



CARLETON  
HIGH SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2018

## YEAR 11 ACHIEVEMENT UPDATE

Year 11 have really hit the ground running for their final year of secondary school.

## ATTENDANCE FOR THE YEAR SO FAR

There are over 500 students who still have 100% attendance so far this year.

## RECORD BREAKING OPEN EVENING

We are now on our way to becoming an Outstanding school and are proud of the improved reputation within our community.



It is a pleasure to write to you with an update on the progress at the school.

As you know I've been working at Carleton, along with other schools in the Trust, since May. Many thanks to those parent/carers who have made me feel welcome. I can honestly say that working with staff, parents, carers and in particular students at CHS has been a pleasure. Those who attended the Information Evening are aware that, whilst I felt there were many strengths at the school, there was significant work to be done to improve, in order to ensure that every young person is able to achieve their full potential. I'm pleased to say that the hard work of students and staff is really paying off and the school now feels very different - like a different place, and one that I am proud to show visitors around. Staff are under no illusions and know there is still a long way to go to become an outstanding school, but improvements are significant and great steps are being taken towards that goal.

My mantra is "Culture + Consistency = Excellence" which, in essence, means not putting a ceiling on what young people can achieve and ensuring there is a consistency of approach, delivering daily the very best lessons and provision that the young people deserve. At the heart of this is great teachers, support staff and leaders and making sure they have the very best framework, training and resources to be the very best they can be. I am pleased to say that there has been, and continues to be, weekly high quality training for staff which is constantly improving their practice. But whilst there has been investment in current staff there has also been a lots of recruitment going on. There have been significant changes to the Senior Leadership Team, not least of which is Mrs Cross taking up her post as permanent Head of School, which is fantastic news for the school (not that anyone thought for a second she wasn't already). I have also recruited high quality Directors of Maths and Science, and a Lead Practitioner in Science. Further investment will go into recruitment so that we ensure we have the very best professionals working with our young people.

It continues to be an exciting time for the school and, rest assured, everything is taking place so that outcomes for young people are improved swiftly.

Yours faithfully

**James Franklin-Smith**  
Executive Director of Secondary Education  
Pontefract Academies Trust

# WELCOME

I am delighted to send you our first newsletter of the 2018-2019 academic year. This year is set to be a very exciting year for our students as Carleton High School starts its journey to becoming an Outstanding school.

We have had a really busy start to our new academic year with much to celebrate and be proud of. Our changes in procedures and systems have created an achievement-focused learning culture where everyone is committed to doing "whatever it takes" to make sure our students, no matter what their starting point or background, get the chance in life that they deserve.

Students are looking exceptionally smart in their uniform and are meeting our high expectations. If we get the 'small' things right in school, everything else will follow and I am proud that this is now happening every day at Carleton High School. If students have great attendance, a positive attitude and work hard, they will now do extremely well at Carleton and these habits will prepare them for the wider world.

Our new Year 7s have settled in very well and have made a really positive start to their time at Carleton High school. There have been lots of new experiences for these students; many signed up to our extra-curricular programme at our 'Year 7 Freshers' Fair'. This provides a wealth of opportunities for our students to broaden their experiences and they have totally embraced everything on offer. Our Year 11 students have also made an incredible start to the year, with all students staying for after school 'ACHIEVE' sessions and some using our Library after school to complete further independent study.

The school site saw many improvements over the summer holidays, from new signage to new furnishings, paintwork and classroom displays. Students have appreciated the work that has gone into improving the environment around them. I am also pleased to inform you that we have invested heavily in our new 'Learning Support' facility; a large computer suite will be installed over the half term break, which will be a great area for students to complete independent study and homework. With further improvements to student areas planned over the half term break I am sure our students will be pleased with the changes when they return from their break.

Our newly appointed Head Boy, Taylor Wood and Head Girl, Ellanna Duncan together with the Student Ambassadors have got off to a great start. Leading by example, they will inspire students to live the school's vision and values on a daily basis and will also support at school fundraisers and events such as open evenings, charity events and the school prom to name a few. Their first charity fundraiser was a great success and they raised over £300 for Macmillan Cancer Research. We are very proud of all the students appointed and wish them all the best in their new roles.

We have seen a wide range of visits and events this term and the extensive extra-curricular programme has already provided many memorable experiences. For example, our Year 7 rugby team achieved second place in the Wakefield Schools Cup. Students in Years 9 to 11 enjoyed a performance by the National Theatre of 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time'. Some students spent the day at The Hepworth, exploring the gallery and taking part in a surrealist sculpture workshop. Over the half term break we have over 40 students travelling to Paris as part of a Modern Foreign Languages trip, where students will get the opportunity to practise their French!

I hope that you all have an excellent half-term break.



