



# Carterton Community College newsletter

Spring 2015

## A Champion in the Community



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We use Twitter to send reminders of event times, trip details, Parents' Evenings and other announcements.

## Carterton Community Champions

It's been an incredibly busy and wonderfully productive few months for this year's intake of Carterton Community Champions, which have included two encounters with the Prime Minister and two major fundraising events resulting in an amazing total being raised for charity!

## Carterton's Christmas Lights

The Champions' first public duty was at the switching-on of Carterton's Christmas lights at the end of November, when they were asked by the Town Mayor, Cllr Mrs Lynn Little, to work alongside her, helping out at stalls during the evening. Whilst the Winter Lights Procession was making its way from the College, the Champions were in attendance at the Town Hall when the Rt Hon David Cameron MP officially opened Carterton's new Market Square and later helped switch on the Christmas Lights. After unveiling a plaque outside the Town Hall, the Prime Minister spoke to several of the Champions who were fortunate enough to be at the front of the crowd. As a reward for their exemplary behaviour and commitment on a cold winter's evening, the students were later invited to attend the Mayor's Christmas Party at the end of term.



## Jeans Up Friday

Public engagements are only part of what the Community Champions are about and the newly-elected President of the Community Champions, Year 10 student Ciara McAleese, decided not to let the grass grow under her feet when it came to raising money for good causes. With the help of her fellow Champions, she was determined to involve the whole community in two fundraising events to support two charities that have a significant local impact, the RAF Benevolent Fund, which supports Air Force families like those at RAF Brize Norton, and 2267 Squadron Brize Norton Air Cadets, of which a number of students are members.

Jeans Up Friday on 6th February was the first of these ambitious ventures where the mission was to get the whole of Carterton wearing jeans for the day by involving the College, the primary schools and local businesses. Special thanks to the Oxford Print Centre who not only provided the eye-catching design on the publicity posters for this day of denim but also contributed to half the printing costs. Thanks also go to the Rotary Club of Witney who paid for the other half of the printing fees.

The enthusiastic Champions' publicity team worked hard to raise awareness of Jeans Up Friday across Oxfordshire. They leafleted shops in town, there was an article in the Oxford Mail previewing the event and, on the day itself, BBC Radio Oxford sent their roving reporter, Lilley Mitchell, to the College to find out more and dedicated four live slots on the Phil Gayle breakfast show to coverage of the day. Interviewees on the morning included Ciara McAleese, Josh Scarisbrick, Dr Cleary,



Students worked with artist Emily Cooling as part of Carterton's Lantern Procession and produced a stunning group of gigantic lanterns. The four sculptures – one for each of the school houses – took pride of place and led a procession of over 400 people through Carterton on the evening of 28th November. The four were judged and the winner was the deer – created by Griffin house. Congratulations to everyone who took part and huge thanks to the school for acting as our host on the evening of the procession.

**Heather McCulloch**  
Arts and Leisure Development Manager  
West Oxfordshire District Council

Mayor Lynn Little, Neil Morrison (Rotary Club of Witney), Damian Booth (Executive Headteacher), Fiona Yates (Regional Co-ordinator, RAF Benevolent Fund) and air cadets.

Bethen Abraham and Katie Vassallo, who made an extra early start and did a fantastic job. A special mention must go to Mr Booth, who even wore his jeans just to be on the radio.

The busy start to the day was matched by an exciting end as the publicity drive had reached from West Oxfordshire to Westminster. Ciara, in her role as President, had managed to secure an early evening meeting with the Prime Minister at his constituency office in Witney in order to gain his support for Jeans Up Friday. Ciara was joined by Community Champions representatives Josh Scarisbrick (Year 8) and Owen Chadwick (Year 7) along with Damian Booth, Neil Morrison and Dr Cleary to meet David Cameron and tell him all about a very successful community event that had raised a magnificent total of £500 at the College and hundreds of pounds at the primary schools. The Prime Minister took time to find out what the Community Champions had been doing, congratulated the club on its accomplishments and even posed for photographs, which included a second outing for Mr Booth's jeans, this time as a prop for one of the photos. Well done to everyone involved!



## Primary Community Song

Jeans Up Friday was only part one of the Champions' fundraising targets and probably the most elaborate event was part two, the Primary Community Song held a week later at the College.

This innovative concert was designed to allow the primary schools of Carterton to play a central role in a major community event. Each primary school was invited to put together a choir and produce an individual showcase to perform in front of the other choirs. Alongside rehearsals for their specific showcase, the choirs also learnt the same song to sing together, symbolising the partnership of the Carterton schools. The song chosen for this grand finale was the Motown classic "Ain't No Mountain High Enough".

Representatives from the Community Champions attended after-school rehearsals with most of the choirs to check on progress and introduce dance moves for the joint song; however, they were only going to know if this would work on the actual day of the concert. Their plan was to raise money through donations, selling refreshments and by running a tombola. Huge thanks to teachers, parents, students and local businesses who were extremely generous in donating prizes for the tombola.

The choirs came together on Thursday 12th February in the College Sports Hall. Again, the event was publicised by BBC Radio Oxford who interviewed the Executive Headteacher, Damian Booth, over the phone during the final rehearsal. The audience consisted of parents, teachers and distinguished

guests including Mayor Lynn Little and representatives from the RAF Benevolent Fund, who eagerly awaited the start of the Primary Community Song, which was even better than anticipated: all the choirs were amazing, the tombola was a winner, more money was raised for the charities and the grand finale of "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" lifted the spirits of everyone lucky enough to be there!

Congratulations to the choirs and teachers of St. John the Evangelist C of E Primary School, Gateway Primary School, Edith Moorhouse Primary School, St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School and Carterton Primary School who worked so hard to make this concert such a triumph.

The outstanding success of Jeans Up Friday and the Primary Community Song in raising £1811.90 to share between the RAF Benevolent and 2267 Squadron Brize Norton Air Cadets would not have been possible without the exceptional energy, enthusiasm and dedication of Ciara McAleese and the Carterton Community Champions Team especially Year 8 students Kieran Eaton, Johanna Fagaragan, Shannon Lappage, Bradley Langley, Josh Scarisbrick, Jade Spector and Daniel Sousa and Year 7 students Owen Chadwick, Kunashe Chimbeva, Toby Daniels, Alex Edwards, Madan Gharti, Katie Gough, Tash Granville, Ellie Hawken and Sophie Masters. Congratulations and keep up the good work!

