



CARLETON  
HIGH SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

JULY 2019

## YEAR 11 FOND FAREWELL

Fond Farewells... After many weeks of hard work with GCSEs, the time came to say our goodbye to Year 11.

## STUDENT FOCUS GROUP UPDATE

Our thanks go to the Student Focus Group who volunteer their time to make a difference.

## SPORTS DAY

Wednesday 10th July brought us the best Sports Day Carleton have ever seen!



As I write this final entry for the newsletter at the end of an academic year, it's difficult to comprehend that we've reached the end of a school year. There has been so much positive change in both secondary schools and I'm extremely proud of the work that staff and students have put in to achieve what we have. I'd also like to thank parents for their patience, when so much change is going on it's difficult for some to understand 'why?' until tangible results are achieved. The Ofsted report at Carleton, the examination results this summer, improved attendance and a huge drop in exclusions at both schools are validation of our work, and whilst we know that our work has only just started, there is so much to celebrate. I'm particularly proud of the amount of support we put in place for our Year 11 students this year, there have been countless residential, after school and weekend support sessions, and I'm not sure the staff could have done any more for them. I am equally proud of how the students have conducted themselves, we asked them to meet us half way, and they did, plus more.

When I first arrived last year, both secondary schools worked in isolation and there was very little collaborative work. Carleton needed to improve quickly and King's was in danger of underperforming. Both schools now work really closely together, and there are genuine opportunities for the schools to share good practice and support one another. King's has a new leadership team, a new found energy and drive, and there is a real purpose to the culture there. Carleton is completely transformed and unrecognisable from the school I arrived at last May, and the one described in the Ofsted inspection in 2017. The behaviour in both schools is a real strength. Teachers can really concentrate on delivering excellent lessons, and students are able to focus on their learning. I genuinely believe both schools are on a trajectory to be outstanding schools, and I'd be happy to send my three children to either school.

Our mantra of Culture + Consistency = Excellence continues to be at the heart of everything we do, which means we don't put a ceiling on what our students can achieve. We aim to be consistent in our approach to everything we do, so our standards are always high. We want our students to have as many opportunities open to them as possible when they leave us, regardless of starting point or background. Whilst examination results are incredibly important, they are only one part of a jigsaw. In September we launch a new curriculum which will ensure that we are widening our students' knowledge, deepening their cultural awareness, helping them become more rounded individuals and developing their communication skills. We are also investing in our support systems for students around mental health. On Monday and Tuesday, key members of staff were trained by Mental Health First Aid England, so they can be advocates and support our youngsters with all the pressures on young people in the modern world. It is an area of growing concern nationally, so we wanted to make sure our front line staff are well trained.

I hope you have a wonderful summer, and I'm very much looking to working with staff, students and parents in September.

Yours faithfully

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

# WELCOME

A warm welcome to the summer edition of our newsletter which covers a range of activities, events and information about what has been happening at Carleton, which I hope you enjoy reading.

As I come to the end of my first year as Head of School at Carleton, I can't help but reflect back on the transformation that has taken place here since September. It truly is incredible. Carleton is now a school that all staff and students can be proud of. A school where students receive a first class education and make great progress based on our mantra of culture + consistency = excellence; and this would not have been possible without the overwhelming support from parents and carers so thank you, it really is appreciated.

As you will know we had a section 5 Ofsted inspection on Thursday 4 and Friday 5 July. All I can say at this stage is that I'm absolutely delighted with the result of the inspection, but not at all surprised. Our leadership team and staff, alongside our students, have worked extremely hard to improve the school since September.

I am immensely proud of what we have achieved with the support of our families and staff, and it was pleasing that inspectors recognised the transformation that has taken place, with one inspector saying 'the pace of change has been breathtaking'. We were absolutely delighted to be able to showcase the work of the school to the inspection team. Students were an absolute credit to the school and their families; their behaviour and conduct were exemplary at all times. During the inspection the students' pride in their school was evident; they were confident, articulate and eager to explain how the school has improved.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for your overwhelming support through your parent survey responses, and to those of you who took the time to personally comment on the work of the school and the improvements that have been made over the course of the year.

