



Carterton Community College newsletter

Summer 2015

Best in the West!



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Carterton Community Schools Federation

Carterton Community Schools, Gateway to Excellence; Challenges and Congratulations

It has been almost a full academic year since the governing body of the Carterton Community Schools Federation first convened. It has been a fantastic year of challenges overcome and successes to celebrate in all three schools, Carterton Community College, Carterton Primary School and Gateway Primary School.

The governing body of Carterton Community Schools Federation (CCSF) is responsible for all three schools in equal measure. As a governing body our work is varied and is aimed at ensuring we fulfil our role in three key areas: working with the school leaders to establish the vision and strategic direction for the school, ensuring the excellent educational standards we strive for are delivered and within the agreed budgets!

Some of the challenges we have faced included the two primary schools in special measures and a change of chair of governors in April. We were very sorry to say goodbye to Siobhan O'Brien who had calmly led the change from three separate governing bodies, each responsible for one school, to a newly formed federated governing body responsible for all three schools. I would like to acknowledge and thank Siobhan for all the work she did for the federation and previously for Carterton Community College.

In addition to providing support and challenge to the schools through full governing body meetings, committee meetings and scrutiny of policies, the governors visit the schools on a regular basis to provide support or get to know particular aspects of each school's work. The work undertaken by Carterton Community College to provide an excellent careers service to pupils has been recognised as exemplary and acknowledgement must go to governor Bob Edwards for his tireless work, with the Carterton Community College staff, ensuring students have access to inspirational and accurate information to help them make the career choices that are right for them.

Our schools have enjoyed some noticeable successes this

year. We are confident that all the schools in the federation, Carterton Community Schools, Gateway to Excellence, are good schools and children of all ages are receiving an education appropriate to their needs and ambitions. Carterton Community College invited an external review of their work which provided useful validation of the school's judgements about its work. Carterton Primary School was judged by inspectors in May 2015 to be good and no longer requiring a category of special measures. Congratulations to Carterton Primary School who worked tirelessly to achieve this outcome by focusing on what really matters. This term the school was also awarded the AFF Excellence for Forces Children award which is a national award presented in recognition of the work done to support service families.

As many readers of this newsletter will appreciate, working with our service families is an important aspect of the work the schools undertake. The excellent provision provided to service families was acknowledged by inspectors when they visited Gateway Primary School in June and celebrated at the annual Camo day on 26th June. That report is still confidential as I write but will be general knowledge by the time you read this newsletter. I think I can safely say congratulations to Gateway Primary School for the well-deserved recognition of the excellent care and education provided to pupils at the school.

Governors extend their gratitude and congratulations to all three schools, their senior leaders and their staff, for the commitment, passion and professional excellence they employ to ensure all children, from early years through to 18, have the school experience they need and deserve so that they are able to achieve their ambitions, participate in our community and be the best they can be. Thanks also need to be extended to my fellow governors who have generously given their time and expertise to support the schools on their journey this year.

Mrs Nadine Vaillant Hill, Chair of Governors

Executive Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents/Carers

As I come to the end of my first year as part of the Carterton Community, I can't help but reflect back on the fantastic achievements I've been involved in.

Carterton Primary School was in special measures cited as inadequate last September. Through a continued drive for excellence and with the appointment of Elaine Day as head of school, it is now a good school (you may have noticed the banners!). This transformation and jumping of two grades in terms of Ofsted has been down to providing the school with a clear vision, providing the teachers with clear guidance and providing the pupils with outstanding learning experiences.

This is central to my philosophy at Carterton Community College. If we can provide our students with continuous everyday excellent opportunities through well qualified and highly committed teachers we have done our jobs properly and I can't ask for more than that. Our Challenge Partners report demonstrated how well we are performing as a College. This independent report from external professionals led by a qualified Ofsted inspector was rigorous and challenging but the outcome (Outstanding overall) showed we are on the right track. This year at Carterton Community

College we have worked hard to market ourselves with our Sixth Form opening and I am delighted that the response from existing students has been so prolific. With so many wide ranging subjects on offer we have certainly got a higher number of students than expected in our first year. I am confident that we have the capacity and skillset amongst our dedicated staff and the continued provision of KS5 lessons will be of high quality next academic year. I wish all our Year 11 students great success in their summer results and hope that their hard work and revision has paid off when August 20th comes.

Carterton Community Schools Federation (CCSF) is also coming to the end of its first year of existence. The governing body that looks after three schools in Carterton has worked extremely hard this year. Staff at all 3 institutions Carterton Primary School, Carterton Community College and Gateway Primary School have all commented about how reassuring it has been to have volunteer governors with such a great knowledge of the educational agenda visit their school and support and challenge the work that teachers and leaders are doing. Without this high quality group of individuals we would not have been able to come as far as we have this year. They have been instrumental as part of the leadership

and management judgment throughout the monitoring inspections of Ofsted and Challenge Partners and without their help, support and encouragement I certainly would have found this year more difficult.

As the academic year comes to an end, you may have now realised that Gateway Primary School have also been subject to a monitoring inspection through Ofsted as they too were in special measures. With the support of the Governing Body and the leadership of their Headteacher Sharon Mullins, I am delighted that Gateway have also had such a positive outcome from their most recent inspection. The usefulness of CCSF as a collaborative body has been seen recently when the announcement came that Mrs Mullins was leaving. This meant that Gateway would have no Headteacher or Assistant Headteacher at the start of the next academic year. Within the federation we can ask individuals to move around and as was announced to Gateway staff and parents I will fill an interim gap at Gateway Primary School with Rebecca Tout as Assistant Headteacher from September until December whilst we look for a more permanent solution. This will be a joint venture and I will be drawing upon leaders across the

federation to continue the hard work and provide a stable platform for staff and pupils at Gateway Primary School in the interim period.

Next year as our sixth form continues to thrive and we look for more opportunities to be creative with our curriculum in order to help continue to raise standards, I would also like to start to think about what support we can provide within the community.

Finally can I take this opportunity to thank you for your support this year. Whether it's a supportive comment, challenging an outdated perception of us as a comprehensive school - no we are a true Community College, or whether you have actively taken part in community events to support the school and its work this year e.g. the Jeans Up community singing event. Whenever the situation occurs to compliment us as a school, it is always appreciated. Thank You. I look forward to engaging you all more in conversation over the next 12 months as the federation of schools continues to expand.