**We raised a total of £1811.90 in Jeans up Friday and Primary Community Song – Well Done!**

**Dr R Cleary**



## Head of School's Update

I cannot believe it's March already. It is 14 months since Mr McWilliams has gone and 6 months since Mr Booth has joined us and the transition could not have gone any more smoothly.

The high standards that have been set over previous years are continuing and results for Year 11 students in the summer could be our best yet in our 40 year history.

We are being visited again by the inspection team from Challenge Partners that judged us 'Outstanding' in a number of categories last June. We are hoping that their thorough inspection of all areas of the school will demonstrate continual improvement in pursuit of the highest standards.

50 of our Year 11 students have been identified for additional mentoring by the Extended Leadership Team which coincides with applications to our new Post-16 Education. Post-16 will have a curriculum of 14 subjects, well above the suggested number twelve months ago.

We have the highest expectations of all Year 11 students about to embark on a very stressful but important time in their lives and we wish them all the very best. We believe that the attitude of our Year 11 students and the hard work needed in and out of school will be reflected in August 2015.

**Mr I Bilton, Head of School**

## Local Art Exhibition

A selection of pupils' work was shown at the recent Carterton Lions Annual Art Exhibition, which was held in the Carterton Community Centre over the February half term. The students' work was on display alongside the impressive work of local artists. The judges must have had a difficult time choosing the winners from all the exciting exhibits from a collection of local schools.

The winner in Key Stage 3 was Tash Granville who is in Year 7, for her biro drawing of a fish. KS3 runner-up was Maisie King, also Year 7, with her pen drawing of a zebra. Key Stage 4 winner was Year 9's Bethany Saville for her felt tip pen drawing of an eye. Runner up for KS4 was Sophie Newport from Year 10, for her stencil self portrait using mixed media. Highly commended was Maia Brodie from Year 9, for her pencil study of a dog, and Ellie Hutchinson from Year 10, for her pen and pencil portrait.

Well done to all those whose work was selected for the exhibition! Again, we extend our grateful thanks to the Carterton Lions, who have supported us for many years, donating new frames and exhibition stands. Their assistance has been invaluable.

**Mr A Masih, Head of Art Department**



Bethany Saville,  
Year 9 Winner

Tash Granville,  
Year 7 Winner

Keep in contact with School Commus

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## Phoenix House

It has been a busy few weeks for Phoenix House! Having finished bottom of the House Cup in Terms 1 and 2, we have made a concerted effort to ensure that this fate does not happen to us again. Tutors have been pushing punctuality and uniform and we are currently ahead of Pegasus, Wyvern and Griffin in the house point stakes as we go to print. This term has been a good one as regards to boys' sport, with our football teams, in particular, winning a number of the inter house competitions. Thanks must go to Aidan Chester and Chloe Kelly (Sports Captains) for ensuring such a good turnout and to all who took part.

The focus for next term will be charity and giving of our time to others. The aim is to raise money for a local charity and to look at ways of improving our school environment. If we treat our school environment and ourselves and others with respect, then together we can achieve more. During tutor time we will be focussing on the meaning of the word respect and developing ways of raising money for charity.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all Phoenix Year 11s the best of luck as they enter the hectic exam season and to congratulate Mrs Whitmore-Gill on the birth of her son, Hari.

**Miss K Swift, Head of Phoenix House**

## Wyvern House

At the end of term we had a competition to see which Wyvern tutor group could make the most interesting Christmas tree. Tutor groups were busy in the weeks leading up to the competition with crepe paper and cardboard everywhere. Mrs Tout and Mrs Champion were the judges. After much deliberation they chose Wyvern 2 as the winners.

Wyvern also won the cup for the most house points at the end of term 2.

We were able to support our local charity with another delivery to the food bank.

On the subject of delivery, we have also had some exciting news. Mrs Ross-McCue has had a baby boy named Cameron. Dr Cleary is taking some time off as she is expecting a new arrival very soon. We wish them all the best.

Wyvern would like to welcome Miss Davies to the team.

**Mrs H Lawrence, Head of Wyvern**

## Griffin House

I would like to give all of GRIFFIN House and your tutor team a huge thank you for welcoming me as their new Head of House and supporting me by being brilliant last term. I have enjoyed getting to know lots of you more and hope to get to know more of you better this term!

Griffin tutor groups are looking forward to bringing the school some more exciting charity events as they did such a brilliant job last year raising lots of money for our House charity, the JR hospital school.

On this note, I would also like to congratulate Ciara McAleese on her fantastic efforts organising the Community Champions events, 'Jeans up Friday' and the Community Song. She got to meet the Prime Minister, David Cameron,

and raised a huge amount of money for charity. You are a credit to Griffin House and I am very proud!!

I would also like to send huge congratulations to Mrs. Watkin on the birth of the beautiful Mary Grace Watkin. It was lovely for many of us to see them both on their visit to school. Everyone in Griffin looks forward to seeing you again really soon!!

Finally a reminder to all Year 11s to attend Easter school...if you attend 18/24 sessions there will be free paintballing on the last Saturday of the holidays!!

**Mrs T Evans, Head of Griffin House and Ciara Jones, House Captain**

P.S. Good luck to all year in this term inter house!!!!!!

## Pegasus House

For all of you who attended the lantern procession this year, I am sure you will agree that the lanterns really were spectacular, and I would like to say a really big well done to all the students who took part, in particular to Dylan Cheedy, Callie Masters, Lizzie Hubbard, Matyas Orsovszki and Johanna Fagaragan.

It has been a busy year, but we have made time to continue with our house challenges, including our Nativity challenge, where tutor groups were asked to create a nativity video condensed into two minutes. The results were fantastic (even if the technology let us down) and I was really pleased to see that eventual winners, Pegasus 3, had made such a good effort. The whole tutor group took part in a piece which was (strangely) punctuated with pop songs for emphasis. The best reindeer competition was a close fight with some innovative efforts coming from a number of tutor groups. This was won by Pegasus 4 with their Christmas wrapped reindeer and well done to Emily and Eva for their efforts. We also tried the human sculpture competition in which tutor groups were given 5 minutes to recreate a

famous landmark using just their bodies. Mr Dorey and Mrs Carter judged, and even managed to guess what each of the landmarks was without any prompting or clues and congratulations to Pegasus 1 for their interpretation of the Eiffel Tower. The enterprise challenge is ongoing, but well done to Pegasus 2 and in particular to Jade Spector, Grace Stevenson, Ellie Griffiths and Aimee Quinn for their Christmas stockings which made over £85.