In other news, a special congratulations to our new Head Boy, Liam Gee, Head Girl, Abi Rushton and their respective deputies James Bamford and Rosie Arnold, together with the rest of the new student ambassador team! We certainly put the range of potential candidates through their paces, having had to submit a letter of application, face an interview, and make a presentation to myself and Mrs Crewe. All students were very impressive.

A highlight for me was reading the student ambassador application letters, where students wrote such heart felt comments about the school, such as 'Recently I have become so proud of Carleton and so grateful that I got to see it as what it is now; it has become a place that both students and teachers can feel proud of!' We are very proud of all the students appointed to the team, and wish them all the best in their new roles.

We also said goodbye to Year 11 students this term after they completed their GCSE exams. We are extremely proud of the students for their commitment and dedication until the very end. Our students have benefitted from a wide range of extra intervention sessions, more than ever before, and I have every confidence that this will pay off for them in this year's summer results.

Another highlight for me this term has been our end of year Key Stage Reward evenings, where we got to celebrate the achievements of our incredible students with their families. A special mention to the winners of this year's epraise leaderboard. Nathan Spence achieved first place, followed by Kyle Wass in second place, and Luke Purcell in third place. All three boys were rewarded at our end of year Key Stage award ceremonies, along with other students who have shone with their effort and attainment in the different subject areas. We are incredibly proud of them all and their achievements over the year.

It was wonderful to be at the CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young) heart screening event on 23 June, where 100 young people received a potentially life saving ECG. A big thank you to the Rory Embling Foundation and our student ambassadors who supported fundraising activities throughout this year, which made the event possible for the young people of Pontefract.

Finally, can I wish all staff, parents and students an enjoyable and restful summer break. We look forward to welcoming the new Year 7 intake as well as all the other students returning to the school on Wednesday, 4 September for another successful school year.



**Mrs J Cross**  
Head of School



# SPORTS DAY

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Wednesday 10 July brought us the best Sports Day Carleton have ever seen! Competition was extremely fierce as tutor groups competed to be the champion form in Years 7, 8 and 9, while some Year 10 students spent the day getting a taste of 6th form college life at Pontefract NEW College, and some students attended an Army event. Team games all morning meant that every student was involved, and every tutor group could play against each other. The excitement built through the day as students looked forward to the big event in the afternoon - the Fancy Dress Catwalk! Tutor groups had selected themed fancy dress to win prizes for the Best Fancy Dress Form, with teams like Snowden's Supers, Corbett's Colourful Circus and Pickering's Purple Dinosaurs. We're not sure who was more competitive, the teachers or the students, but a fantastic day was had by all with music, cheering, fun, and good natured sporting rivalry throughout the day. Can't wait for next year's already!

# PTFA

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The PTFA ran their annual Car Boot Sale to raise funds for the Parents, Teachers and Friends Association on Sunday, the 9 of June. Bacon sandwiches, tea and coffee were all very much required for the early start, where shoppers and sellers alike had a good morning in the sunshine.

The PTFA use raised funds to pay for extra items for school, most recently funding extra table tennis tables for the PE department for an extra curricular club. The next PTFA event will be the very popular Christmas Craft and Gift Fair in November - keep an eye out for the date as we get into the Autumn Term.

The PTFA is always looking for new members, whether to join the termly meetings, support at events, or just offer ideas and contacts for extra fundraising. If you can offer time or support, please contact Reception.



**Mrs J Crewe**  
Deputy Headteacher

# UNIFORM

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Just a polite reminder that we wrote to all parents/carers in May to inform you of our school uniform expectations which are applicable from September 2019. The details of this letter and the uniform guide can be found on the school website. I would specifically like to remind you of some key uniform changes:

- All students will be required to have all new logoed items after the one year grace period that we provided last year. This also includes logoed skirts.
- All students will be required to have the new style Carleton High School tie. This will be plain navy with the school logo at the bottom and will be given to students in the final week of the summer term.
- All students will be required to have a white shirt.
- If students wear an optional sweater, this should be a V-neck navy knitted jumper after the one year grace period we provided last year.

If you would like to check that the uniform items purchased for your child meet our expectations, I will be holding 'Uniform Checking Sessions' on Thursday, 18 July 4.00pm-5.00pm and Wednesday, 21 August 9.00am-11.00am. Finally, following parental feedback, the Trust has moved to local uniform suppliers. Our official uniform suppliers are Better and Bright and Signature Retail.