Mr D Booth, Executive Headteacher

All smiles at school as we celebrated 'good' rating



We were all absolutely delighted at Carterton Primary School with our recent Ofsted rating of GOOD! It has been a massive year in the school's history and this rating, coupled with us winning the AFF Excellence in Forces Award in recognition of the support we give to Service children and their families, has demonstrated that we are now truly a good school. This year we have focused on improving Teaching and Learning and paid particular attention to our Learning Environments which Ofsted made reference to the improvements of both in their report. We have also been pleased, this year, with the success of our extra-curricular offer which has continued to grow this year. Children can now take Japanese and Spanish classes, Cookery, Gardening, Dance and Football as well as a host of other Sports clubs ranging from Tag Rugby to Cricket. Next year we take another leap by offering wrap around care for all children from Nursery age to Year 6. The school will open with the Early Bird's breakfast club at 7.30am and it will finish with our Dragonflies club at 5.45pm. We are all extremely excited to be building on our already successful breakfast and after school clubs.

Mrs E Day, Head of Carterton Primary School



Tribute for Mrs Geddes

On the 22nd May several Year 11 students and I attended the tribute for Mrs Geddes. We had been asked to record the tribute for Mrs Day, Head of School Carterton Primary School. As the day approached we were slightly worried as rain was forecast. However, as if on cue the sun came out and glorious sunshine rained down on the students, staff and parents. The tribute lasted a full hour and forty minutes, and the children were spectacular. Every single class and year group paid tribute to their teacher. The audience were 'entertained' by songs of every sort of genre but I think my favourite was the shoe song as it was so catchy. At the end of the tribute a mural was revealed as a lasting tribute to a wonderful lady.

Mrs V Middleton



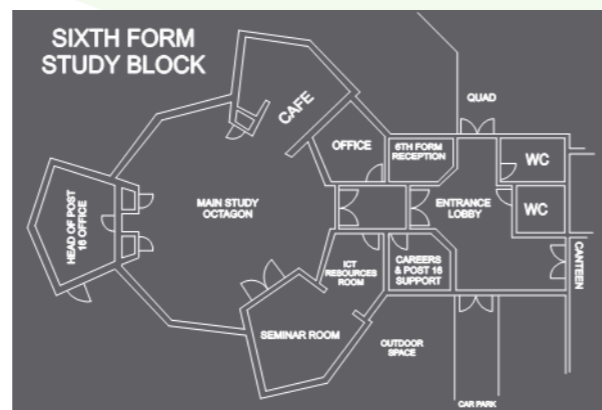
Keep in contact with School Comms

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Sixth Form

We are currently very busy in the Carterton Community College Sixth Form as we are preparing for a group of approximately 55 great students starting in Year 12 in September. As part of the preparation we are looking forward to an exciting induction afternoon on Thursday 9th July, where students will be taking part in some team building exercises and preparation activities helping them for Post 16 learning.

From September the William Carter Centre will become the Sixth Form Centre. A central hub for all sixth form students with a space for relaxed studying, Aspens Café, Careers, lockers, outdoor learning environment access to current news and much more. Most of the decisions about the Sixth Form Centre has been decided in conjunction with current year elevens & twelves. Keep an eye on our twitter account for updates on how the Sixth Form Centre is progressing @cccsixthform



Upcoming Date for 2015-16:

- Friday 11th September 2015 – First Day of Sixth Form.
- Tuesday 1st December 2015 – Applications go online for students wanting to apply for September 2016.
- Thursday 10th December 2015 – Sixth Form Open Evening.
- Friday 29th January 2016 – Deadline for applications.

Mr R Dorey

MOCK ELECTION

During the build up to the General Election in May Carterton Community College held its very own mock election. A number of Year 9 and 10 students grouped together to form 4 political parties. 'The Gate' 'Endurance' 'Equivalence' and 'Motive' all created manifestos to advertise their political promises should they be elected and went about canvassing students and staff for two weeks to win votes. During this time the school was decorated with campaign posters and parties had interesting (and heated!) debates both in person and on Twitter. One of the most popular events during the campaign was the mock election hustings hosted by our library which saw party leaders giving speeches to share their promises with voters, debating their manifestos and responding to questions fired at them from both myself and the audience. The school was incredibly proud of all of the students involved in this event.

Whilst the campaign was in full swing a team of Year 8s created our school electoral roll by encouraging staff and students to sign up to vote with the mantra "if you don't sign up you can't vote!".

On ballot day staff and students from all year groups brought their poll cards, took to the booths and voted. The polling station was efficiently run by a crack team of Year 7s. At the end of the day the Year 7 team counted up the vote to find the winning Party was 'The Gate'. However they did not have a majority so after talks they formed a coalition government with 'Endurance'.

Many congratulations to all party members and leaders and very well done to all those who got involved by voting.

Mr K Slater



Morgan Bartholomew



Emily Wixey



Michael Orsovski & Joe McBride

Pegasus House

On behalf of Miss Storrie I would like to say a massive well done to everyone in Pegasus House for their amazing contribution to school life. This has been through sporting activities representing the school, fantastic individual subject progress or being a role model both within our school and local community.

Pegasus House would like to say a huge thank you to our fantastic House Captain Jordan Clack, Vice House Captain

Vicky Fagaragan, Sports Captains Reece D'Abreu and Alana Jones and Junior Captain Callie Masters for their enthusiasm and commitment. We have had much fun in our inter-form house competitions.

From Miss Storrie and myself have a fantastic and safe summer.

Mrs R Tout

Pegasus News

Jade Spector Y8 French GCSE

I am half French (my mother is French) so I have taken my French GCSE exams. I prepared for the exam for a couple of months with Mrs Wilson (retired). I got an A* in my writing and listening. Now I have to wait for my next paper test results! It's very exciting and I enjoyed learning with Mrs Wilson.

Jade

Griffin House

As we near the end of the summer term I would like to say a huge well done to all of Griffin House for all your hard work. You have been amazing and deserving winners of the House Cup at the end of last term!! I am really proud of you all!! Let's keep it up and collect those house points and win the cup again at the end of this term!!! I know you can do it!!

I would also like to say huge congratulations to Year 11 for making it through their exams. On behalf of all of Griffin House, we wish you the best of luck with your results and hope to see many of you back here in September in our new sixth form!!!

I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive welcome to our wonderful Year 7 Griffins who have settled into their new tutor groups brilliantly and well done for competing so well in the PSHE Year 7 House activities...we won the Tug of War!!!!!! Great team work shown by all!!

Griffin tutor groups have had a busy term, getting involved in different tutor activities. They have competed in an inter house bench ball competition and a winner will be decided by the end of term in a grand final!!! I will also announce the winner of our giant jigsaw making competition....who will build it the fastest????

By the end of the term we will also have chosen our new House Captains and Sports Captains. Good luck to everyone who applies; I look forward to working with some of you really soon... I have the first activity to plan ready for the successful applicants!!

Have a fantastic summer Griffin House!!