The Year 11s are working hard, and I would like to wish them all good luck with their upcoming exams!

And finally we would just like to highlight some of the real positives that come from vertical tutoring with a photograph of Amy Ferguson teaching Kacie Brain during tutor times. It is a heart warming sight and long may this kind of thing keep happening.

**Miss G Storrrie, Head of Pegasus**



## Culham Centre for Fusion Energy



On 4th February four students from this school went to CCFE (Culham Centre for Fusion Energy). Nuclear fusion, the process that powers the Sun, can play a big part in our carbon-free energy future. Culham is one of the world's leading fusion research laboratories. Their scientists and engineers are working with partners around the globe to develop fusion as a new source of clean energy for tomorrow's power stations.

Our first task when we arrived at CCFE was to go round eight stands which showed off technology within JET. Then we were given a tour of the JET. It was a very long walk from the starting room to JET; there is over half a mile of corridors and

walkways in the facility itself. The Joint European Torus (JET) is the world's largest and most powerful fusion reactor and the main point of the European fusion research programme. Since it began operating in 1983, JET has made major advances in the science and engineering of fusion, increasing confidence in the suitability of fusion reactor for future power production.

We all had a great time and we learnt loads from it and we all would love to go again. I definitely recommend it to anyone who loves science or who is looking at a career in fusion or futuristic technology

**Mr R Dorey, D&T**

## The Music Department has had an exciting term

Year 7 have been delving into the history of the Blues whilst learning how to improvise and play the 12 Bar Blues.

Year 8 have been learning how to compose their own melodies and learning about the Waltz.

Year 9 have been learning about Minimalism and exploring the different ways in which Minimalist composers create new ideas from short patterns.

Year 10 and 11 are continuing their analysis of their Set Works for their exam and developing their performance and composition skills.

The Music Department would like to thank the students who performed in the Christmas concert and also in the Lantern Parade and the end of term assembly. The quality of the performances was excellent and it was great to see so many people getting involved.

The Year 7 and Senior Choir have been practising hard to learn some new songs for our upcoming concert in April and performed very well in the anti-bullying talent show.

Many students enjoyed a trip to Birmingham Symphony Hall in January as we went to see the world famous City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra perform a wide range of pieces. The concert was attended by many schools and was a fantastic opportunity for our students to see what an orchestra can really do!

**Miss S Collins**

## City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Concert Reviews

This performance by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra was, in a word, flawless. Despite never having seen an orchestra perform, I know they aren't always that good.

The CBSO orchestra found their perfect match in the Symphony Hall. Sounds ricocheted off the walls, amplifying the sounds. We had a prime position, right at the front- so close we could see the players' concentrated faces.

Blowing, tapping and bowing with precise pitch, tempo and dynamics, the players were the stars of the show. It was an incredible performance; the musicians gave a breath-taking concert on more instruments than I can name.

However, an orchestra can only be successful if they play the right music. CBSO definitely did. Nimbus 2000, Happy and Jupiter, songs and symphonies and theme music, a huge variety of

old and new.

My personal favourite was 'Montagues and Capulets' from the ballet version of Romeo and Juliet. I really understood what was going on even without words or pictures.

In conclusion I think that this was a perfect performance by an incredible group of people.

**By Morgan Bartholomew 7KS**

As soon as I entered the Symphony Hall, I felt the excitement build up in the room. The presenter, Alasdair Molloy, kept us entertained between each piece and gave us the history of each of the pieces. Additionally, the orchestra was brilliant. Every little sound made a big difference to the piece. My favourite piece was Happy by Pharrell Williams, arranged for the percussion section of the orchestra.

**By Jade Spector, Year 8 Pegasus**

## Defibrillator for Carterton Community College

This month, the Arrhythmia Alliance has delivered a defibrillator to Carterton Community College. We were able to secure this defib after showing the Arrhythmia Alliance that we are a school that support and understand the importance of defibs in Schools.

During PSHE lessons we deliver Junior Medic courses to our students and they all get qualified as Level 1 First Aid. They are all given a certificate as confirmation of the course they have undertaken during their PSHE class. Feedback from parents and students alike is always positive, students particularly enjoying their new life skills that they have learnt.

Students have been educated in the importance of keeping themselves fit and healthy, eating the correct foods and doing regular exercise. In turn they understand this will keep your heart healthy and functioning well.

There will be charity events coming up over the next few months to support the Arrhythmia Alliance and The British Heart Foundation and we would like the school to get involved in supporting these organisations.

In the next few weeks, teachers and support staff will be trained up to use the defib and we have contacted the local South West Ambulance Service to instruct them that we now have the use of a defib and if in an emergency, the local community feel they may need to use one, it will be available from 8.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday.

**Mrs P Moore, SSD**



## “Have Your Say Day” Second for CCC!

This event takes place every year. It's organised by the Local Council and the Police. All West Oxfordshire Secondary Schools take part.

Students are given £30,000 (imaginary!) and they have to come up with a Community Project which they present to Councillors, Police, other community dignitaries plus all the other schools. It really is a big event.

This year we came SECOND!! So, congratulations to Harry Brown, Johanna Fagaragan, Daniel Thomas, Liam Carter, Joe Delaney, Will Marshall, Ben Murphy, Hope Bee, Rosie Kelly and Charlie Miller.



**Mrs M Norgrove, SSD**

## Developing Social Skills Group

Following the successful completion of an eight week programme, the graduates of the Developing Social Skills Group were presented with their certificates by Mr Booth. Over the course of the eight weeks various skills were learnt including listening and conversation skills and an increased awareness of the feelings of others. We were then lucky enough to have a group from Adventure + running a team building activity session with the graduates and a great time was had by all!!

**Mr N Cross and Mrs T Roszczyk**



## Raising Money for Prom

As you may know our Year 11 summer ball is upcoming in June so Chloe and I began to think of some ideas about how we could raise some money. Following from last year, we decided to do a nail painting session for Year 7 and 8. So with help from our friends we set up a date and collected our nail polishes and we were very grateful that Miss Lawrence also brought in some nail polish too. We made some cookies and cakes with help from Angeli and Sasha to sell at the pamper session. Some Year 11s came along to help paint nails and it was great fun. All the girls really enjoyed getting their nails painted and having some pamper time. We raised some money that will go towards our

summer ball; we would love to do it again.