**Mrs J Cross**  
Head of School



## YEAR 11 ACHIEVEMENT UPDATE

Year 11 have really hit the ground running for their final year of secondary school, and have recognised that it is the most important year of their educational journey to date.

Students are attending 'Achieve' sessions to boost attainment and further support progress. We recommend that all Year 11 students should be completing between 2-3 hours school work per night, including homework and Achieve sessions. If you feel your child is struggling to complete this minimum expectation

please contact Mrs Norman who can provide support and guidance for their independent study. We can also support by making the Library available until 5.30 pm for students who would prefer to complete their independent study at school. It is vital that your child completes the recommended amount of independent study to achieve their target grades.

Year 11 will have a full mock exam schedule during next term. We will be supporting them with revision techniques and strategies for them to use during this exam period to enable the schedule to be as realistic

as possible. We would encourage you to support your child at home by encouraging them to revise thoroughly for these exams and start in plenty of time.

### Year 11 key dates next term:

- > 6 November - NCFE Food Technology exam
- > 10 December (2 weeks) - Year 11 Mock exams start

As always, we appreciate your continued support. We are aware that Year 11 is a challenging year for students and parents and we will continue to ensure we are doing 'whatever it takes' to ensure that your child achieves their potential this summer.



**Mrs H Norman**  
Associate Assistant  
Headteacher

## CATERING

Our school meals service is provided by Chartwells. We are proud to inform you that a food hygiene inspection took place in September, and we were awarded the maximum 5 star rating. We continue to work with Chartwells to ensure that they offer a nutritionally balanced menu that is fully compliant with the school food standards and represents good value for money; a number of 'meal deal' options are available.

If you have not yet registered for online payments you might be interested to know that if you do, you can also view school meal account balances and top them up at any time. You can also set daily spend limits and view your child's purchase history. If you would like a reminder of your login details, please email our Student Services department [finance@carletonhigh.patrust.org.uk](mailto:finance@carletonhigh.patrust.org.uk)

## COMMUNICATIONS

It is important that we have at least two contact numbers on our records. If you change your telephone number or email address please remember to inform the school. Text messaging, telephone and emails are the main methods

of communication and if our records are not up to date you may miss important information or we may not be able to contact you in an emergency.

## UNIFORM UPDATE

Thank you to all parents and carers that have supported us with regard to the changes to school uniform in ensuring that students are wearing the correct uniform. We appreciate your patience with regards to the difficulties that some of you have faced when purchasing items from our official school uniform online supplier, Price & Buckland. Please note that Price & Buckland are now offering a free delivery service in to school on the first and third Monday of the month. You can collect your order in person or, if you prefer, we can arrange for your child to collect it from our school reception.

We are happy that the trust have evaluated the difficulties that parents have experienced at the beginning of the term with the use of using an online supplier and we are pleased with the decision that next year the school will use local uniform suppliers.



**Ms H Grandfield**  
School Business Manager



# BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

Carleton High School launched the new Behaviour for Learning system this term. Staff and students understand the system, and these clear, high expectations have ensured a calm, purposeful learning environment. Our consequence system means that there is no longer low-level disruption in lessons and student behaviour in lessons and around the school is excellent. Teachers can now focus on delivering outstanding lessons and our students have really risen to the challenge of learning. When the senior team visit lessons through the day, we get to see the positive learning environment in action. Strategies such as 'Buzz and Go' or 'Outfox the Class' are pushing students forward to better and better ideas. It is evident that our new Behaviour for Learning system is having a significant impact; students are telling us that the days are flying by because they are learning so much in lessons. Students are also looking smarter than ever, and we're really impressed with how much pride they are taking in their appearance - they look and feel ready to learn.



**Mr R Pool**  
Assistant Headteacher

Finally, it's great to see so many students receiving Epraise rewards in and out of class for asking thoughtful questions, excellent effort, or just going out of their way to help someone else. We do like to catch students being good - and that's been really easy every day this term!



# SAFEGUARDING



**Mr A Dean**  
Designated Safeguarding Lead



**Mr R Pool**  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



**Mrs J Thomson**  
Child protection officer

## Safeguarding team

We take our responsibilities to protect our students from all forms of abuse very seriously. Carleton High School has a new specialist safeguarding team in place, who our students know they can talk to if anything is worrying them. Our new Safeguarding team consists of:

- > Mr A Dean (Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- > Mr R Pool (Deputy Safeguarding Lead)
- > Mrs J Thomson (Child protection officer)

Please see our website for further details or contact reception if you need to speak to a member of the safeguarding team.

## Sports fixtures after school

In order for us to ensure the safety of our students, we respectfully request that all spectators for sporting fixtures enter the school site via the vehicle gate and park in our main staff car park. Access to the playing fields will be clearly signposted from the car par park. If you need to enter the school building for any reason, please do so via the main reception.





