enable staff to focus on their jobs and therefore give your son or daughter the very best support that they can.

Thank you.



## Year 12 Mathematical Problem Solving Afternoon

On Wednesday 6 February we had approximately 50 students from across the SJSF taking part in a problem solving afternoon. The event was hosted here at Carre's and was run by the AMSP (Advanced Maths Support Programme). An outside speaker came in for the afternoon and spoke to the students about mathematical university entrance tests, which universities now have entrance tests and the different tests that are produced. Along with this, the students worked in groups of 5 or 6 to tackle problem solving questions on the areas of number and algebra. The problems required the students to apply their mathematical knowledge and to stretch their understanding. Some of the students commented on how useful the afternoon had been and how much they had enjoyed the opportunity to work together to complete problem solving questions (which is a key skill required for maths at A-Level). The outside speaker was very impressed by the resilience of our students and very much enjoyed coming to work with them. Overall, an enjoyable and worthwhile afternoon had by all.

Mrs Mahoney, Head of Maths

# Arkwright Scholarship

Harry Ellis has successfully passed the Arkwright application and aptitude paper. Harry has been invited to an interview at Sheffield University on 18 April where he will discuss his future aspirations and motivations to become an Engineer. If successful at the interview Harry will gain the Arkwright Scholarship.

We all wish Harry the best of luck.

Mr Thomas, Head of Design and Technology



## Jon Egging Trust

Students took part in an Inspirational Outreach programme with the Jon Egging Trust last academic year, focusing on teamwork and reciprocity. The South Lincolnshire JET Liaison Officer Nicola also delivered a fundraising assembly. As a result the Year 10 students decided to #JETInvolved

and donate some of the proceeds they raised from the school sponsored walk to JET, raising an incredible  $\pm 860$ . The photograph shows Nicola receiving the cheque from student Kelan in Year 10.

The JET was grateful for the school's support which will help them to continue their work to provide life-changing opportunities for young people to help them be the best they can be and look forward to returning to Carre's later this year.

### Cleft Lip and Palate Association

Students Thomas and Caleb presented a cheque for  $\pounds$ 2,215 to a representative from CLAPA. This money was raised by the Year 7 students taking part in the school sponsored walk in October 2018.





This year World Book Day will be on **Thursday 7 March**. To celebrate, we would like as many staff and students to dress up as a book character or in a book related outfit. In exchange for dressing up, we would like a  $\pm 1$  donation which will go towards the brilliant 'Read for Good' charity, which provides story-tellers and books to cheer up sick

children in hospital. There will be prizes for the best costumes, and for those students wishing to go on the Harry Potter trip, dressing up will earn them an extra signature on their passport!

Dressing up is totally voluntary, but should you not wish to dress up, the day is **NOT** designated as a non-uniform day and you will be expected to wear full school uniform.

We are also hoping to run a cake sale in the LRC during lunchtime on World Book Day, with all proceeds going to the 'Read for Good' charity. Any donations of cakes would be gratefully received to support this cause. All students will receive a free £1 book token to either swap for a free 'World Book Day' book or to use towards a book of their choice.





Any students who have taken part in the Readathon sponsored read should hand their sponsor money and forms in by 7 March. All money raised will be given to the 'Read for Good' charity. It does not matter how much or how little is

raised as every little helps! There will be prizes for the student who reads the most books, and the student who reads the most original/wacky thing.

Any student wishing to be considered for the Literacy Reward Trip to the 'Harry Potter Studio Tour' should aim to get their passports in by Friday 5 April. Once they have completed as many challenges as they can, they should hand the passports to Mrs Morrissey in the LRC. Good Luck!

Mrs Morrissey, LRC Manager





A second successful Training Day took place on19 January, when 75 students were in attendance. They completed the training required to enable them to go on expedition this season.

Drop In Clinic at Carre's - Saturday 2 March

Bronze Practice deadline for route cards etc - Monday 4 March

Bronze kit issue and check day at KSHS - Saturday 16 March

Silver kit issue and check day at KSHS - Saturday 23 March

Silver assessed deadline for route cards etc - Monday 25 March

Gold 1 deadline for route cards etc - Monday 25 March

Bronze practice 1 - Saturday 30 - Sunday 31 March

Silver practice expedition - Saturday 27 - Monday 29 April

Bronze Practice 2 (moved due to Year 10 assessment week) now Thursday 2 – Friday 3 May

# Any codes homework still to be handed in must be received by the DofE Co-ordinator, Mrs Mel Walker, before the practice expedition.