Another fundraising activity we did was to create small parcels for Valentine's Day 'Love Parcels'. Chloe and I decided we would fill these with some heart-themed treats and a note from your admirer (or friend). We had an enjoyable time making and delivering these parcels on the last day of term. Thanks to everyone who helped and we look forward to raising some more money with your help.

**Ellie Rose, Year 11**

## Btec- Learning for Life Team Assignment Falling down but no falling out!



Out of discussion amongst our Btec groups, came an idea to begin our team assignment with a visit. The visit was to go Oxford ice rink. Some were delighted, some were excited whilst some were really nervous!

We worked as a team to help organise the visit. Discussions included: costings, dates, transport and suitable clothing etc. All preparations went well, but before we could visit Oxford ice rink in Oxpens Road one group had to give a presentation to Mr Booth. Presenting in 'Dragons Den style' the group had to pitch to explain why our visit was important. The pitch was successful!

January 19th was our visit day and what an amazing day it turned out to be. The range of skills and standards

varied from absolute beginner to impressive. Everybody gave their best trying as hard as they felt they could given that the ice was so, so slippery and so, so cold when you ended up sitting on it not skating on it!

A really big thank you to Mr Hemsworth, Mrs Sullivan and Mrs Wall.

Also a big thank you to Daniel Dyckes and Abbi Winterbourne for having their birthdays on that date -it resulted in snowflakes and music to celebrate!

**Mrs J Wall & Btec Team Assignment groups**

## From the Art Room to the BBC Success for Ex-Art Student

Recently, we in the Art Department had a visit from Becky Box, who had agreed to show her portfolio to students in Year 10.

It was amazing for me to see this student I had taught 6-7 years ago sat in the same room amongst the same age students as she was at the time, and just confidently share her story from CCC to where she is today.

Becky left CCC with a distinction\* in Level 2 Btec and went onto Oxford and Cherwell Valley College to study Fashion and Clothing at Level 3 Btec. She excelled here too and I was privileged enough to be invited to a number of her course fashion shows and art exhibitions. She also left here with a distinction level.

Becky was accepted at the Arts University in Bournemouth. Again, with her constant hard work and positive attitude, she left with BA Honours in Costume with Performance Design.

She worked alongside Drama, English, Photography students to create incredible theatre and performances where her input in costume design was outstanding.

She currently is Senior Costume Manager for BBC's period drama Father Brown (look out for her in the credits). Her journey was incredible for the students studying Btec to hear, and it was very timely as we have only this year returned Btec to its place on our Key Stage 4 curriculum after a 2 year absence.

It has always been designed as a vocational qualification and it is really amazing to see the seeds sown at CCC and how this student has blossomed into a successful member of the Creative Industries. I thank her and her family for their effort and support through all the craziness of the Btec all those years ago. It has definitely paid off. I wish that her career goes from strength to strength; she even worked in Downton Abbey!!!

Our current students have taken so much from her visit and it is really invaluable for them to hear there is light at the end of the tunnel to succeed on the path to Art careers, so always work hard and follow your dreams.

**Mr A Masih**



# English Department - Readathon!

Read to help seriously ill children! Week commencing 2nd March 2015

The English Department and Library at Carterton Community College are taking part in Readathon and World Book Day.

Readathon is the UK's national sponsored reading event, encouraging children to read for pleasure, while raising money for seriously ill children. Reading for pure enjoyment is known to improve a child's chances in life in all kinds of ways.

Readathon supports three children's charities: ReadWell, which provides books and storytelling to children in hospital; Clic Sargent, giving support to children and young people with cancer; and Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity, which helps seriously ill and disabled children.

There will be lots of events over the week to raise money and promote a love of reading across the school. Students will also have the opportunity to take part in a sponsored read. All they have to do is collect a sponsor card from Miss Arnold and start reading! Readathon is about reading for pleasure; it is not assessed. Sponsors can choose how they sponsor the child, whether it is per word, page, book or a total amount for a completed challenge is entirely up to the sponsor. The important thing is to have fun while doing something that benefits you and someone else.

Miss H Arnold & Mrs R Whitmore, English Department



## SPAGHETTI News

The big SPAGHETTI challenge programme continues to motivate students and raise the awareness of the importance of literacy across the curriculum, whilst engaging them in activities that challenge and develop their own literacy skills. This term students have been involved in exciting activities, creative writing and even a chance to show off their art skills!

The beginning of the term saw the introduction of SPAG activity boxes. These boxes consist of a range of reading books for all abilities, the popular 'Words with Friends' board game and an activity card with a range of interactive, impromptu SPAG games. The aim of the SPAG activity box is to have an easily accessible range of literacy activities in all classrooms that students can access. Tutors and students have reacted positively to the boxes, with Mrs Bilton even creating a reading corner around the SPAG box to enrich students' learning in Technology.

### Competition Crazy!

Students in all forms were tasked with the statement 'If Only' this term and

were given a range of prompts to write about. Mr Snook received some fantastic, creative responses from 'If only I won the lottery' to 'If only I had a time machine'. Well done to everyone who entered, they made fantastic reading and will form part of a new display celebrating all things SPAG. There were four overall winners: Natasha Granville (7PN), Madan Gharti (7MS) Keri-Marie Latimer (Pegasus 1) and Julia Evans (Griffin 5) - CONGRATULATIONS!

In addition to the creative writing competition, students were asked to design a bright and colourful poster explaining the acronym of SPAGHETTI, which is:

**Spelling Punctuation And Grammar Help Everyone Triumph, Try It**

Mr Snook had a tough job judging so enlisted the help of Mr Booth to decide overall winners, who were Chloe Edmonds and Ella Staddon in Pegasus 1 and Conor Wright in Phoenix 4. Posters are now being displayed around the

school - well done and thank you to all who took part.

As ever with the big SPAGHETTI challenge, the emphasis is always on raising and continuing to develop the literacy levels in order for our students to be successful both in and outside of school. Thank you to all staff and students who consistently work hard on this.