# LITERACY

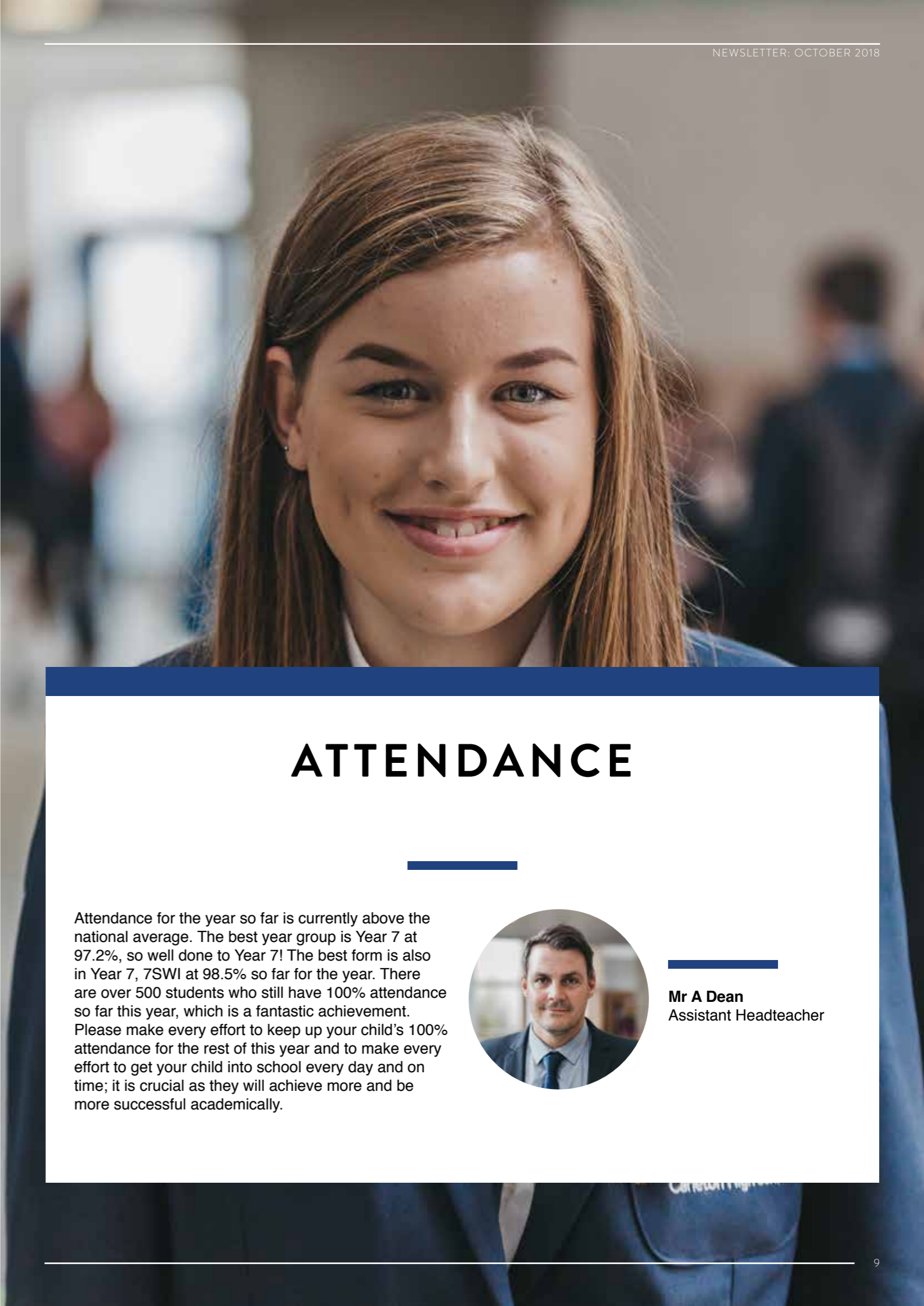
At Carleton High School we realise the importance of reading as a building block for every child's education. We recognise that being a confident, enthusiastic and fluent reader is key to making progress at all levels in all subjects across the curriculum. The new GCSE requirements are even more challenging and students are expected to have a reading age that matches their chronological reading age. We want to prepare our students to get the very best qualifications possible. To equip our students with the necessary skills we have launched DEAR, or Drop Everything And Read. This happens at a different time every week - everyone, teachers and students, whatever lesson, settle back with a book for 30 minutes. You might have seen some evidence of this on our Twitter account - there's nothing more beautiful than seeing children and adults enjoying being engrossed in a good book! Tutor time has time for reading most days too.



**Mrs J Crewe**  
Deputy Headteacher

first reading millionaires - a million words read. We know this core life skill is going to make such a difference to Carleton students, not just helping with learning and exam skills, but for enjoyment too. Our library is restocking regularly with the latest and greatest reads, but if you're thinking about early Christmas presents, a well-chosen book is never a bad choice.