# STUDENT FOCUS GROUP UPDATE

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Our Student Focus Group were voted in by their peers earlier in the year, and their first focus was to organise some staff rewards, based on what they thought made the biggest difference to how students enjoy and make progress at school. They gathered the views of a range of students, and their next step was to act as 'Learning Detectives' and monitor some lessons, looking for evidence to support the final decisions. The culmination of their work saw staff being awarded with certificates such as 'most enjoyable lesson', 'best feedback to students', and 'best practical lesson', to name but a few. It was fantastic to see the response from staff as they were presented with their certificates. As a teacher, it feels great to be told you are doing a good job, especially when it comes from the people that matter the most – the students! Thanks to Will Stogden from Year 10 who produced a video capturing the whole thing!

After last term looking at what makes great teaching and learning, this term our Student Focus Group have been working with the charity 'Books2Africa'. Students have been involved in collecting books to send to underprivileged children in Africa. When so much of our focus as a school this year has been on the benefits of reading, the Student Focus Group wanted to give others the chance they have had this year to add more reading to their day, and improve the quality of the education they receive. Several boxes of books have already been sent, and the collection continues. Reading is vital to every child's education, regardless of their circumstances.

Our thanks go to the Student Focus Group who volunteer their time to make a difference. Well done on your hard work this year.




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**Mr R Pool**  
Assistant Headteacher

# YEAR 11 EXAM UPDATE

The final two terms of the year have been exceptionally busy for Year 11. Our fantastic students and staff were in school throughout the May Half term holiday, completing four days of subject specific revision to make sure all students were fully prepared for their GCSE exams. We look forward to our Year 11 students achieving the best exam results in Carleton High's history.

We have also seen our first 'Maths Hotel' weekend! We took 18 students away for the weekend before the first GCSE Maths paper for four nights. They received an additional 14 hours of maths lessons over the weekend, expertly delivered by Mr Loftus and Mrs Varley. My favourite quote of the weekend came on Sunday afternoon:

"I can do maths, and I'm proud!" from one of our Year 11 students, smiling confidently about the progress she has made in maths this year. It was great to see students enjoying their 'down time' in the swimming pool, or the gym, and bowling on the Saturday evening too.

Year 11 have now completed their GCSE exams and we look forward to our students receiving their results on Thursday 22 August from 10.00am.

# PROM

A fantastic evening was had by Year 11 students at their prom on Thursday, 4 July. Held at Rogerthorpe Manor, the venue provided a wonderful backdrop for this momentous and special evening where staff and students had the opportunity to celebrate together.

The students rose to the occasion and arrived at the venue in an array of limousines and sports cars! They all looked fabulous in stunning dresses and smart suits. Their 'arrival in style' was shared with many parents and staff as the crowd gathered outside the venue.

During the evening, students had a buffet, the opportunity to have their photograph taken and then danced the night away!

Students and staff agreed that it had been a great celebration to mark the end of the students' time at Carleton High. It was a wonderful evening and the school was pleased and proud to host such a special and memorable evening for our students to remember for a long time to come.



# Y11 FOND FAREWELL

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Fond Farewells... After many weeks of hard work with GCSEs, the time came to say our goodbye to Year 11 as they left us to have a well-earned break.

Our Year 11 leavers were sent off in true Carleton High style in their autographed shirts. At our Leaver's Assembly we enjoyed sharing memories about their five years at Carleton, and the journey they have been on, as well as a farewell breakfast with their staff.

The Leaver's Assembly was an emotional, yet funny trip down memory lane. Many couldn't quite believe how much they had changed when faced with their student photos, from back when they started with us in Year 7!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all Year 11 for the hard work, determination and commitment they have shown and wish them all the very best of luck and success for the future.



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**Mrs H Norman**  
Associate Assistant  
Headteacher

# A TASTE OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIFE!

Students in Year 10 have enjoyed a taste of College and University life this term. Both New College and the Wakefield campuses have put on a range of academic and vocational course taster sessions. This has helped students to broaden their horizons and in turn motivate them to continue working hard at school.