### Why Literacy matters

Recent research published last year (2014) revealed some thought-provoking statistics:

- **One in six people** in the UK struggle with literacy. This means their literacy level is below the level expected for an **eleven year old**
- **Seven million** adults in the UK cannot locate the page reference number for plumbers in a telephone directory
- **One in sixteen** adults cannot identify a concert venue on a poster that contains the name of the band, price, date, time and venue
- One study shows that age 16, **one in twelve children** have a 'working vocabulary' of 800 words

This is why the big SPAGHETTI challenge is so valued by staff and students alike at CCC.

### Stuck on Spelling?

Try downloading these fantastically fun and addictive apps but shhh... they may actually be too cool to share:

- Scramble
- Spell Mania
- A+ Spelling Test
- Wuzzle
- All Words Up

Alternatively, type 'spelling games' into the App Store on your device to find even more.

Mr M Snook, School Literacy Coordinator



## Poems - Year 7

### A Boy in Care by Lara Jones

A boy given away,  
Nobody cared,  
Left in a care home,  
Fearful and scared.

With children surrounding him,  
Running around,  
Filled with trouble,  
Screaming but not making a sound.

Overflowing with anger,  
Running through his veins,  
Couldn't calm down,  
Felt like he was tied in chains.

Never having a mother,  
Was his greatest fear,  
What he didn't know,  
She was extremely near.

### The Lost Souls by Louise Stedman

The not knowing,  
The listless waiting,  
The lifeless silence,  
It goes on and on.

Then the waiting halts...  
Another lost soul;

The world freezes as the news  
is murmured from ear to ear,  
A moment that hangs in the stars,  
A heart shattered like glass  
smashing into infinite little  
pieces.

A soul that cannot escape the  
pain that is everlasting  
It will never cease,  
It will never ease,  
It will only last for eternity.

The words that she whispered...  
Goodbye my lost soul.

## Great Elf Game



In December the Mathematics Department hosted an evening of The Great Elf Game for Year 7s and their families. For the past two years, many of our students have enjoyed competing against one another in The Great Elf Game during their lessons running up to Christmas; its popularity led to us hosting our

first ever evening of the game. The game is one of risk and chance involving sending out a workforce of elves every day to cut down Christmas trees for you to sell for a profit, with some complications along the way of course! The evening was a huge success, with some great prizes, Santa (aka Mr Slater), refreshments and lots of positive feedback from parents and students, many of whom asked for a copy of the game to play at home over Christmas! It was really fantastic to see parents and students doing maths together. We hope to make this evening of The Great Elf Game a yearly tradition. Here's to more Christmas trees, elf flu, blizzards and elf lottery winnings!

Miss H West & Mr K Slater, Maths Department



## A Hair Raising Experience!

At the beginning of February some of our Year 9 students attended a Physics Day held at Oxford University.

The aim of the day was to learn about electrostatics through a variety of hands-on experiments including making a salad bowl particle accelerator!

As you can see our students had a fun filled day working alongside experts to enhance their knowledge within this field of physics. Well done Year 9 Team Physics!

Mrs C Lewis, Science Department



## Football League

### Year 10 Football Team

The Year 10 football team have had an excellent start to the league, winning their first 3 league games, which puts them at the top of the league. A huge thank you goes to team manager Mr Vic Moore, for working with the boys to get the best out of them. There have been some excellent individual performances, most noticeably from Jake Kelly and Aidan Chester, and with the right attitude the team can hopefully go on to win the league.

### Results

Carterton 1 v Henry Box 0  
Carterton 2 v Marlborough 1  
Carterton 2 v Burford 1



Picture from left to right. Back Row: Mr Vic Moore (Team Manager) George Meyer, Danny Murphy, Jay Hughes, Jake Kelly, Aidan Chester, Will Newcombe, Sam Newcombe and (Head Lines Man) Hayden Seager. Front Row: Danny Allsworth, Ryan Wilson, Charlie Miller, Travis Cozier and Mehmet Sekmen.

### Year 9 Football Team

The boys have worked hard in every game but unfortunately results have gone against us. I am sure they will continue to do their best and finish as high up the league as possible. There has been one outstanding player for the Year 9 team, Jack Bellenger, who has scored 6 goals in 2 games

### Results

Carterton 1 v Henry Box 9  
Carterton 5 v Marlborough 8  
Carterton 1 v Burford 1



Picture from left to right. Back Row: Joe Justin, Jake Bee, Lee Yates Jordan Finnemore, Ben Stephens, Dom Gaffney, Michael Thomas, Andy Thomson, Jake Goodrum, Arman Rahman. Front Row: Callum Nicholson, Jack Bellenger, Callum Skrine, Noven Labor and Liam Felstead.

Mr G Lloyd, PE

## County Schools Cross Country at Radley College



Boys pictured outside Radley College after their victorious win in the team event.



From left to right Alistair Piper, Jordan Clack, Jordan Strode-Grubb and Ben Daniels.

### U17 Winning Team

Alistair Piper, Jordan Clack, Jordan Strode-Grubb and Ben Daniels took part in the County Cross Country event in Radley College, Abingdon on Tuesday 10th February. The distance was 5.3km over difficult terrain. There were over 100 boys in the race which started with a frantic pace. Our first team member home was Alistair coming in 8th followed by Jordan Clack 12th then Jordan S-G 15th and Ben Daniels 25th.

The first two home for us have now, as a result of doing so well, been selected to represent Oxfordshire Schools in the English Schools' Championship to be held in Blackburn on 14th March 2015.

Mr G Lloyd, PE



Joanna Sancio, Yr 10 Self Portrait, Pencil

Harry Moody, Yr 10 Nourished, Pencil

## West Oxfordshire Sportshall Athletics



Carterton Community College hosted the annual level 2 school games competition for West Oxfordshire. Over 140 athletes took part from Year 7 & 8 from across the district in a range of track and field events.

Our Year 10 sports leaders officiated at the event and did an excellent job. We had some brilliant individual performances from James Piner, Jacob Brownrigg, Sam Watson, Molly Bishop, Natasha Granville, Rosie Kelly and Chloe Hills.

## Carterton welcomed just under 200 Year 3 children from the feeder primary schools for the annual multi skills festival.

This year we have 25 Year 10 students who are involved in the sports leader programme. They had to plan, deliver and evaluate their leadership skills working with groups of 18 children in delivering an agility, balance or co-ordination activity. The leaders had a fantastic afternoon and were able to show their leadership skills and their ability to control and engage with a group of children.