Year 7 and 8 students are also part of the Accelerated Reader programme, and we are getting very close to our



# ATTENDANCE

Attendance for the year so far is currently above the national average. The best year group is Year 7 at 97.2%, so well done to Year 7! The best form is also in Year 7, 7SW1 at 98.5% so far for the year. There are over 500 students who still have 100% attendance so far this year, which is a fantastic achievement. Please make every effort to keep up your child's 100% attendance for the rest of this year and to make every effort to get your child into school every day and on time; it is crucial as they will achieve more and be more successful academically.



**Mr A Dean**  
Assistant Headteacher



# CAREERS

## Year 11 update

Year 11 have been preparing for their college applications in December. All Year 11 students have been issued with a login for UCAS Progress and are able to search courses at all colleges offered locally. It's great to see that so many have been attending college open days to find out what is available and what the entry requirements are. To support them in this process we have had representatives from the local colleges in school delivering assemblies. The next open evening is at New College on Wednesday, 14th November from 5-8 pm. Details of future events will be put on the school Twitter account. Please sign up for this to find out what is going on.

## Shine project

The 8th of October saw the launch of the Shine programme at Carleton High School. Shine's lead representative from the University of York, Raj Mann, was in school all day delivering a full assembly to Year 7, and smaller sessions to Years 8 and 9 on the many advantages of going to university and the benefits of being on the Shine programme.

The Shine programme aims to support students from schools across Yorkshire, the Humber and North East to reach their full potential. Shine is open to students in Years 7 to 11 who have been identified by their school as being high achieving and are from a group that is currently under-represented at university. It aims to inspire, motivate and encourage students to achieve academic success and raise their aspirations towards higher education. For more information please see Mr D Williams.



**Mr T Marks**  
Assistant Headteacher



# OPEN EVENING

We are now on an exciting journey to becoming an Outstanding school and are proud of the improved reputation of Carleton High School in the local community. This saw record breaking numbers of prospective parents and students attend our Year 6 Open Evening on Thursday 27th September.

Our Head Boy, Taylor Wood and our Head Girl, Ellanna Duncan together with our new 7 students Gabrielle Pointon and Luke Purcell, did a fantastic job at delivering an amazing set of speeches to over 500 parents and students. Our student ambassadors acted as guides for the evening. They were excellent ambassadors for the school; clear, helpful and informative. They relished the responsibility and were a credit to the school and to parents. We also had a large number of students volunteering to help out in classrooms, where they supported teachers in making the rooms look welcoming and stimulating.

Consequently, our visitors gave us lots of feedback about the students - every bit of it incredibly positive. All students who helped out at the Open Evening received a Head of School Certificate for "Outstanding Contribution to the School."

Applications for a place at Carleton High School close at the end of October and should be submitted through the Wakefield Council admissions procedures.



**Mrs J Cross**  
Head of School

# WEBSITE AND TWITTER

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Our new school website launched at the beginning of this term. Please visit our website at [carletonhigh.patrust.org.uk](http://carletonhigh.patrust.org.uk) for further details about the school, such as the vast range of enrichment opportunities that are available after the school day for your child. There are also links throughout the website that provide easier access for parents to external sites such as the Scopay cashless catering system and the Parents Evening booking system. In addition, useful links for our students are provided such as 'EPRAISE', where students can log their Epraise reward points.

We have also purchased a number of new online packages this term to enhance student learning at home. The links to these online educational platforms, such as Hegarty Maths, are also provided on our website.

For all the latest news, please sign up to follow Carleton High School on our new Twitter account. We're [@PATCarletonHigh](https://twitter.com/PATCarletonHigh), and we use the account to keep parents, carers and students up to date with all the latest news from the school.

# STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

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As part of the Pontefract Academies Trust, Carleton High School and The King's School have benefitted from working collaboratively this term and have attended joint staff training from the trust Director of Teaching & Learning. Weekly staff training and development has focused on a set of core principles for the planning and delivery of teaching and learning,

based around P.L.A.C.E.S. - Progress, Learning, Assessment, Core Skills, Employability Skills, and Stretch and Challenge. Teachers are developing the structure and content of their lessons around making sure no opportunity is missed to 'fill in the gaps' and that students experience consistently high quality lessons.

# KEY DATES

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Monday, 5 November 2018  
Tuesday, 6 November 2018  
Thursday, 8 November 2018  
Tuesday 4 and Wednesday 5 December 2018  
Monday, 10 to Friday, 21 December 2018  
Friday, 21 December 2018  
Monday, 7 January 2019

INSET – School open to staff only  
Return to school for all year groups  
Presentation Evening  
Christmas Drama Production  
Year 11 Mock Exams  
School closes for Christmas & New Year  
Return to school for all year groups