Mrs T Evans, Head of Griffin House

Phoenix House

As we approach the end of another school year (my, how time flies!) it seems a good time to reflect on the successes of Phoenix House and its students over the course of the year and to look ahead to 2015-2016. Although success hadn't manifested itself in winning the House Trophy (yet!) there have been some notable successes- the boys football teams, Michael Orsovski, Kiaya Phelps in the Anti Bullying Talent Show, Bethen, William and Keasi fundraising thousands of pounds for their Greece expedition, Nicole Edmonds winning the Bookbuzz competition. These achievements are merely the tip of the iceberg and I would very much like them to continue! The skills of the students in Phoenix House are exceptional.

Next year, our focus will be on charity and about valuing our school

site. We will be looking at ways to educate all students on the value of respecting property and making our potentially beautiful site even more welcoming.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Henry Stephens, Bethen Abraham, Jacob Brownrigg, Chloe Kelly and Aidan Chester for all of their help this year in organising house events and being supportive of all members of Phoenix House. By the time this article goes to print, new post holders will have been chosen- I hope they all continue to help raise the profile of Phoenix House throughout the school. Many thanks also to all Phoenix House tutors- you're all amazing.

I wish you all a happy, healthy and restful summer.

Miss K Swift

Wyvern House

Moto 'Validus. Virtus. Victor.'

meaning

- validus : strong, mighty, powerful, exceeding.
- virtus : excellence, character, worth, courage.
- victor : winner.

I can't believe that we are once again saying goodbye to our Year 11, although some will be back next year in the 6th form. Myself and the tutors would like to thank Morgan Croxford (House Captain), Libby Exley (Vice House Captain) Jenna Bugler and Cameron Croxford (Sports Captains). All four are current Year 11s. We would also like to say thank you to Laura Rutter who is coming to the end of her time as Junior House Captain. In the weeks leading up to the summer break we will be interviewing for our new House Captain, Vice-Captain, Junior

Vice-Captain and Sports Captains. These will be announced in the next newsletter.

Wyvern has continued to support a local charity by providing food for the local food bank which distributes to local residents.

Wyvern have held an inter house competition, the theme being up-cycling. Their challenge was to create a summer outfit out of old clothes. As you can see from the pictures below they were all really creative.

Wyvern 1 won with their summer outfit.

They made a skirt and blouse from an old sheet.

They also covered a pair of shoes with black lace.

Mrs H Lawrence



Year 10 Sports Leaders

The 5 feeder primary schools took part in the annual Year 2 Mini Olympics. This was organised by the Year 10 Sports Leaders. The event allows the children to experience running, jumping and throwing activities. Each group represents a country and march from activities singing their chant.



Aspiring Leaders

The Year 7 & 8 Aspiring Leader have been trained as tennis officials and have umpired at a number of tennis competitions this term and some will also have the opportunity to officiate at the Oxfordshire school games on 9th July. Several Aspiring Leaders have also supported a number of other events



West Oxfordshire School Games – Mountain Biking

The U15 mixed team finished joint third in the mountain biking event held at Carterton Community College. There were some impressive individual performances from Tommy Matthews who finished first and Liam I'anson who finished second in the individual races.



Miss R Mills

Year 10 Football Team

The Year 10 boys won the league playing some great football and remained unbeaten and winning all 7 games.

Well done to all the boys who played in the squad.



County Cross Country

Another excellent performance from these boys winning the team event County Cross Country.

The boys who ran were Martin Watroba, Jordan Strode-Grubb, Jordan Clack, George Meyer and Ben Daniels.

Mr G Lloyd



Horse Riding

Every Thursday, I take a small group of students to the RDA at New Yatt in North Leigh. They have a short riding lesson and then they do some stable management work, learning how to look after the horses and the tack. The students have become more confident and the instructors are very impressed with how well they have done this year.

Here are a few comments from the students:

Horse riding has changed me. When I started in Year 7 I really enjoyed it and it became my hobby and I started to go with my family and really liked my horses and I'm going to be sad when I have to leave and stop going horse riding with school. My favourite horse is Phaye and sadly Phaye had to go to another home so I really miss her. I would like to say thank you to all of the horse riding people that have made me the horse rider I am. - Courtney - Year 9

Horse riding means a lot to me - Charlie Year 7

I enjoy horse riding because I get to do trotting and lots of fun activities on the horse and I got a badge for scouts - Keeley Year 8

I enjoy it because you meet new nice people and the horses - Lyndsey Year 8

I am good at horse riding and can do a rising trot - Bridie Year 7

Mrs T Roszczyk



Aspens Young Chef of the Year Competition

Congratulations to Ciara McAleese for winning the regional finals of the competition. Both she and Sophie Stevens (who was placed third) will be going to the national finals on the 14th July in Staffordshire. Well done and good luck to you both.

Miss E Ackerman



Sophie Stevens

Main - pork saltimbocca with garlic and rosemary potatoes.

Dessert - raspberry and white chocolate crème brulee

Ciara McAleese

Main - Deep fried pollock with garlic sauté potatoes and pea puree.

Dessert - lemon mousse with meringue and shortbread



The Italian lunchtime club has been running since January this year, with various members coming and going.

I would like to highlight the achievement of five regular club members from Year 7: Andrew Evans, Harry Brown, Alex Edwards, Mátyás Orsovski and Callum Hammond. Along too with staff member Mrs Evans, these boys have really thrown themselves into the spirit of the Italian language and culture, and I am particularly impressed by some fabulous Italian accents! Through games, competitions and drama role-play, the group has learned how to:

- exchange different greetings
- give general information about themselves (name, age, birthday, nationality, where they live....)
- say numbers to 100 and the months of the year
- order food and drink at a restaurant /café

We have learned a little about the geography of Italy and celebrated festivals such as Carnevale, and have also learned how to play a well-loved Italian card game, 'Scopa'.

For the rest of the summer term, as well as learning more of the language, we will be looking either at Italian music or films.

Well done boys... Bravissimi!!

Miss A Rhodes



Loom to the Moon!

Well done to Lauren Warnes (pictured here with Rhian Rimmer), who has created a loom band over 50m long for the Loom to the Moon appeal for charity Blue Sky Thinking. This is a charity which all members of loom band club wanted to support. Blue Sky Thinking supports research so that all children diagnosed with brain tumours will have a better chance of survival and a better quality of life post-treatment.

Lauren's loom band will now form part of the record attempt to create a loom to the moon.

Miss R Morrison



Library Assistant Team

A huge thank you to all students who have been part of the Library Assistant Team, both this year and in the past. Your support, commitment and good humour have been very much appreciated and you have made a massive difference to the smooth running of the library.

Current members are:

- Sasha Harley and Joe McBride (team leaders)
- Wiktorija Drzewucka (recently appointed as new team leader)
- Alexander Clarke
- Shannon Lappage
- Alisha Birkett
- Lillie Boyce
- Courtney Brain
- Holly Linton
- Kira Waldron
- Chandler Bradbury
- Rosalyn Clarke
- Michael Orsovski

And there have been many others since 2012. Particular mention must go to Chloe Edmonds (team leader until recently), Abbie Simms and Alice Stanley (who have just finished Year 11).