## Carterton Community College App



Our mobile App is now live on both Apple and Google Play Stores; you can stay in touch with our Events, News and receive free push notifications from us!

To download scan with a QR reader or visit the Apple or Google App Stores.

Apple Store



Google Play Store

## West Oxfordshire Secondary Swimming Gala

Carterton entered the West Oxfordshire School Games Secondary Swimming Gala with teams from U12 girls and boys and U14 girls and boys. The best team performance was from the U14 girls' team which consisted of Chloe Morris, Callie Masters, Nicola Walecki and Charlie Noble. The best individual performance was from Will Morris who won his backstroke with a new record of 19.18 seconds. Well done to all those who took part.

Miss R Mills

## ACCELERATED READER

All students in Year 7 are participating in the Accelerated Reader programme in their English library lessons, taking online quizzes based on the books they are reading. We have just completed our mid-year Accelerated Reader awards presentations and would like to congratulate the following students, all of whom received certificates in one or more of three categories (most words read; most quizzes passed; most quiz points scored).

James Partlett  
Joseph Dixon  
Morgan Bartholomew  
Owen Chadwick  
Louise Stedman  
Charlie Sampson  
Joshua Carter  
Ewa Tomiczek

Lauren Chappell  
Thomas Shaw  
Connor Milligan  
Megan Pritchard  
Matthew Rockett  
Rachel Howard  
Amye Sullivan

And a special well done to James Partlett, who became our first 'word millionaire'. At the time of the awards James had read 1,182,332 words. It's probably much more by now! We're expecting more millionaires by the end of the year...

There will be another round of Accelerated Reader awards in July so it would be great to see more names on the winners' lists.

**Ms R Stables and Mr M Snook**

## AUTHOR JOE CRAIG VISITS CCC!

On Wednesday 25th February we delighted to have a visit from author Joe Craig, who gave a talk to the whole of our Year 7 group, followed by a book signing in the library.

In a high energy and hugely entertaining event, Joe spoke about his 'Jimmy Coates' series of books and about how he became a writer. He also shared with students three key elements of a good fiction book, taking suggestions from the audience which he then built into three possible openings for a new story. There was lots of student participation, with two highlights being Morgan Dowsett winning a book prize for his contribution and Owen Chadwick challenging Joe to peel a kiwi fruit - which he did (having claimed on his website that it's one of his best talents!).

We loved meeting Joe. Here are some comments from the students involved:

'He was really funny.'  
'I hurt myself because I was laughing so much.'  
'It was really enjoyable and he made it quite exciting.'  
'He made story writing sound fun.'  
'It was an amazing first experience of meeting an author.'

A massive thank you to Sara Hall from the Madhatter bookshop in Burford who came to the Joe's talk and organised the book sales. Thank you also to all the staff who supported the event and to the Year 9 students (Wiktorija Drzewucka, Sam Williams and Joe McBride) who helped on the day.



## OXFORDSHIRE BOOK AWARD



Last term a group of our students went to the award event at Abingdon School for the Oxfordshire Book Awards 2014. They had a great afternoon, listening to author Andy Mulligan talking about his book

'The Boy With Two Heads', meeting other authors, having books signed - and eating OBA cake!

Students from various year groups are now reading the Secondary shortlisted books for the 2015 award, at the same time as readers from Gateway School are also choosing their favourites from the Junior and Picture Book shortlists. Winners will be announced in late March.

## STAN LEE EXCELSIOR AWARD



Once again we are taking part in the judging for the Stan Lee Excelsior Award, the only UK book award for graphic novels.

Students from various years (Anthony Johnson, Asti Harley, Abbie Simms, Joe McBride, Joshua Carter, Madan Gharti, Alex Clarke and Michael Orsovski) are reading through the shortlisted books and completing ratings forms which will then be sent off to the award organiser. He will collate all the forms from the schools which take part and the winner will be announced later in the year.

Graphic novels and manga are really popular in our library. We have added new ones to the stock recently and hope to keep extending the range - although it's impossible to keep up with student demand!

## WORLD BOOK DAY

At the time of writing, we are in the midst of celebrations to mark World Book Day 2015 (Thursday 5th March). Various events, activities and competitions taking place - more on these in the next Newsletter...

All students receive £1 World Book Day tokens, valid from 2nd-29th March. These can be put towards a book purchase in a bookshop or can be directly exchanged for one of the special WBD £1 books. Here are some of the ones on offer:



## BOOKBUZZ

Last term our Year 7 students chose a free book as part of the national Bookbuzz scheme. In December they received their books and were able to meet ex-student and national 'Literacy Hero' Jodie Evans, who came back into school to talk about how she overcame some of the challenges of dyslexia.



They then went off to read their books and to think about taking part in our Bookbuzz competition to produce a creative response to the book they'd chosen. We had almost 40 entries for the competition. Here are the results!

### Joint winners

Nicole Edmonds (decorated hat based on 'Geek Girl')  
Matyas Orsovski (model of Michael, the main character in 'Whale Boy' being rescued by Freedom the whale)

### Second place

Hayden Lacey (model of WW1 battlefield, based on 'Stories from the First World War')

### Third place

Morgan Bartholomew (Ruby's code book, from 'Ruby Redfort - Look into my Eyes')

### Highly commended

Izzy Aikman (book review and box of items based on 'Ruby Redfort')  
Owen Chadwick (lego character from 'Wild Boy')  
Ellie Hawken ('Ruby Redfort' code chart)  
Lara Jones (new cover design for 'A Boy Called Hope')  
Ellen May (cake based on 'Geek Girl')  
James Piner (book review and poem based on 'The Great Ice-Cream Heist')  
Mackenzie Pritchard (box of items based on 'Ghost Stadium')  
Jennifer Walker (cup cakes based on 'Geek Girl')



Well done to all who entered. The entries were judged by a small group of Year 10 students (including two previous competition winners) who were impressed by the variety and quality of responses this year. Many thanks go to the Madhatter bookshop in Burford who provided us with book token prizes for the joint winners.

## NEW CAREERS BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

Many thanks to Maggie Nason, our Careers Adviser, who has donated five new careers books to the library from a Blackwells / Oxford Brookes University prize.



We are very grateful to Maggie for the new stock which will add to our developing range of careers-related books. If you want some to know about writing a cv, about what specific jobs involve, about what job would suit you if you like Maths, English, ICT, Science and more, or about some of the 'coolest jobs on the planet' pop into the library and have a look.