Thank you



### Mental Health and Wellbeing

Throughout this academic year, as part of our commitment to staff development and to help further understand the societal pressures facing some of our students, we have welcomed speakers from an organisation called '*Think for the Future'*. They were established in 2012 to help schools and organizations tackle social and emotional barriers to learning. They work in partnership with national organisations to provide schools with innovative solutions to ensure that young people reach their full educational potential. Staff across the Robert Carre Trust have experienced three training sessions which focused on student wellbeing, anxiety and the pressures our students face from social media. We have been so impressed with these sessions that we have invited Think for the Future to present at two information evenings for parents on Monday 20 May and Wednesday 12 June from 5.30-7pm - which will cover similar information to that which our staff received. We would also like to share with you some useful web links and organisations that were recommended by our speaker; please find a selection of these below.

### Some useful links: Wellbeing, mental health and anxiety



### Some useful links: Social media

Child Exploitation and Online Protection <u>https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/</u> Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) <u>https://www.iwf.org.uk/what-we-do/how-we-assess-and-</u> <u>remove-content/laws-and-assessment-levels</u> <u>https://www.mind.org.uk/</u>

Mrs D. Collett (Assistant Headteacher, Kesteven and Sleaford High School, CPPD)





### Year 7 Debut Night

The evening featured performances from all of our Year 7 students following their Initial Access instrumental lessons on trumpet or trombone. They also sang a class song. There were some very exciting and lively performances, demonstrating an impressive amount of progress made in just 6 weeks of lessons.

Laith in Year 11 performed Jailhouse Rock. We also had routines from new bands in Years 8 and 9, the Year 11s performed an ensemble, The Rising Apes played and we had lots of soloists.

Mrs Quinton, Head of Music



I attended the debut night concert. It was a very nice experience with a large variety of music to listen to. My personal favourite was a student who played Jailhouse Rock on the piano.

Joss - Year 8



# SKI TRIP 2019



16 students had the trip of a lifetime to Panorama in British Columbia Canada.

By the end of the week all groups had been

able to visit the top of the mountain and take in views of 1000 peaks on the way down. The biggest air goes to Tom Martin in Year 12 who



was reported to have travelled over 40 feet before landing and got straight back up to ski down.



Where to go next is the question.....perhaps a return to the Marmot Basin and Jasper...2021

Mr Scholefield, Trip Leader







East of England Regional Final ARTiculation prize winner, Year 12 student Oliver Garland, eloquently delivered on Richard Hamilton's unusual 'Kent State' (1970). Oliver will now be an ARTiculation Finalist representing the East of England at the Grand Final taking place at Clare College, Cambridge on 1 March





# Under 16 Football



What a season we are having! We are into the quarter-final of the County Cup and most significantly the final of the ESFA Premier League Elite Schools' National Cup! This is a competition in which schools are allowed to play as many Premier League or Football League academy players as they like with no restrictions. The final is due to be played later in the year. We await our opponent from the other semi-final between perennial finalists Thomas Telford School and a school from Bromley in Kent. We expect it to be Thomas Telford but you can never be sure. Telford knocked us out at the quarter-final stage last season so if it is them, then we will be aiming to turn around the 2-0 defeat.

Having won our quarter-final versus St Mary's School from Hull 4-1, with a good second half display in front of most of the school, we were drawn away versus Trinity School Carlisle for the semi-final. They won their quarter-final easily, scoring 6 goals so we anticipated a tough test. We stayed overnight in Carlisle before the game so that we were not affected by the journey. When we awoke on the game day, we were greeted by constant rain and 45 mph winds. The rain subsided but the wind did not and this played a huge part in the game.