We have been collecting comments from many of our students about the library, in preparation for its 3rd year anniversary in September 2015. This is what they said about the Library Assistant Team:

"The library assistant team makes the library more cheerful and fun."

"Everybody in the library is lovely and caring."

"Everyone who is a part of the library team is like a family."

"I really enjoyed being part of the library team."

"Working in the library is helping me a lot."

"I don't think I would be the same without the library and its wonderful staff and student helpers."



Book recommendations from library team



Alice receiving house colours from Mr Bilton for her service to the library



Team leader Joe is congratulated by Mr Bilton (on stool!)



Team leader Sasha completes 175 library sessions!

Stan Lee Excelsior Award For Graphic Novels

We have been taking part in the Stan Lee Excelsior Award 2015. This is a national award specifically for graphic novels, set up and run by a Sheffield school librarian, Paul Register. As graphic novels and manga books are really popular in our library, this has gone down very well with our students. This year's Excelsior Award reading group was:

Joe McBride, Michael Orsovski, Alexander Clarke, Antony Johnson, Madan Gharti, Abbie Simms, Josh Carter and Asti Harley.

Sasha Harley organised and ran the meetings at lunchtimes in the library.

The students had to read and review the 8 books on the shortlist, completing rating forms which were then sent to the organiser. Between them, they wrote 47 reviews and here is Alex with two of the shortlisted books and the pack of forms ready to post! At the time of writing, we don't yet know what the winner will be.



Summer Reading Challenge

On Friday 5th June Anna Cotseil from Oxfordshire Libraries and Andrew Bayliss, the new manager at Carterton Library, came to talk to a group of our students in Years 8-10 about getting involved as volunteers in the Summer Reading Challenge. This is a great opportunity for 13-24 year olds who like books and enjoy helping younger children with reading, story times, craft activities and more. It's also good experience for CVs! Some of our students volunteered last year and have already signed up again, and others are considering doing it for the first time. This year's Summer Reading Challenge theme is RECORD BREAKERS.

CCC library is active on Twitter!

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

And if you do follow us,

please say hello, have a conversation, retweet or favourite. It's nice to know you're out there!

@cartertoncc_lib

Check out your favourite authors on Twitter, find out when new titles are coming out, enter prize draws, get previews of new covers, or just tell them why you love their books!

Authors (Virtually) Live!

We have continued to enjoy seeing famous children's authors streamed live into our library as part of the Puffin Virtually Live programme. Most recently was Jacqueline Wilson in a 30-minute broadcast focusing on her Hetty Feather series about a foundling girl, set during the Victoria era. We also got an advance glimpse of her newest book, due out later this year, as well as a short drawing workshop by Nick Sharratt, who has illustrated most of Jacqueline's books. Lots of positive feedback from the students in the audience!

Carnegie Medal 2015

Every year, a group of readers from across all years meets regularly in the library to shadow the Carnegie Medal, along with 100,000 other students from the UK and beyond. (Yes, that's right - 100,000! So who says young people don't read??) Here's a report of the award day from one of the students who took part.

"On 22nd June 2015, our Carnegie group, along with groups from Burford and Chipping Norton, visited Henry Box library. We had pre-selected book groups based on the book we had enjoyed most from 8 titles on the Carnegie shortlist. In these groups we had to create a presentation based on our book. It could be a piece of drama, a poster, or anything you could conjure up out of paper, pens, scissors and glue. Afterwards we had lunch, and then we watched the awards live. Buffalo Soldier by Tanya Landman was the winning book. Afterwards we ate cake until we were nearly sick and then the librarians announced the winners of the presentations and gave out other prizes from the day. Tinder group 1 won the presentation prize. It was an unusual day to say the least!" Alexander Clarke, Year 8

Well done to Sasha, who won a prize for being the first person to read all 8 books, to Shannon who won a prize for her reviews, and to Michael and Shannon who were

part of the winning team on the day.

Many thanks go to the school librarians from Burford, Chipping Norton and Henry Box for helping to make it such a positive day. We were live tweeting during the event, and it was great to have an unexpected Twitter message from an ex-CCC student with fond memories of her own experiences of Carnegie a few years ago.

It was an excellent shortlist this year and we recommend these books. Here are a few comments from our group:

"More Than This by Patrick Ness changed the way I think about the world."

"Cuckoo Song by Frances Hardinge is the best book I've ever read."

"Apple and Rain by Sarah Crossan is a really good book about life-changing events."

"The first chapter of Buffalo Soldier by Tanya Landman really pulled me in and made me want to read more."

And just before going to press, a quick recommendation for the winner of the Kate Greenaway Medal for illustrated books, announced at the same time as the Carnegie winner: Shackleton's Journey by William Grill (a most beautiful and inspiring book).



Our amazing Carnegie cake!



Busy planning presentations during the morning - really impressed by the way in which students from the 4 different schools worked together.

Author Visit - Amanda Mitchison



In May we were delighted to have a visit from author Amanda Mitchison, who talked to group of Year 7/8 students in the library about her new book, 'Crog'. It was a fascinating insight into the book, with plenty of visual aids (including a potato which one of the boys politely requested to take home and cook!) Students asked

lots of really interesting and perceptive questions, both during the talk itself and at the book signing afterwards. Members of the library assistant team supported at both events and Amanda was very complimentary about how fantastic they were. 'Crog' has proved to be a popular read, with lots of positive feedback from the students who read it after buying copies on the day.

Some of the Crog audience, with visual aid!

Amanda Mitchison with the library assistants who helped at the event



New Children's Laureate

A new Children's Laureate was announced in June. This is a two-year post for a children's writer or illustrator - and the new one is both! It's the amazing Chris Riddell, probably best known for his Goth Girl series, his illustrations for Neil Gaiman books, and his cartoons in The Observer. During his laureateship Chris will be promoting creativity, visual literacy and school libraries. Get those sketching pencils out!

Chris takes over from the awesome and inspirational Malorie Blackman, who did so much in her two-year term to promote diversity in books for young people and also launched the Young Adult Literature Convention, which we were lucky enough to go to in July 2014. Malorie, you were marvellous!



YALC 2014 - with books signed by former Children's Laureate Malorie Blackman



Ms R Stables

More News Of Literacy Hero Jodie Evans

It's now about 18 months since Carterton Community College student Jodie Evans was presented with her national 'Literacy Hero' award by the Duchess of Cornwall at Clarence House (one of only 10 winners from the whole of the UK). Jodie is now at college and hoping to move on to university in September but she has kept in touch and has now twice been back to talk to our current students about the challenges of coping with dyslexia. Last December she spoke to all our Year 7s (about 125 students) and more recently came in to speak to two of our Year 8 English groups. As a result of that and following a request from Mr Laughlin (who described her as 'truly inspirational', Jodie came up with her 'top tips' for those who find reading and writing difficult. Very sensible ideas – and straight from someone who knows what she's talking about and knows what worked for her! We are now using these within school and would like to share them with you here.