## JOE HITS 100!



Congratulations to Joe McBride in Year 9 who was promoted to Library Assistant team leader earlier this year and has now completed 100 library duty sessions and has received his badge, certificate and prize, presented by his Head of House. And well done also to team leader Sasha Harley who has now completed 125 sessions. Their help is invaluable.

## CCC library is active on Twitter!

Follow us for news, comment, photos, competitions, book recommendations and more...

@cartertoncc\_lib

And lots of authors are also on Twitter - check out and follow your favourites!



**Ms R Stables**



Julia Evans, Yr 9 Blue Gorilla, Oil Pastel



Georgia Morris, Yr 9 Tiger Tonal study, Pencil



## Sixth Form Open Evening

The first Carterton Community College Sixth Form Open Evening, held on Thursday 15th January, was an opportunity for students and parents to see what we are offering for September 2015 and ask all those important questions.

The evening started in the William Carter Centre, the Sixth Form home from September 2015, with a brief talk from Mr Dorey (Head of Post-16 Education) about the benefits of studying at Carterton Sixth Form. This was followed by an opportunity to talk to subject teachers about the exciting things to learn and do on the different courses available in the sixth form.

It was a very enjoyable evening and great to see so many current Year 11 students, as well as Year 10s, talking about their post-16 options.



Students are at the centre of the Sixth Form at Carterton and they have already helped in the subjects we are offering for next year. Over the next couple of terms the Sixth Form Development Council (SFDC) will be discussing matters like the location and environment of the Sixth Form Study Block from September 2015, the application system/website, and enrichment opportunities, to name but a few. If you are a Sixth Former or Year 11 student and you would like to have your say on the Sixth Form, come to the SFDC every Friday week A at lunch time in the William Carter Centre (light refreshments supplied). From 20th March year 10 students are also welcome.

**Mr R Dorey**



## MARKETING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS (PR)

On 7th January a new governor link appointment was made to measure and monitor how effective management of Marketing and PR is for the three federated schools.

It is generally considered that marketing and PR are best when used together. Therefore it makes sense to integrate this philosophy into the overall marketing and communication plan of PR used by Carterton Community Schools Federation.

Effective PR can help manage reputation by building good relationships with ALL organisation stakeholders.

The result of what you do, what you say and what others think about you makes up our reputation.

At Carterton Schools Federation we are continually determining targets for PR in community.

We are particularly interested in developing links across College/Schools to support our ideas and promote our ideology.

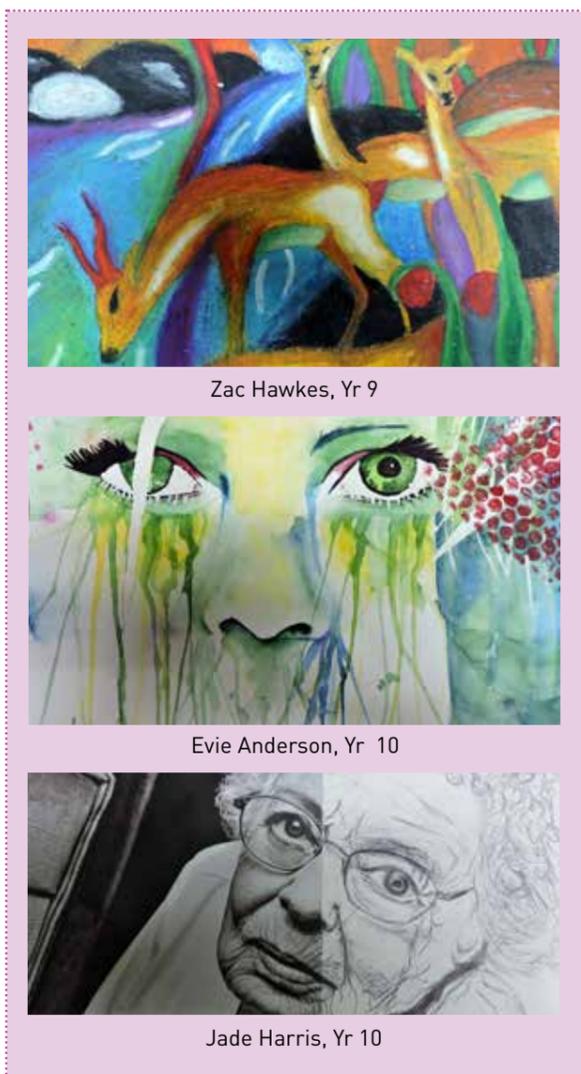
Getting the merger across includes:

Word of mouth through community cohesion events, inviting the right people to the right events, creating harmony with the media (TV, Radio, Press and magazines), using Think Tank (Including students), websites to create impact. As members of CCSF we intend to whet the appetite of the target audience by creating promotional news of such interest that it will 'grab their attention.'

PR at CCSF is intended to use clear and precise methods in order to enhance and promote the Federation to the town and beyond. We hope to create a positive climate in which to 'market the message'.

If you represent a group or as an individual have a positive news story that you would like the college to celebrate, please contact me via the school office email.

**Mr B Edwards, Careers, 6th Form and PR Link Governor**



Zac Hawkes, Yr 9

Evie Anderson, Yr 10

Jade Harris, Yr 10

## School Dining Room

**Open at break and lunch time**

In January the Government introduced new food standards for schools. The new food standards are intended to help children develop healthy eating habits and ensure that they get the energy and nutrition they need across the whole school day. The new regulations help reduce salt, saturated fat and sugar in children's diets.

As important as the standards are, we think it is just as important to cook food that looks good and tastes delicious! Our catering staff will always talk to students about what is on offer and recommend dishes. We aim to serve our food in a pleasant environment where students can eat with their friends.

We have worked hard to provide a wide range of foods across the week. Variety is key – whether it is different fruits, vegetables, grains, pulses or types of meat and fish.

All our new menus follow the new standards and we hope our students will not have noticed the change.

## Art Department

We have had a great start to 2015 in the Art Department – students have been producing a high standard of work, learning new skills and techniques, resulting in creative and expressive pieces of art. We have a small selection of the amazing artwork running throughout this newsletter.