The huge range of courses and opportunities on these visits has ensured that all students have learnt something new and got a flavour of what to expect at the next stage of their learning journey. Both Wakefield and Pontefract New College offer a huge range of A level and Level 3 vocational courses that can be studied in combination, such as Games Design, Construction, Photography, Performing Arts, and so much more, alongside the more traditional academic subjects.

Students have really enjoyed their experiences, and have been impressed by the facilities, the quality of courses available, and the professionalism of the staff. The grown up college campus atmosphere always has a big impact on students too, as they look forward to what could be their future. New College have announced the dates of their **Open Events which are:**

- Sat 12 October 10.00am-2.00pm
- Wed 20 Nov 5.00pm-8.00pm
- Thur 6 Feb 5.00pm-7.00pm

As soon as we get any useful information from other providers we will share this with you. We are always interested to hear of new opportunities to help shape our students' futures, so if you are an employer or work for a provider, and you have some suggestions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



**Mr T Marks**  
Assistant Headteacher







# TOUR DE YORKSHIRE

Carleton High were proud to play their part in Pontefract's Tour De Yorkshire day back in June. Four students, James Bamford, Liam Gee, Annalise Ainsworth and Lucy Tonks, raised an amazing £900 for Help For Heroes in Pontefract town centre on the day of the Tour de Yorkshire. We're always happy to support such a worthwhile charity, and were proud that Carleton students could be part of the big day in the town centre.

In school during the day, our Cooking Club and Student Ambassadors, with help from Miss Butcher and Mrs Collins, rustled up dozens of Tour De Yorkshire cupcakes for a break and lunch bake sale, also benefitting the chosen charity, Help For Heroes.

At the same time in school, students in Years 7 to 10 took part in team relays using our fitness gym equipment to travel the distance of the Tour De Yorkshire Stage – a massive 193 kilometres!



**Mr A Dean**  
Assistant Headteacher

# SEN COMMUNICATION & SOCIAL SKILLS DAY

## YORKSHIRE WILDLIFE PARK TRIP 4TH JULY 2019

A range of students from different year groups had a wonderful day out at Yorkshire Wildlife Park, taking the chance to brush up on their communication and map skills while being wowed by the sights to be seen! Not surprisingly, students were beautifully well behaved and a pleasure to take on such a great day out. We're always proud of CHS students on visits away from school, and these guys were no exception. We were guided around the park by two students in particular, and we were all really impressed by this. They should be extremely proud of themselves as proven navigation experts!

Mrs Ashton, Mrs Mayes, Mrs Farrar and Mr Chisem thoroughly enjoyed the day with the students. They saw meercats and lions, wallabies and polar bears to name a few, and loved finding out about extra details, such as the lioness due to give birth before too long. Meercats are still a big favourite though! The students also got the chance to burn off some energy when they explored the woodlands to discover the Jungle Lookout play area. They enjoyed swinging and climbing in the giant wooden tree forts (maybe inspired by the lemurs!) and had a go at the obstacle courses. A wonderful day was had by all, staff and students alike.



## TRIP TO PERU

Seven students at Carleton High School have decided to embark on the life changing journey to Peru, for a five week conservational trip with Camps International. The trip will allow students to help local Peruvians to establish community buildings that will aid their local infrastructure. Students will also get the opportunity to trek through Peru on a 5 day journey to reach Machu Picchu.

Students are currently developing ideas on how to raise the money needed for the trip. In doing so, Carleton students also hope to help the local community of Pontefract, whilst also raising money for their trip to Peru. Keep an eye out in the newsletter for updates on the students' progress, along with any upcoming fundraising events!

The visit promises to be not only a life changing experience for the students, but will also provide a positive long lasting impact for the communities in Peru.



**Mr A Dean**  
Assistant Headteacher

# REWARDS

We've been delighted to reward students as much as we can this year – and it really hasn't been difficult. Students are 33 times more likely to receive an Epraise point than a negative for behaviour, and we think that tells us everything about how hard Carleton students have worked this year, day in, day out.

In the last three weeks of school, over 350 students enjoyed a rewards trip to Lightwater Valley, but we have used trips, treats and recognition throughout the year to make sure students know how much we appreciate their hardworking attitudes. The Rewards Evenings, where students are nominated by staff for either outstanding effort, or outstanding attainment, are always a joy to attend for staff, students and parents.