December 2013 – a special day for Jodie (back row, right)

Since it re-opened in September 2012, the library has been very popular with lots of our students. Here are a few of their comments:

The library has introduced me to all of my favourite books. It has even introduced me to new genres, such as Manga. (Year 8 boy)

The library is a colourful place and invaluable resource. It is an important place, not only for reading but also to socialise and discuss current affairs. (Year 9 boy)

If it wasn't for the library, I wouldn't know so many authors. I wouldn't read books and I wouldn't enjoy reading. (Year 9 girl)

I think reading is really important and I like that this school has a library. (Year 7 girls)

I can't imagine the school without a library. (Year 8 girls)

The library is really useful because you can read awesome books for free, and most of the books are great! I read frequently, so that's good. (Year 7 girl)

When we joined the school in Year 7, it was the first year of the library re-opening, and since then the library has been a great place to go and has a diverse range of books, that we and lots of other people enjoy reading. (Year 9 boys)

I like the library because all the people that like books are gathered in one place. (Year 7 boy)

The library has always been here if I just want to have some peace and quiet to revise. I love it!! (Year 11 girl)

I have read more books in the time this library has been open

Do you find reading or writing hard?

Top tips from Jodie Evans

1. Always try your best as with practice you will get better
2. Break things down into small sections. This is less daunting and easier to manage. For example: one paragraph, page or chapter
3. Find something you enjoy to read but make sure it is the right level.
4. Try and read as much and often as possible no matter what it is. For example: magazine, newspaper, non-fiction, fiction, books or e-readers, websites.
5. Ask for help as quickly as possible from your classmates or teacher if you are stuck or struggling.
6. Take every step forward - no matter how small - as a success.
7. Find the right environment to read or work in that works for you. For me, this is a quiet environment with no distractions.
8. Remember reading is important as helps improve your vocabulary and punctuation in your writing.
9. Remember learning to read and write is important as you will use these skills for the rest of your life - so always aim for your personal best.
10. Don't worry that other people are better than you at English. We all have our own talent so you will be just as good or better at a different subject or skill.

Who is Jodie? She was a student at Carterton Community College from 2008-2013 and won a national LITERACY HERO award for the positive way she coped with the challenges of dyslexia.

than any of the years before it. (Year 11 girl)

The library has helped me expand my love for reading and has also helped me make some really good friends. (Year 10 girl)

I love the library! It has helped me learn, and it is such a fun and modern atmosphere to be in. (Year 9 girl)

The library is a lovely calm place where I like to spend some of my lunch and break. (Year 7 boy)

The library is a brilliant resource for discovering new worlds and information. (Year 10 boy)

I never used to read unless I was forced to, but once I found out how easy it was to find a book that I was interested in, I started reading for fun. And the library offers a great place to do so. (Year 10 boy)

This library says dare to enter, dare to read, dare to be changed. (Year 10 girl)

Did you know...?

There were **9,976** independent visits made to the library (at break, lunchtimes or after school; does not include visits during lesson times) between September 2014 and May 2015 (= 5 mini-terms).

10,664 books were borrowed from the library between our opening day in September 2012 and May 2015.

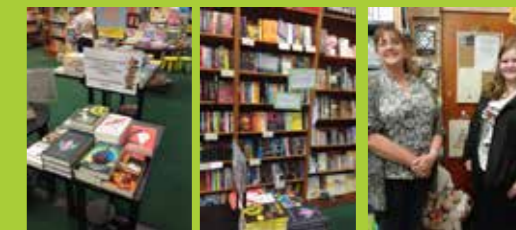
Highest number of books borrowed by a single student from September 2012 to May 2015:

176 (Year 11 girl) and **163** (Year 10 boy)

Ms R Stables

Writing For Waterstones!

I wanted to write a few words of thanks to the students of Carterton Community College and their Librarian, Rosemary Stables, for the fantastic efforts they have all put into working with us to help promote reading through the book reviews that they have done for us at Waterstones in Witney. My colleagues and I have been overwhelmed by the number of reviews we have received and as we had so many wonderful ones, we thought the college should have their own table to show others which books have been enjoyed and to display the reviews that are written so well. People who come into our shop always need ideas for new things to read and this has been a huge success! Also an enormous thank you to the incredible Jodie Evans who, after winning her Literacy Hero award, came to the shop to meet me and has very kindly allowed us to use the poster in our shop that she has created with helpful tips for other readers with dyslexia. I am so honoured to have met you Jodie, keep up the good work!

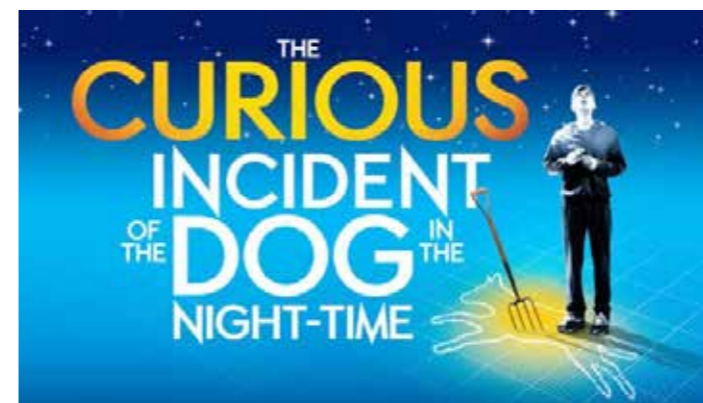


Displays of book reviews in Waterstones from CCC students

Nina with Literacy Hero Jodie

Many thanks to you all again, I look forward very much to seeing more of your fantastic reviews and, hopefully, all of you if you are able to visit the shop in the future.

Nina Smith, Senior & Children's Bookseller at Waterstones Witney



"Christopher, fifteen years old, has an extraordinary brain – exceptional at maths while ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. When he falls under suspicion of killing Mrs Shears' dog, it takes him on a journey that

upturns his world ..."
At the time of writing, a group of 40 students and staff are looking forward to a trip to New Theatre Oxford in the last week of term.

Mrs J Cobb

After watching a trailer for "The Impossible" Year 9 tried to recreate the story in their own words.

The weather was perfect. The sun's warm, welcoming glow was shining on my face; moreover the smell of sun cream filled the air, followed by the sound of children playing and splashing.

Throughout the day the wind had gradually begun to pick up; birds started to fill the sky like a big black blanket.

People began to get more aware and conscious of the goings on. Mothers started calling their children back and moved indoors where they felt "safe". But that could not save them.