Year 7 students have come to the end of the Animal Project and have impressed us with their use of clay in their individual animal sculptures. They have now moved on to the 'Patterns in Nature' project where they will produce and make their own personal sketchbook and fill it independently and creatively using a variety of techniques and materials.

Year 8 have completed the 'Buildings' project, created detailed sketches and impressive clay tiles inspired by their drawings and the style of Van Gogh. They are now learning how to construct portraits, producing high quality homework, and working on their self-portraits in class. Students will soon be looking at the dark and moody expressive style of the artist Francis Bacon.

Year 9 have worked really hard to get to the end of key stage levels during the Franz Marc Animals, creating stunning tonal animal drawings, and bright colourful final pieces based on the work of Franz Marc using oil pastels. They have moved on to more independent projects, which are set up as mini Art GCSE projects, looking individually at themes such as surrealism and figures in movement. This is a taster and introduction of what to expect in Key Stage 4.

Year 10 GCSE students have started this year well, producing an impressive standard of work, showing real effort and commitment. The portrait coursework has been very successful with all the students. We are looking forward to being blown away by the work in Year 11 and by their continued progress.

The BTEC Level 2 First Award in Art and Design has returned to our curriculum with Year 10. This vocational qualification has begun well, with students looking at the theme of 'Image and Identity' – considering a variety of artistic influences and styles. They are now moving on to an outdoor mural art project working for and alongside the nursery at Carterton Primary School. Our students will be attending meetings and showing

Please see our website for our menus and prices and as always we welcome feedback from students and parents. There are always comment cards available at reception.

Our Taste of Asia day celebrating Chinese New Year was a great success – we are following this with a Taste of Thai. March sees a special street food day celebrating incredible food from different world cultures. In April we will be holding a Great Bake Off with a fabulous new range of cakes and bakes.

**Aspens Young Chef of the Year**

Congratulations to Sophie Stevens and Ciara McAleese who are through to the regional final of the Chef of the Year competition!

**School Gates**

A reminder that our school gates are closed at 08:30 each school day, which is when registration starts. We have ample visitor parking (including disabled spaces) by reception.

**Mr P Almgill, Business Manager**

plans and ideas to the staff and students at the Primary School. They will also have to consider the price of materials and equipment, work to deadlines and with the local community in order to install this outdoor mural and artwork. The artwork will be based on British wildlife and tiny creatures. Hopefully the students will also plan and lead mini art lessons to get the nursery students to produce work to use in the re-vamp of their play areas and outdoor spaces.

Year 10 Photography has really taken off. After initial printer issues, the students' work, ideas and skills are really flourishing. The 'Growth and Decay' project has helped each student to understand the elements of photography and the basic use of the camera and its functions, and now they are quite proficient with digital manipulation of images on the Apple Macs using Photoshop. We are moving onto a 'Portraits' project, which has excited the students who will be considering more conceptual work to explore the themes around creating portraiture through photography.

Year 11 is quickly coming to a close. They recently sat their 10 hour externally set practical exam. They have produced some amazing work – especially after all the hard work put in both in class and at home. Most students attended an Art Workshop in the half term holidays and some will be in the Art 'catch-up' days in the Easter holidays, to work on final improvements to the coursework. We wish them every success in the run-up to their final exams and for all their future endeavours.

The Sixth Form open evening went extremely well and there was keen interest from students who were thinking of taking A level Art in the sixth form here at CCC. The Fine Art course, which will be run by Miss Storrie, is looking good, as are the new OFQUAL changes to the course structures of the new A Levels. I hope in September 2016 to roll out and lead A level Photography to expand our post-16 provision in Art at CCC.

We thank all students and parents for their continued support and effort, which make the department as interesting and successful as it is.

**Mr A Masih, Head of Art**



Emma Treacy, Yr 7 Owl Paint

## Do you have any spare time during the day? Have you considered invigilation?

We are seeking to recruit confident individuals with a mature outlook to help support the supervision of students during exam periods throughout the year. Hours are mutually agreed and can vary in regularity. Full training will be provided. (£8.73 per hour, term time only, casual basis)

For further information and an application form please contact Jackie Mustoe, Exams/Data Manager on 01993 867255 or Helen Hipkins, HR Manager on 01993 867275 at the College.

### Term 4

First day of term 4  
Monday 23rd February

Last day of term 4 (12.10 finish)  
Friday 27th March

### Term 5

First day of term 5  
Monday 13th April

Bank Holiday (school closed)  
Monday 04th May

Last day of term 5  
Friday 22nd May

### Term 6

First day of term 6  
Monday 01st June

Last day of term 6 (12.10 finish)  
Friday 17th July

Inset Day (school closed)  
Monday 20th July



If you have any concerns around your child's health in school and would like to talk to the School Nurse I am available on any of the above between 0900-1500 Mon-Fri.



Following the great news about the school's new defibrillator, we will be holding a fundraising event for the BHF –Inter house -ULTIMATE DODGEBALL! Raising awareness of the importance of keeping active and healthy eating. All years involved - watch out for the Year 11 v teachers ultimate game! Show your support, get involved or just support your favourite team!



Well done to all the Year 9s who recently had their booster immunisations. 90% of you attended. Catch up sessions for the last 10% are on 16<sup>th</sup> March.



CALLING ALL YEAR 11s. FEELING STRESSED ABOUT EXAMS ALREADY? NOT SLEEPING, FEEL TIRED ALL THE TIME? Come to the SHN drop in every Monday lunch time in room 5. Support around keeping healthy, revision techniques and mindfulness, or just to chat.



Do you have Asthma? Does the school know? Do you carry your inhaler with you? Have you had a recent check up with the GP or Asthma nurse?

*"We know that 86% of children have been without their own inhaler because it was lost, forgotten, broken or had run out".*

Previous legislation meant it was illegal for schools to have a spare emergency inhaler to use in the event of a potentially life-threatening asthma attack. Now schools will be able to hold spare emergency inhalers if they choose to. For further information visit [Asthma.org.uk](http://Asthma.org.uk)

### Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools

At CCC we will shortly be sending the parents of children with a known Asthma condition a consent letter, as seen in the above document. This will enable us to give an emergency inhaler to your child in school if needed. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs B Champion, School Health Nurse  
Tel: 07824600188 or School 01993 841611 ext 239  
Email: [Beverley.campion@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk](mailto:Beverley.campion@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk)



Amber Newcombe, Yr 7 Panda, Water colours