Attacking with the wind in the first half, we struggled to find the angled passes needed to not have the ball constantly running out for a goal kick and Trinity created the best chance of the half that needed Elliott to make two fantastic saves from their centre half. We put in a huge amount of effort without really creating much. We did, however, need physic attention for our two central defenders who both received head knocks, one of them from his own team mate's boot! At half time, we made one change and Alfie certainly injected some vigour into our attacking play. We were less direct into the wind and this helped. Despite Elliott having to make another spectacular save and the hosts hitting the post, we created several good chances ourselves but never being quite clinical enough to finish it off. We ended up hitting the post in the last minute of normal time which was a tough blow as it seemed as though we were about to win the game.

Nonetheless, extra-time was needed. At the end of normal time, one of the Trinity central midfielders was shown a red card for violent conduct on one of our players. This seemed to allow us to be on top in the 2 extra-time periods without dominating and of course, crucially, not scoring. This led to the dreaded penalties. We have practiced penalties all year and had a couple of games where they were needed. This put us in good shape, with lots of confidence.

We won the toss and decided to go first;

- Haydn scored
- They scored
- Ted scored
- They blasted over the bar!
- Tom took 3 minutes to get the ball to rest on the spot, the wind was so strong. He scored
- They scored
- Fin scored
- They scored
- Callum was left with a kick to reach the National Cup final. Never in doubt!

Mr Offer, Head of Sport



The winning penalty

# Under 18 Netball

The Under 18 Netball team travelled to Leicester on Saturday 26 January for the East Midlands Regional Finals. This

consists of the County Champions and runners up from Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Northamptonshire.

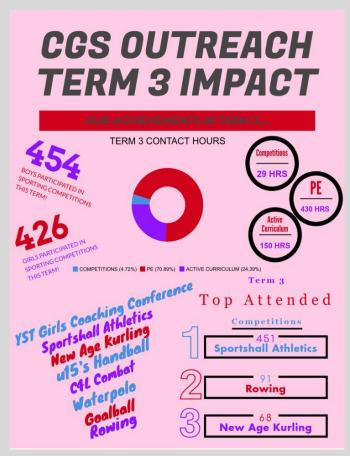
We had trained hard for the event and went in with great anticipation. Unfortunately, we faced what turned out to be the three best teams, one after the other in our first three games and this knocked our confidence. We were nervous and didn't play our best, but, by no means did we play badly. The opposition is very strong and it was good to be exposed to such a high standard of play. One of the main differences is that nearly all the other teams had girls in excess of 6 feet tall. Our lack of height on a cold, wet and windy day certainly did us no favours.

We rallied well, however, and won our 4th group game versus Bilborough College. This led to us playing-off for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> position in the region versus our County rivals LSST. Having won 2 and lost 1 against them, we were confident. A bad start, however, saw us go behind early and we weren't able to find our usual standard of play.

We had hoped for more but can be proud of our season, and in particular, the girls should be proud of their effort and commitment throughout the season!

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Mr Offer, Head of Sport



# **Bakeit! for MND**







14 March is the first anniversary of Stephen Hawking's death and marks a year since I started raising funds for the MND Association, along with the help of the students.

Form 8L, inspired and led by Finn Cobb, launched this last year with a number of events and kicked off what has now become a regular bakeit! Numerous students across KS3 year groups now take part in the bakeit! every week, whilst numerous students across all year groups, but especially KS4, enjoy <u>buying</u> from the bakeit! Since March last year, through the weekly Wednesday cake sales, a sponsored silence, Mrs Sharples running the Lincoln 10k, the Sixth Form holding a picnic, refreshment sales at the Year 11 music concert for Mrs Quinton and Mrs Karamazundo, refreshment sales during the sponsored walk, and our Christmas advent raffle, we have raised £3,500

As Hawking passed away on 'Pi day' we will be using 14 March as an opportunity to celebrate his life and our first year of fundraising, with a range of additional fundraising activities that are 'Pi' related.

Travis Cullum, Sixth Form students and any staff volunteers will be helping to supervise activities.

Planned activities/challenges so far (with entry fees and prizes for winners) include:

- · 3 minutes 14 seconds to recite Pi from memory to the most decimal places
- · 3 minutes 14 seconds of shooting hoops
- · 3 darts/3 chances to hit 3 and 14 on a dartboard
- 3 minutes 14 seconds of hula hooping although the Sixth Form challenge to anyone who's available on the Wednesday afternoon of 13 March, is to keep going for 3 hours 14 minutes starting at lunch and continuing through their afternoon of enrichment, whilst being sponsored
- Plot Pi as a graph to create a city scape
- Build a Pi city scape in Lego
- · Design a pie/pizza
- · 3 legged 314m relay race carrying pie

- · Communication aid challenges using a communication sheet or a MegaBee
- And...... pie a teacher! (squirty cream only and from a distance of 3.14m)

If you would like to get involved or help out with any activities, or suggest any other activities then please do - especially for joining me with the last one!