The tide started to rush out, as if it was scared of the beach. Now there were no birds. The sea began to groan as a turquoise blob appeared on the horizon. It grew bigger and bigger! As it came closer it engulfed the landscape. The locals shouting "Tsunami". The ground began to shake; people cried knowing now what the mysterious blue was.

Then...it hit!

The devastation that followed was indescribable. Houses and trees were flattened. Lives were lost.

Mr D Laughlin's Year 9 English Group

What have we been up to in English lessons?

Year 7: have been reading poems from Lord Alfred Tennyson, Grace Nichols, Roald Dahl and Wilfred Owen, to name a few.

They have analysed using key terminology and had fun creating their own poetry.

Highlights for me were when Year 7 learnt "Wha me Mudder do" in one lesson and could recall the whole poem by the end of the hour in rhythm.

Year 8: have been recreating stories in their own words, starting with a stimulus from a film, poem or picture. They have also played games, surveyed and analysed results then created their own games based on introducing a literacy skill.

Year 9: Worked really hard inferring and deducing in preparation for their SAT's tests. We enjoyed the murder mystery element to this topic and the work produced was very impressive!

Year 10: Have studied Romeo and Juliet and are now unravelling An Inspector Calls to see who had a part to play in the death of Eva Smith!

Years 7 8 and 9 have all had lessons in the library reading, quizzing on the computers, recommending books to others and watching webcasts along with joining in competitions.

On a personal note, I wish to thank all the staff in the English department for supporting me through my teacher training year. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with you all.

Mrs J Cobb

LOVE OUR LITERACY at CCC!

This year Mr Snook has led a literacy campaign alongside The National Literacy Trust to improve literacy across the school. This is a countywide initiative, with other schools in the Oxfordshire area taking part.

Being part of the campaign has highlighted the fantastic work staff and students already do towards literacy and shows that CCC really cares about the importance that literacy has, not just in lessons but also in life after school, with jobs requiring a C grade or above in English.

The campaign builds on the success of the primary focused Oxfordshire Reading Campaign, and aims to raise the profile of reading, writing and oracy within secondary schools.

Placing the experiences of the student firmly at the centre, the programme focuses on the teaching and learning of language and literacy in every subject area. A wealth of research affirms that students who come from language rich backgrounds will perform well at secondary school. However, students whose backgrounds may not be as linguistically diverse will struggle to access the curriculum. A narrow vocabulary and a restricted understanding of more complex grammatical constructs will limit many students.

Working closely with subject

leaders, Mrs Wall and Miss Nutley and the Literacy Leader, Mr Snook, the OGM programme provided training and personalised support to develop explicit reading and writing strategies designed to enhance attainment and engagement in every area of the curriculum at Carterton Community College.

The programme aims are to:

- Increase pupils' motivation to improve their literacy skills, increase attainment and progress, and provide evidence of improved literacy attitudes and behaviours
- Improve the quality of explicit literacy teaching and learning and increase motivation to improve the teaching of literacy across all subjects
- Increase effectiveness among literacy leaders

Mr Snook would like to give a special thanks to Mrs Wall and Miss Nutley who are fantastic subject leaders in literacy and have attended courses throughout the year in order to enrich the learning of our students. This is something we are excited to continue next year. Thanks must also go to all staff who have delivered the SPAGHETTI challenge literacy activities to students this year.

Mr M Snook

Readathon

During the annual Readathon, Miss Kirkland's classes raised a whopping £520 which included taking part in a 'Reading Breakfast'. This is a fantastic and worthwhile achievement – a HUGE thank you to all students that contributed to this.

Miss Kirkland's top group, 7X2, raised £250 alone and the student who collected the most was Alex Oliver, Year 7, raising over £55. Congratulations and WELL DONE to Alex and the rest of 7X2; what a wonderful commitment shown by all.

Oxford Castle



Another exciting trip has been planned in the English Department this term Miss Kirkland has arranged for Year 7 to visit the fantastic Oxford Castle on 6th July to watch a production of Romeo and Juliet. All staff and students attending are very much looking forward to it!

Miss A Kirkland

Signed Copy in the Library – Come and read!

Thank you for supporting readathon.

We're delighted to enclose your free signed copy of Jonathan Stroud's brilliant book *LOCKWOOD & CO. The Screaming Staircase*.

Jonathan Stroud is a global bestselling author currently writing a chilling new series called *LOCKWOOD & CO*. He's never seen a ghost but he's keeping his eye out.

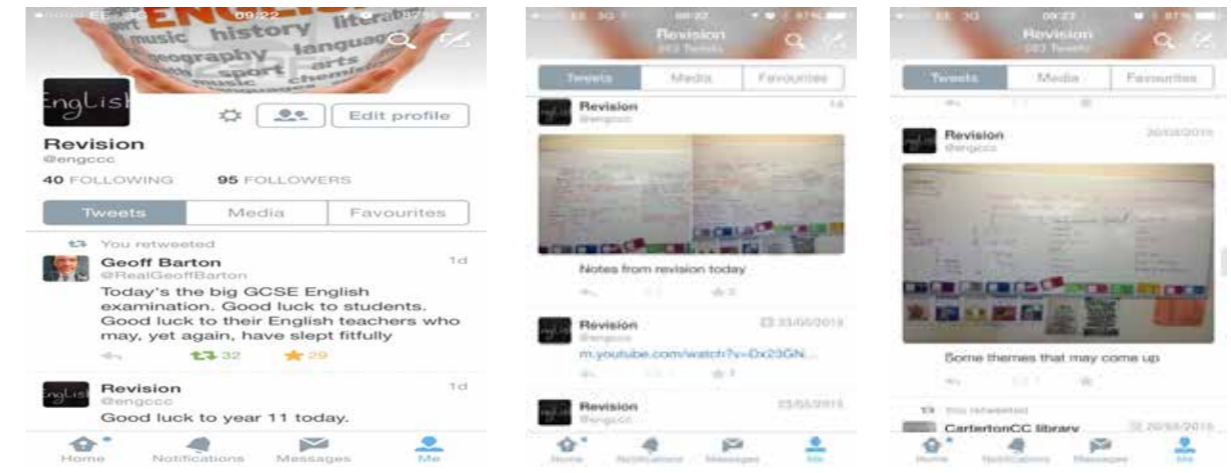
"Stroud is a genius"
Rick Riordan (author of the Percy Jackson series)

"A delicious mixture of bone-dry wit and spooky shocks" Financial Times

Special thanks to our friends at Penguin Random House Group for supporting Readathon and supplying us with these awesome books.

For more information about The Random House Group and Jonathan Stroud visit: www.randomhouse.co.uk follow: @RHKidsUK and @JonathanAstroud

Twitter has been used as a useful resource this term with students' revision sessions being posted and asking questions on a regular basis. Follow for help with your English - Revision@engccc



Young Writers Winners Story

A number of students in Years 7, 8 and 9 have successfully had their work published in a competition run by Young Writers called 'Grim Tales'. The English department set the mini saga competition in class last term and were amazed by the level of imagination and talent shown by our students.