However, sometimes a small 'well done' can mean as much as a big event, and we take care to include as many as we can through the Epraise system.

Epraise points have built up throughout the year, and can be awarded for impressive work within a lesson, a particular stand out effort, or just something as simple as being spotted doing a good deed.

The three students with the highest amount of Epraise points in each year group this year really need to congratulate themselves for managing to top the charts. We're really proud of you – be proud of yourselves too!

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
<b>Kyle Wass</b> 487	<b>Nikol Stavreva</b> 375	<b>Skye Nicholson</b> 396	<b>Nathan Spence</b> 603	<b>Charley Cresswell</b> 257
<b>Luke Purcell</b> 470	<b>Courtney Shaw</b> 368	<b>Rebecca Roache</b> 344	<b>Liam Gee</b> 398	<b>Neve Bailey</b> 255
<b>Dinu Wijendra</b> 378	<b>Jack Hampshire</b> 352	<b>Robyn Evans</b> 298	<b>Spencer Pickering</b> 392	<b>Oliver Thackray</b> 216



**Mr R Pool**  
Assistant Headteacher

# TWITTER

We've really enjoyed updating Twitter this year with glimpses of student brilliance, work, events, trips, lessons, charity updates, news – you name it! At the time of writing we are up to 585 tweets for the year, and have just crept past 400 followers. It's a great way for us to share how amazing our students and staff are on a daily basis – and we do love to share that with you. Add @PATCarletonHigh on Twitter to keep up to date with the latest.

Here's just a flavour of what we have shared this year...

**CarletonHigh** @P... · 28/03/2019 ▾  
Ready for our first litter pick!  
[#keepontefractidy](#)



1 4

**CarletonHigh** @P... · 04/04/2019 ▾  
The Y11 rewards trip to Alton Towers was a huge success today! Everyone was fantastically behaved from start to finish and were excellent ambassadors for the school! We hope you had a good day out as a reward for all of your hard work! [@altonofficial](#) [#rewards](#)



1 8

**CarletonHigh** @P... · 25/05/2019 ▾  
Another great quote from a y10 student 'Thankyou for making the school a better place to be. The new expectations have made learning in school so much easier and I feel I have made a lot more progress' [#weareCHS](#) [#proud](#) [#transformation](#)

4

**CarletonHigh** @PATCarlet... · 9m ▾  
All Year 7 are currently enjoying a fab performance of 'The Tempest' at the pop-up [#Shakespeare'sGlobe](#) Theatre in [@VisitYork](#). [#enrichment](#) [#shakespeare](#) [#theatre](#) [#year7](#) [#lifeexperiences](#) [#JacobeanEngland](#)



1

**CarletonHigh** @P... · 15/03/2019 ▾  
Sponge the teacher went down a storm at lunch time today for [@comicroelief](#)! Plenty of willing volunteers who donated a £1 to sponge various members of staff! We are now all soaked and ready for staff vs student dodge ball at the end of school! [#soaked](#)



1 8

**CarletonHigh** @P... · 08/04/2019 ▾  
All safely returned home from NYC with bags full of experiences and memories. Kids, you were wonderful. [#CHSNYC2019](#) [#tripofalifetime](#) [#toomanyphotos](#)



4 1 19

**CarletonHigh** @P... · 28/04/2019 ▾  
Thankyou to West Yorkshire Fire Brigade and Spectrum for delivering very informative sessions last week to our year 7s. Workshops covered water safety, arson, puberty and healthy relationships [#curriculum](#) [#smsc](#) [#dropdownafternoon](#)



2

**CarletonHigh** @P... · 13/03/2019 ▾  
Another great morning [@PATCarletonHigh](#) giving out Head of School certificates to some of our students for outstanding sporting achievements and outstanding ATL [#welldone](#) [#praise](#) [#headofschoolcertificates](#)



2

**CarletonHigh** @P... · 03/04/2019 ▾  
A massive thankyou to the Featherstone Rovers Foundation for delivering a teamwork and communication event to some of our fab students! [#greatday](#) [#inclusion](#)



2