Miss Angus Head of Art



The MNDA will be including the fundraising activities by Carre's in their quarterly magazine 'thumbprint' in April

£619.44 was raised for GoMad by wearing an item of blue clothing.

As a reminder it's blue because of the colour in the Tanzanian flag representing the fact that three of Africa's great lakes are in Tanzania and that GoMAD work in Musoma which is on the edge of Lake Victoria.





### **Behaviour on Contract Transport**

Despite frequent reminders of our expectations, we are always concerned about any unsatisfactory behaviour on the journeys to and from school. We would be grateful if you would reinforce our expectations by reminding your son about the importance of remaining seated during the journey. Behaviour such as shouting or throwing objects is clearly unacceptable. All students sign a code of conduct regarding travel which makes it clear that poor behaviour may result in a ban from using school transport.

Students also need to be aware of the local residents when they are waiting for a school bus. Good manners are expected from all our students, especially when off site.

### e-Access Registration

Access to your child's online data, such as attendance information, progress grades and student events, is available via the school website: **Parents > e-Access Registration**.

### **ParentPay**

The preferred method of payment for all school trips and music tuition is via ParentPay. If you would rather pay via an alternative method, please contact the Finance Office.

### **Cashless Catering**

Cashless catering is in place in the school's Dining Hall ('The Chill'). Please could parents ensure that sufficient funds are uploaded onto ParentPay for their child's lunches. You should be aware that overdrafts are not permitted except in extreme circumstances.

### Parents' Cars on the School Site

May we remind parents that for safety reasons we do not allow the dropping off of students on the school site after 8am. Similarly, in the afternoons, parents should not bring cars onto the site before 4.30pm.

### **Emergency School Closure**

As we are into the winter season we would to remind parents of the arrangements for emergency school closure.

As a matter of policy the school will make every effort to remain open. However, severe weather can sometimes lead to transport problems which make it impossible for the school to function normally. In the unlikely event that the school will be closed, a notice will be posted on the front page of our website at <u>www.carres.uk</u> by 7.30 am. Information will also be posted on the Lincolnshire County Council website and the information will be broadcast on BBC Radio Lincs and Lincs FM.

The school has the facility to send text messages to inform parents of the school's closure. We will endeavour to notify all parents by text as soon as a decision has been made to close the school.

### **PE Kit and School Property**



Please label all PE kit and school clothing/property.

### Free School Meals

If you think you might be eligible for Free School Meals, you must apply via the Lincolnshire County Council parent portal link: https://lcc.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/parentportal. LCC will process eligibility checks for Free School Meals.

#### Is my child eligible?

Your child may be eligible if you are in receipt of one or more of the following qualifying benefits:

- <u>Universal Credit</u> (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based <u>Jobseeker's Allowance</u>
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of state <u>Pension Credit</u>
- <u>Child Tax Credit</u> (provided you're not also entitled to <u>Working Tax Credit</u> and have an annual gross income of no more £16,190)
- <u>Working Tax Credit</u> run-on paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

#### How to apply

Parents, guardians and carers should apply for Free School Meals online: https://lcc.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/parentportal. If you have difficulty completing the questionnaire, please contact the school office for assistance.

For more information, please call the Lincolnshire County Council Customer Service Centre on 01522 782030 or email <u>Free\_School\_Meals@lincolnshire.gov.uk</u>



### Do you like singing?

Do you want to improve your singing?

Do you like singing with others

### SLEAFORD PARISH CHURCH CHOIR IS RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS

Sleaford Parish Church has recently appointed a new Director of Music and he would be delighted to talk to anyone who might be interested in joining.

### Friday night is rehearsal night 7—8.15pm in the church Sung Services

Sunday 10am

For more information contact:

Lee.Rooke@kshs.uk

or

Mrs Johnson in the Science Department at CGS