They impressed the judges as well and their work now has the opportunity to be published within a special anthology.

'Grim Tales' has proved popular with schools and students nationwide, and thousands of stories were received from all over the country. Work was selected for publication based on imagination, perception, expression and creative use of language. This is a great achievement that we are all delighted with.

The main aims of entering the competition were to raise the awareness of creative writing in the classroom and promote the enjoyment of reading and writing, as well as encouraging students to work hard to see their work in print.

Our winning students received a bookmark and certificate of merit and work will be published in Grim Tales – Wiltshire and Oxfordshire, which is scheduled for publication on 31st August 2015. The editorial team will go on to select school winners, with money prizes and vouchers once the book has been published. The best writer will also receive a voucher.

The English Department want to say a massive CONGRATULATIONS to all students that appear on the list – it is a real achievement and one you should be proud of!

Mr M Snook



Brad Ford, Year 11



Lucy Grisman, Year 11



Eve Lewin, Year 8



Ellie Jarvis, Year 10



Bethany Allen, Year 8



7X1 have been studying language change and were examining a text about how a new film has chosen teenagers to act as experts on the language within the script.

Each member of the class had to search and analyse and evaluate different elements of the text. The style of thinking is called De Bono's Six Hats and is used to

make students think carefully and have fun learning.

Mrs M Cox

Keep in contact with School Commus

Keep in contact with School Commus

Greek theatre

An example of some of the amazing homework Year 7 have done in Drama with Mrs Cobb



Journalism

This is year has been a surprising year in Journalism. As soon as I started (the beginning of September- Year 8), I wasn't quite sure what to expect in this lesson because of the name, as it didn't seem too exciting. We started off by getting to know each others' names and a bit more about each other. Then, we started doing a lot of team building challenges such as; who can build the biggest tower or who could hold the most marshmallows on their towers. It was exciting and a good way to bond.

The next main topic we did was 'Film Critics' where we watched the Sorcerer's Apprentice and then we did a huge review about it. It was really fun because we were able to watch films but say our own opinions about it. The next thing we did was create our own magazine. We had to brainstorm ideas for our magazines; my idea was Penguins! For example, somebody did one about pugs and another about McBusted. Whilst doing that, we were analysing magazine covers and what is inside so we could make ours the best we could.

My favourite topic/module was creating our own adverts. We were able to watch a few examples of adverts and how they had adapted over time. Then, we set off into groups and spent 1 or 2 lessons planning our ideas and thinking of what we would use. The next 4/5 weeks was just where we do some preparing, creating and editing our adverts. We worked really hard and my group (me, Jade and Ellie) created a silly dancing advert when we all danced to a homemade mashup to advertise a nail varnish. We are really proud of it and we are presenting them soon.

A few things we did out of class was, record the 'Anti-Bullying Talent Show' at our school- and we took photos and got Alex to edit it for us. Another thing we did was interview the party leaders for our own Mock Election at our school- the teams were Equivalence, Motive, Endurance and The Gate. Myself and Jade interviewed The Gate Leader and Motive Leader. We then recorded the election at lunchtime as well as taking a load of pictures, it was a really exciting time.

This year, I have really enjoyed Journalism and I would love to carry on creating more stuff like this and then carrying on with this class in the future. Thank You Miss for this... I really enjoyed it.

Jess Blackborow

Maths Challenge

Every year the Maths Department encourages students from the top sets in each year group to take part in the highly esteemed United Kingdom Mathematical Trust (UKMT) challenges. We are extremely proud of our students who received an award.

UKMT Intermediate Challenge (Years 9,10,11)

Matthew Treacy (Silver, Best in Year 10)
Michael Orsovszki (Bronze)
Haydn Seager (Bronze)
Chandler Bradbury (Bronze)
Harry Moody (Bronze)
James Stonebridge (Bronze)
Callum Nicholson (Silver, Best in Year 9, Best in School)
Daniel Martin (Bronze)
Ryan Campbell (Bronze)

UKMT Junior Challenge (Years 7 & 8)

Keri Latimer (Best in Year, Silver)
Damian Brooks (Bronze)
Jo Fagaragan (Bronze)
Ben Anderson (Bronze)
Dylan Cheedy (Bronze)
Kai Sundarajoo (Bronze)
Katie Gough (Best in School, Best in Year, silver)
James Piner (Silver)
Alex Oliver (Silver)
Madan Gharti (Bronze)
Molly Bishop (Bronze)
Morgan Bartholomew (Bronze)
Tash Granville (Bronze)
Jennifer Waler (Bbronze)
Matyas Orsovszki (Bronze)
Laura Jones (Bronze)

Year 8 representatives at the UKMT Team Challenge

Keri Latimer
Damian Brooks
Tom Hazell
Jess Blackborow

Our Mathematics Department is now a member of the Further Mathematics Support Programme (FMSP)

Year 10 representatives at the FMSP Year 10 Challenge

Lucy Goodwin
Matthew Treacy
Chandler Bradbury
Michael Orsovszki

All Year 9 girls from our top set attended a Girl's conference at the Oxford University Mathematics Institute.

Mr K Slater



'Scrabble'- it's all about words and spelling! (Yes SPAG)

Did you know that Alfred Mosher Butts, an out of work architect who invented the game Scrabble, analysed games before coming up with his own special game? Year 7 have been looking at the history of the game and learning how to play as a fun way to help spelling and what we call 'SUS' words. These are words that you learn how to say- understand and spell.

There are some really amazing facts about this game and its popularity was certainly not to make Alfred Mosher Butts a rich man. Established game manufacturers were unanimous in rejecting Butts' invention! It was Hasbro, Inc., who ultimately purchased the rights and as Year 7s have found out the rest is history!

Year 7 have put together a lovely presentation including not only the history and facts about the game, but a demonstration of how to play and of course win! They all confessed that to begin it was not a favourite game but actually they also admitted they had not really played it!

Katie Vickery and Bridie King have improved their reading whilst thinking of the 'sus' words, Annie Ferns has produced an excellent power point, Will Morris and Adam Fisher have written a commentary to give instructions and details of how to play the game, Alex Abrahams and Callum McGee have listened and followed these instructions. Natasha Rowe and Abbie Souch have written the lyrics to a song which tells us all about Scrabble! I have been very impressed with the students involved in this term's topic on 'History of Language'. I have seen such learning and creativity - Jordan Simms used words with correct spellings to then play the musical notes as they were spelt in the word. This helped us to say it, understand it, spell it and also musically hear the chosen word! Lewis Day has been an excellent narrator whilst Josh Burville and Jamie Farmer have compiled their most favourite scrabble board- every word links with their hobby of scooters!

