

September 2018

Dear Parent

Key dates for Year 7 Transition performance evening – 26 September 2018 6-7:15pm

I would like to say a massive thank you for your hard work in getting your child prepared for starting with us last week. The first full school week has gone very well, students look exceptionally smart and prepared for school and they have made a great start to their journey with us. I would also like to say thank you for the fantastic efforts put into reading 'Skulduggery Pleasant', it has been so rewarding to speak to so many students who have enjoyed reading the book and the follow up activities. Teachers in English and Accelerated reader have commented on how well students have done and it is great to see so many asking to borrow the next book in the sequel from the Library. Please note that Year 7 all need to have a reading book with them at all times as they will be doing Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) activities every day and will be spending tutor time on Wednesdays reading with their whole tutor group.

Detailed below are some key events for the next half term, which I would like to ask you to add to your diaries.

Transition Performance Evening

On Wednesday 26 September at 6-7:15pm, all of Year 7 shall be performing in our Transition Celebration Evening in our Theatre. This is a compulsory event for Year 7 students and we warmly invite you to attend this very special event to see them undertake Drama and Music performances from their first lessons. You are very welcome to bring other children with you in what I know will be a very special event. Students need to arrive in school by 5:45pm please and go straight to the Theatre in full uniform. The leadership team will be present at this event to speak to you if you have any questions, comments or feedback you would like to give us after the first few weeks in school.

Year 7 Assessment & Reporting / Memory and Recall Information Evening – Thursday 18 October 6-7.30pm (Theatre)

As part of our partnership work in developing academic success we hold an annual evening for Year 7 parents that helps you understand how we assess and report on student progress and also explain some of the key skills we focus on developing in students to help them have outstanding memory and recall strategies. In 5 years, your child will take GCSE examinations and shall be assessed on their ability to recall knowledge and apply skills that they have learnt over their 5 years in school and without the luxury of coursework, which has now been removed from almost all qualifications. As a Trust, we have developed some highly successful approaches to developing memory and recall skills; these are taught and used in school and we shall be having a skills development morning with Year 7 in early October. We would like you to attend this event to find out more about these skills in order to help your child develop and succeed.

Year 7 CAT (Cognitive Ability Test) Assessments

During the next two weeks, Year 7 students will be undertaking a series of three short online assessments. There is NO preparation needed at all for these assessments, they are simply a series of multiple choice problem solving and thinking activities that students undertake. The results from these short assessments help us as teachers to understand more about the learning styles of students and will help to inform teaching and learning strategies and act as a further check on the groups that your child is in.

Communication from TCA

Many thanks for providing us with contact details that we can now use to email and text you with updates. We encourage you to check our website (www.theacademycarlton.org.uk) regularly and also our Twitter Feed @Carlton_Academy. In addition to this, we encourage parents to download and use the School Gateway App, available for Apple and Android devices. This allows you to receive AND send messages to us free of charge as well as look at further information such as student timetables, attendance, behaviour and achievements. Further information is available on our website. Please note that if you need to contact us in an emergency or need a fast response to an urgent issue, calling the school is essential. Further information on the School Gateway is available on our website at www.theacademycarlton.org.uk/text-and-email-alerts

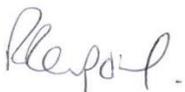
If you change your contact details at any point, **it is essential** that you let us know by contacting the school by phone or email: h.bull@theacademycarlton.org

Show My Homework

In the next few days, you will receive your login details via the post for this very important online system (App) that allows you to keep up to date with the homework that is being set for students. Please watch out for this letter and contact us if you have any issues with accessing this valuable tool which helps support raising achievement. Students are being taken through downloading and logging into the App in school in their ICT lessons.

Many thanks for your support and an excellent start to the academic year.

Yours sincerely



Richard Pierpoint
Executive Head Teacher