So, the message coming through should be, if you have not played-try it -it's always good to improve spelling and learn new words!

Thank you Year 7 -Well done!

Mrs J Wall

Carterton Educational Trust

Grants Available for Local Students and Groups

If you are starting a college course in the autumn, or are hoping to, then remember that there is a local Educational Trust that can give you a useful grant. We all know that life is tough at college in this modern age, and every penny counts, especially if it helps to avoid further borrowing! We're not saying that we can provide a huge amount, but we try to give every successful applicant a useful sum of money towards essential books etc.

If you live in Carterton, or if you were predominantly educated in Carterton, then you could apply for a grant to help with costs related to your college or university course as soon as you hear that you have got a place.

Recent grants have included £250 to Bethan towards a laptop for her Diploma in Photography, £282 to Claire towards her MSc Nursing Degree, £206 to the Life Education programme for one of the local primary schools, and £229 to Emma towards her research field trip to Venice as part of her degree course.

It is quite simple, just contact The Carterton Educational Trust -phone numbers below - or go to our website - www.cartertoneducationaltrust.org.uk - and download an application form. The Trustees meet four times a year and applications are dealt with at every meeting.

The Trust also provides grants for local educational needs, including groups who are providers for youngsters in the local community. In the past, we have given grants to local sports clubs as well as to childcare and play groups. We have also supported students who are struggling to raise funds for special projects, special visits, or to help cover the cost of expensive musical instruments etc. as shown in our example grants above.

The Trustees of The Carterton Educational Trust welcome applications, and hope to hear from you very soon. Contact numbers for application forms and further information:

Mrs T Marchant, Secretary & Treasurer: 01993 841060

Mr G Clifford, Chairman: 01608 811006

Geoff Clifford (Chairman)



LOST PROPERTY

SSD would like to advise students that if items have been lost, firstly go back to the place where it was last seen, check the room and ask the teacher if anything has been found. Some lost items are not sent immediately to lost property.

If you don't find your lost item in the class please come to SSD and look in lost property. There are always items of clothing, pencil cases and glasses left in SSD at the end of each term.

We would appreciate it if students who lose anything during term time come and look in SSD before the last day of term and hopefully they will be reunited with their lost items.

Found - iPad Mini

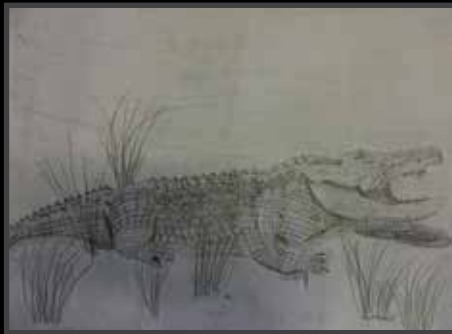
An iPad Mini has been handed in to lost property. If you have lost an iPad Mini, please let us know and give a full description of it. The one found has significant markings and if it is not claimed by the end of this term it will be given to the Police.

Thank you

Mrs P Moore



Alice Stanley, Year 11



Daniel Lancaster, Year 7



Zac Allemby, Year 11

Term 1

Inset Days School Closed 1st and 2nd Sep 2015

School starts 3rd Sept 2015 (Year 7 only)

Whole school 4th Sept 2015

Open Evening 01st Oct 2015
6.00pm-8.00pm

Inset Day School Closed 2nd Oct 2015

School closes 23rd Oct 2015

Term 2

Term 2 starts 2nd Nov 2015

Sixth Form Open Evening 10th Dec
6.00pm-8.00pm

School closes 18th Dec 2015 (13.10 finish)

Term 3

Term 3 starts 4th Jan 2016

School closes 11th Feb 2016

Inset Day 12th Feb 2016 (School Closed)

Term 4

Term 4 starts 22nd Feb 2016

School closes 24th Mar 2016 (13.10 finish)

Bank Holiday 25th Mar 2016

Term 5

Term 5 starts 11th Apr 2016

Bank Holiday 2nd May 2016 - May Day

School closes 27th May 2016

Term 6

Term 6 starts 6th Jun 2016

School closes 19th Jul 2016 (13.10 finish)

Inset Day 20th Jul 2016 (School Closed)

School Health Nurse Update

Events

Mental Health Awareness Week

Exams, revision, work and general everyday life can cause us all stress. Mental Health Awareness week- May 11-17th saw a week of lunchtime activities offered to both staff and students looking at ways to cope with every day stress. Our two volunteer speakers Rachel and Ben very kindly gave up their time for free to support this annual event.

The theme of this year's awareness week was Mindfulness-

Rachel talked to us about the history of Mindfulness and simple ways to use this to help us cope with the Stresses of everyday life. Find out more about this on her facebook page: www.facebook.com/mindfulbeginnings

Ben Campion delivered a session on Relaxation. Myself and Mrs Carter, our school counsellor, took a group power walking around the grounds of the school!

Big thanks to all the students and staff that took part, to Ms Stables who very kindly put together our reading display in the library and allowed us the use of this lovely facility for the week.

Health Corner: Focus this term will be on sun awareness and the importance of drinking water!

Did you know that there is a strong link between drinking water, health and learning? We know that drinking adequate amounts of water can help prevent a range of short and long term health problems, from headaches, bladder, kidney and bowel problems to cancer. Water has none of the health problems associated with drinks containing sugar, additives, sweeteners, acids or caffeine.

How does drinking water improve learning?

- When we are thirsty mental performance deteriorates by 10%.
- Pupils concentrate better because they are not distracted by the symptoms of dehydration such as thirst, tiredness and irritability.
- Children will achieve more when both their health and learning needs are met.
- As a school we promote this by providing water during break and lunch in the dining hall, and there will soon be a new water point where students can refill their water bottles during the day.

Recommended fluid input:

Boys 9-13 years = 1,400-2,100mls/day

Girls 9-13 years = 1,200-2,100/day

Boys 14-18 years = 2,100-3,200/day

Girls 14-18 years = 1,400-2,500mls/day



Dental Health Awareness Month

Big thanks go to my amazing year 8 girls AKA The Smile Club! (And a little help from Miss Storrie). They created our photo boards and displays to promote this year's Dental Health Awareness week.

Thank you also to the RAF dental centre for their "Toothpaste" donations!

We also found out some interesting facts about the sugar content in some of our everyday drinks. Did you know that 500mls of Yahoo milkshake contains a startling 50g of sugar! Check out our Rethink Your Drink!

Facts

The British Dental Health Foundation state that 34% of children aged 12 have visible dental decay, and by only brushing your teeth once a day you are 33% more likely to develop tooth decay!

So, look after your teeth, reduce the amount of sugary drinks and snacks, brush your teeth twice a day for 2 minutes and make sure you visit your dentist twice a year.

Bev Campion: Carterton Community College - 07824600188 E: Beverley.campion@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk