

December 2024

# Carlton celebrates



WORKING TOGETHER TO HELP ALL OUR STUDENTS ACHIEVE THEIR  
BEST, NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.

# WHAT A TERM!



The header really says it all! As I reflect upon my first term as Head of School, I look back in awe at the things our students and staff have achieved since the summer break. As you will see over the next few pages, the experiences that our students, past and present, have had over the last 12 weeks have been amazing. From sporting success to celebration events, a huge number of trips to in-school experiences, this term has been packed full.

What has also been great this term is finding out a lot more about what our students do outside of school. From actors to sergeants in the army cadets, martial artists to dancers, footballers to crocheters, our students are a talented and amazing group of young people.

As we edge closer to Christmas, I want to thank students, staff and parents for everything they have done to support our school community. We have a great school with great students and staff and long may that continue. Enjoy our first newsletter of the year and have a restful holiday.

Mr Hillyard

## AUTUMN HIGHLIGHTS

**107,100**

CARLTON Learner achievement points have been awarded

**7,009**

C+ points have been awarded

**222**

pupils have 100% attendance



Disclaimer: Not all students who took part in events are mentioned in this newsletter. This is because we do not have consent for this. If your child currently doesn't have consent to have photos and names mentioned in newsletters and they would like to have this, please send them to see Mrs Bull in main reception.



# PRIZE GIVING EVENING



## CELEBRATING ACADEMIC SUCCESS

On 26th September we had an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of students in Years 8 through to the ex-Year 13, across a range of subjects. The event was compered by Miss Caines and Mr Lockwood and saw 151 awards given out both during the evening and later for those who could not attend.



We were joined on the night by children's author, Ben Davis, who thrilled our guests with his own life story and then a resounding rendition of his poem *My Grandad's a Nudist!*



## OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

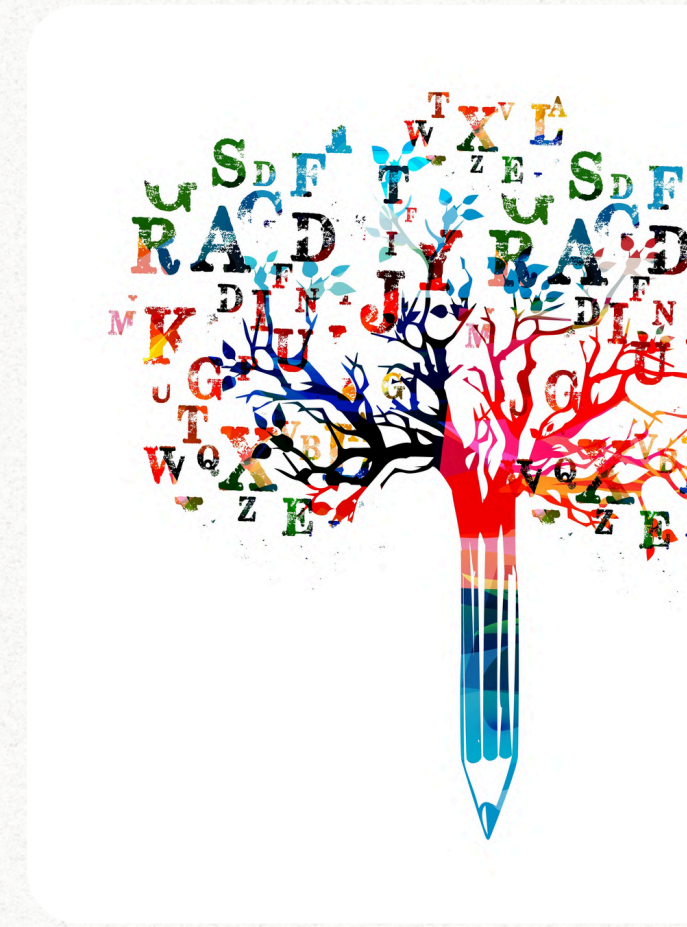
Each year we celebrate the students who achieved the highest GCSE and A-Level grades during the previous summer. These awards for Outstanding Academic Achievement went to Taran and Sam respectively, with the latter represented by his dad on the evening.

Special thanks to Jessica who performed two beautiful songs during the evening.



## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: ENGLISH

As you will see over the next two pages, English plays a major role in not only developing creativity and inspiring young writers, but also in developing lifelong skills such as analysis, communication and developing wider cultural capital.



Over the course of KS3 and KS4 students study a range of texts including Animal Farm, Romeo and Juliet and Noughts and Crosses as well as themes such as Gothic, fantasy and dystopian literature. Students have plenty of opportunities to explore their own writing style through in-class tasks as well as through our creative writing competitions.

**“Books are a uniquely portable magic.”**

As the above quote suggests, reading plays a crucial part in everyone’s lives. In Year 9, English have a stand alone reading lesson where school staff have selected a range of books to read and discuss with their classes, helping to develop a love of reading.

English have also been running two creative writing competitions, one with the theme of the environment and one around the theme of time and memory. Winners will be announced shortly.

**THE ENVIRONMENT**

A CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION  
OPEN TO ALL YEAR GROUPS

In 300 words or less, write an article discussing environmental issues to be in with a chance of winning a prize.

Your could also be published in the TCA Writers' Showcase Book!

Headed by: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024

See this teacher for further information: Miss Tricarico-Humber

**TIME AND MEMORY**

A CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION  
OPEN TO ALL YEAR GROUPS

Write a poem exploring ideas about the passage of time or explorations of memory for a chance of winning a prize.

You could also be featured in the TCA Writers' Showcase Book!

Headed by: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024

See this teacher for further information: Miss Tricarico-Humber

# ENGLISH



## »»» SKULDUGGERY PLEASANT

Over the summer holiday, Year 6 students were given a copy of *Skulduggery Pleasant* and an activity booklet to complete. Congratulations to Benji for being the proud winner of the full Skulduggery collection. Well done!



## »»» YEAR 12 TRIP TO BIRMINGHAM FINE ART MUSEUM

In October, Year 12 and 13 English Literature students visited Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery to see the Pre-Raphaelite art on display as part of their studies of Christina Rossetti. Students impressed the museum staff with their knowledge and engagement and have come back making fantastic connections in their written work between the art works they saw and the imagery in Rossetti's poetry.



## CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

Writing club is thriving! Students are working on individual sections that will later come together to produce a large, collective piece. With excellent willingness to share work in each session and commitment to attending every week, we are very proud of our writers!

## »»» GET WORDING CLUB

Who knew words could be fun?! Our popular lunch-time offer has been so busy that we have had to invest in more games and resources! You can now come along to 'Get Wording' to play Uno, Connect Four, Jenga or even do jigsaws. Our Get Wording Crew come along weekly to escape the cold and enjoy a calm and friendly atmosphere while eating lunch.

## »»» DEBATE CLUB: SHARPEN YOUR VOICE AND PERSPECTIVE

The English Department's Debate Club is thriving, offering students the chance to develop their oracy skills, think on their feet, and tackle key issues and current news in a lively, supportive environment. From crafting persuasive arguments to delivering quick rebuttals, the club helps participants grow in confidence while enhancing their cultural capital. Whether you're passionate about the environment, social justice, or cutting-edge technology, there's always a topic to inspire discussion. With the club growing in popularity, now is the perfect time to join - come and be part of the debate when sessions resume after Christmas!

# LIBRARY UPDATE

## ACCELERATED READER

Year 7 and 8 have had a superb start to the year in their Accelerated Reader classes. Congratulations to Neve, Sophie, Bertie, Hayley, Lois, Ned, Darcy, Benji and Marcus who have all got their bronze award for reading over half a million words. Silver award winners are Bertie, Maya, Evie, Alex, Franklin and Fyfe who have all read over one million words and a huge well done to Ella-Rose and Micah who have both managed to achieve their gold award in less than three months by reading over two million words!

RENAISSANCE Accelerated Reader®

How many words can you read by the end of this school year?

Can you reach Bronze, Silver or Gold status by July 2025?

500,000 words

1,000,000 words

2,000,000 words

Our school is a Renaissance Partner School

Partner School Programme

## BOOKBUZZ 2024

Year 7 started off their reading journey at The Carlton Academy with Bookbuzz. Bookbuzz is a reading programme from BookTrust that inspires a love of reading in 11 and 12-year-olds. Our students were able to choose their own book to take home and keep from a list of 16 stunning titles all carefully selected to ensure quality, suitability and to encourage reading for pleasure. The most popular choice was *Murder at Snowfall* by Fleur Hitchcock, a gripping thriller for readers who like danger, mystery and chills and spills from the comfort of their sofa...

## REDHILL ACADEMY TRUST BOOK AWARDS 2024-25 HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED!

Small groups of students in each of our Trust Primary and Secondary academies in Years 6-11 are currently reading and reviewing the twelve shortlisted titles and voting for their favourite book before we open up the vote to the thousands of students in our Trust to vote for their favourite front cover, first line and blurb. This will culminate in a big event at The Carlton Academy on 14 March 2025 which will be hosted by Simon James Green who won our Children's Book Award in March of this year with *Finn Jones Was Here*.

REDHILL ACADEMY TRUST

Young Adult Book Award 2024-2025

#RHATBA

THE KILL FACTOR BEN OLIVER

IF MY WORDS HAD WINGS DANIELLE JAWANDO

GLASGOW BOYS MARGARET McDONALD

Play

JAYS GUIDE TO CRASHING IT RUBY COLE

THIS IS HOW YOU FALL IN LOVE ANIKA HUSSAIN

REDHILL ACADEMY TRUST

Children's Book Award 2024-2025

#RHATBA

The Island at the Edge of Night Lucy Strange

Call of the TITANIC LINDEAN GAYLEN

BLACK HOLE CINEMA CLUB CHRISTOPHER EDGE

THE FINAL YEAR

THE BOY WHO FELL FROM THE SKY BENJAMIN DEAN

DROWNING IN MY BEDROOM STEVE COLE

# AIM HIGHER PROGRAMME



## THE STEP-UP TO OXFORD PROGRAMME

A group of Year 11 students have started on the Step-up to Oxford programme which is delivered by New College at the University of Oxford. This programme aims to ensure that students who have the potential to attend Oxford or Cambridge begin to start exploring what the universities are like and what the applications process looks like. The first step of this programme was introduced to the students in October where students were introduced to studying at the most prestigious universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The next step of the programme involves students visiting New College in January. Here students will be able to gain an insight into life at the University of Oxford so that they can see that with hard work and determination they could be applying for a place at a university such as this in two years' time.

A group of Year 9 students are part of the Brilliant Club programme where they receive tuition from a PhD student on the topic of Socrates and then go on to write a 2000-word dissertation. The students will then attend a graduation event in February 2025. The idea behind this programme is that students gain an insight into life studying at university. The course that the students have studied this half term has focused on a thinker from ancient Athens called Socrates. This course has introduced the life and times of Socrates and his place in world history. Students have looked at the key questions that he raised about wisdom, questioning and know-how; questions that are relevant today.

## THE BRILLIANT CLUB – WHAT CAN SOCRATES TEACH US?



The  
Brilliant  
Club





## Christmas Cheer

On Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 December Carlton Academy celebrated Christmas in style. On the 11 December we had our inaugural Carlton Christmas Festival, attended by many parents, pupils and staff. We had stalls selling Xmas gifts and food and the Anything Goes Band and school singers serenaded the guests.

On the 12 December we had our Christmas jumper day, Christmas lunch and Christmas karaoke in the theatre as well as the House Celebration film.

Thanks to everyone involved in planning and leading these events.



## YEAR 9 AMBITION NOTTINGHAM VISIT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

Year 9 students visited the University of Nottingham as part of the Ambition Nottingham Programme in November. They took part in a "Student Apprentice Day" where they had to design and promote a business which would be based on the University campus catering to students, and pitch this idea to a panel of staff from the University. The students also had a tour of the campus and learnt about life at University. The day was a great success with students looking forward to a visit to Cambridge University in the spring term.

# YEAR 7 WALESBY TEAMBUILDING DAY



On Wednesday 16 October the whole of Year 7 visited Walesby Forest in North Nottinghamshire. The trip marked the end of the induction process into the Carlton Academy for the students. The day focused on developing relationships with other Year 7 students in the same tutor group and House and challenging students to go beyond their comfort zone to show what they can achieve.

During the day, students engaged in activities such as: rope climbing, cave maze, crate stacking and team-building challenges. It was a great day with lots of smiling faces and students and staff working together to overcome challenges. Well done to everyone who made the day a success.

70 students from Year 8 went to Yorkshire Wildlife Park on Friday 18 October. This was a C+ Geography trip for students to see animals from different ecosystems. Different zones were visited, ranging from Asia, Africa and South America and students were able to see how animals adapted to their different surroundings. This provided links to our upcoming topic of Deserts and Poles, where we will look at these different biomes' climates, flora and fauna.



## YEAR 8 YORKSHIRE WILDLIFE PARK

## Lessons from Auschwitz

Maia, Sylvie, Polly and Noor have represented the school on the 'Lessons from Auschwitz' project. So far they have researched pre-war Jewish Life, attended an online conference on the Holocaust and, on Tuesday 15 October, went to Poland for the day.

They visited all the key sites at Auschwitz and were a credit to the academy. On the 20 October, they had a final online conference where they took part in a Q&A with a Holocaust survivor. They are now working on a project which members of the lower school will be able to see after Christmas.



# BUSY TIMES IN MFL!

The Modern Foreign Languages department has been extremely busy getting things ready to ensure all students have not only improved their linguistic skills, but also learnt about the world around them.

Amongst some of the activities they have been involved in, we should mention how Year 7 have done some research on greetings in different languages and have engaged with teachers in conversations around foreign family and friends, as well as their trips abroad. Year 10 have also interviewed teachers, and gathered some understanding on how culturally different we can all be, still embracing the values that all cultures share: independence, tolerance of different values and beliefs and an equal treatment for all, amongst others.



Mrs Hermida and Miss Delgado have celebrated our annual Christmas dinner with our A-Level students in Vida by Lorentes. It was, as always, a special moment in which the "Spanish school family" ate together some delicious Spanish tapas whilst ordering and conversing in Spanish. It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to eat some authentic Spanish food, for some of them, a distant memory since our school trip to Valencia '23 and for some others, a great initiation to the Spanish gastronomy.

We have also proudly interviewed A-Level students who have applied to Oxbridge to study Spanish at university. It has been such a journey to see one of them growing since Year 7 all the way to Year 13, as a proud linguist.

We look forward to continuing to make remarkable memories with our students during the next term, until then...

¡Feliz Navidad!  
Joyeux Noël!

# DUKE OF EDINBURGH



## YEAR 13 STUDENTS CONQUER THE GOLD DOFE EXPEDITION IN THE LAKE DISTRICT

Seven of our Year 13 students achieved a remarkable milestone, completing their Gold Duke of Edinburgh expedition in the stunning landscapes of the Lake District. Over four days, they navigated through some of the region's most remote and breathtaking areas, including Windermere, Keswick, the mountainous terrain of High Raise, and dense woodlands.

The students were fortunate to experience unusually good weather for the Lake District, with sunshine and blue skies accompanying them for much of the journey. The clear conditions not only lifted their spirits but also revealed the area's natural beauty in its full glory. A particularly unforgettable highlight was witnessing fighter jets practicing aerobatics over the mountains, adding a dramatic spectacle to their adventure.

The expedition was a true test of their physical endurance and mental strength. Clambering over rugged paths and steep inclines, they faced a variety of terrains that demanded careful planning and teamwork. Each day, the students demonstrated self-sufficiency by preparing their own meals using camping stoves. From pasta dishes to hearty soups, they fuelled themselves for the day ahead. Nights were spent under the stars in tents, with the occasional rustle of wildlife nearby - a true wilderness experience.

Beyond the physical demands, the expedition offered a chance for personal and group growth. Students worked together to solve problems, navigated complex routes using maps and compasses, and supported one another when the going got tough. Resilience was key, especially during the longer stretches of hiking or in moments when energy and spirits dipped.

One participant shared, "The expedition was one of the hardest things I've ever done, but also one of the most rewarding. We learned so much about ourselves and each other, and the views were absolutely worth the effort."

This final section of the Gold Award not only highlights the students' determination but also the invaluable skills they've developed, including problem-solving, teamwork, and adaptability. These skills will serve them well beyond their time at school, providing a solid foundation for future challenges.

The Lake District expedition stands as a testament to the incredible effort and commitment of our Year 13 participants. Their success inspires pride in our school community and will undoubtedly encourage others to take on the rewarding journey of the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Congratulations to our seven Gold DofE achievers - you've set a high bar and reminded us all of the rewards of perseverance and adventure!



# DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS CLUB

Dungeons and Dragons club has opened again this year to great popularity and finally settled into a regular regime of wild adventure facilitated by the usual chaos gremlins that are our players. DnD humour aside, it has been fantastic to see so many students routinely come to sessions and take part in adventures written by not only staff but other students.



I have now seen the darkest streaks of some of the students and glorious heights their benevolence can take them, the greed in their souls and charity in every day actions (less charity and more greed of course). I love to see the sheer force of imagination that they all possess, although some problem-solving skills may need some work: they need to avoid accidentally poisoning entire cities in the future.



And of course, there has to be a big thank you to our resident student dungeon masters, who not only wrangle their peers and make sure they don't go too far into their chaotic side quests, but actively write ongoing campaigns for other players. These students have pushed their creative writing, acting and leadership skills to the extreme, and I always want to see what they can do next.

There are now a few spaces open again for DnD club, and we welcome new players and experienced players alike. It is an inclusive space for anyone who wants to let their wilder personalities take over and live in a fantasy world apart from our own.

Thanks to all the students who have taken part this year.

Mr S Powdrill (a kind, gracious and most of all humble dungeon master)



# DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Follow the Design and Technology Faculty on X @TCA\_DT



## Food visit to France

The Food department took a group of 40 students to France from 7-10 October. Our first stop was at a chocolate factory where students learnt about the chocolate making process and participated in a chocolate making workshop, with something yummy to take home. Later that day, students got to make their own traditional, French crepes for their dessert. Day 2 consisted of a group baking session of a Tarte au Sucre, a visit to a local Waffle factory to see how the traditional French waffle is made and cheese tasting after their evening meal with Camembert being most popular. On Day 3 we visited a food market at Bologne-sur-Mer and participated in a town trail. We then headed to a snail farm where lots of students sampled the French delicacy. It was a fantastic trip and we hope to be able to return in 2027!

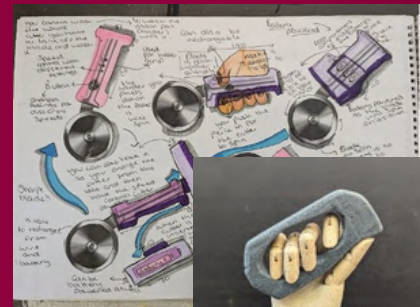
## University visit from NTU



The Design and Technology department have always had good relationships with our local universities. This term we have had NTU's Richard Malcom visit to work with our Year 12 Product Designers, introducing an empathetic design project based around solving problems for arthritis sufferers when completing a daily task such as brushing your teeth. Part of this involved restricting the joints, using tape to feel what it is like to have restricted strength and grip. I think our students were quite shocked. Students have this live brief and are creating design concepts and models that build on the work completed with Richard.

## Year 10 Pizza Cutter Project

Our Year 10 have been busy on their Ergonomic Pizza cutter project, consisting of lots of design and modelling as well as manufacture of the final prototype. Here's just a snapshot of their amazing work!





# REMEMBRANCE DAY

Each year, we observe Armistice Day and Remembrance Day with a traditional two-minute silence. Leading up to the day, House Captains collected donations from students in exchange for poppies, and Dr. Griffiths-Wilde delivered assemblies on the topic of Remembrance to all students from Year 7 to Year 11.

The Art Department put together a wonderful display of ceramic poppies; an annual and poignant feature as part of our commemorations.

On Monday 11 November, Post-16 students were asked to come to school in smart dress, and students who are part of Cadet regiments were invited to wear their uniforms for the day. Students and staff gathered in the open area while Mr. Bird, a parent from our school, played 'The Last Post'. This was also streamed across the school to all tutor groups, allowing everyone to participate in this poignant and respectful moment.

After the two-minute silence, Mr. Bird played the Rouse. Mr. Hillyard concluded the proceedings with the words:

*"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning. We will remember them."*



# Charity Update

**CHILDREN IN  
NEED**

**£249.83**

**BBC  
Children  
in Need**

**CHRISTMAS  
JUMPER DAY**

**£549**

  
**Save the  
Children**

**CHRISTMAS  
EVENTS**

Raised from the  
Carlton Christmas  
Festival and staff  
hamper raffle

**£616**

  
**Emmanuel House**  
Sharing the journey

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE  
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO ANY  
OF THESE EVENTS**

# COMPETITION UPDATES

## Halloween Bake-Off



## Year 7 Volcanoes



Well done to everyone who took part!



## FOOTBALL SUCCESS

The Carlton Academy has had a massively successful term of football where we have won every single game we have played.

Our Year 7 boys have played two games this term. They started with a narrow win over Newark in extra time after being two goals behind, showing tremendous resilience to come from behind but also in some feisty conditions. These boys finished the term with a resounding win 9-4 to progress to the quarter final of the County Cup.

Additionally, our Year 9 boys also picked up a victory in their first game of the year at home against Outwood Valley and our Year 8 boys won on our travels to Chilwell.

We also had success with our Year 9 girls who beat Carlton le Willows at home with multiple Year 8s playing up a year.

In our last fixture of the term our Year 8 girls won a tight game against local rivals Arnold Hill. The game finished 1-1 after normal time and the girls pulled through the penalty shootout winning 4-3.

Sadly, we had cancelled fixtures for our Year 9 boys, Year 11 boys and girls due to a variety of reasons, but these have been rescheduled for next term.

We will have a busy term of football in the new year with the business end of the competitions rapidly approaching and hopefully with a lot of TCA teams in them.

## INTRODUCING ROWING

At the start of the term, we took residence of 7 new rowing machines in our fitness suit, provided to us through our Trust as a part of launching rowing as a Trust sport. This follows on the back of the successful launch of handball as our Trust sport last academic year.

All term pupils have been participating in a virtual competition against every other pupil in their year group but not just within school but across our whole Trust. Each year group has had to row for a specific amount of time and set the furthest distance within that time frame. Year 7s rowed for two minutes, 8s 3 minutes, 9s four minutes, 10s five minutes and 11s 6 minutes. Every PE group has had at least 1 lesson this term to set their distances and Rowing Club has been available every Thursday for those who wanted to have another go or improve their fitness.



## VIRTUAL ROWING COMPETITION

# 2,913

STUDENTS ENTERED

# 1,997,896

METRES ROWED

As a school we have had some truly incredible efforts. The following pupils have all finished inside the top 10 across our whole Trust.

Year 7 – Belle (8th), Caitlin (7th), Harriet (joint 2nd and only missing out on top spot by 1 metre) and Oscar (8th)

Year 9 – Maria (5th) and Maddox (9th)

Year 10 – Belle (9th), Finlay (8th) and William (5th)

Year 11 – Vitalia (10th), Carly (9th), Eleanor (8th), Evie (3rd), Reuben (8th), Fin (5th) and Marley (3rd),



**YEAR 10 BOYS  
WINNER**



**YEAR 11 GIRLS  
WINNER**

However, we have two pupils that have smashed all competition out of the water. Shari (Year 11 girls) and Leo (Year 10 boys) both have finished as leaders in their respective races with two monumental efforts from both pupil. A huge congratulations to those who won and finished in the top 10.

**ROWING CLUB IS  
ON EVERY  
THURSDAY  
AFTERSCHOOL**

# AMAZING CROSS-COUNTRY SUCCESS

A total of 17 resilient TCA students braved the hills and mud of Berry Hill Park over three Saturdays in October and November. Almost half of them ran in all 3 fixtures meaning they gave themselves a chance of winning either an individual or a team medal.

We were lucky with the weather on all 3 occasions, but the hills were still there even if the course wasn't as muddy as usual!

Last year, the Year 8/9 boys team won gold and some of the same team members wanted to do it again this year. They went into the final race sitting in 1st position and managed to retain their title as Champions with some very strong performances, beating Toothill School by well over 100 points. One Year 9 boy picked up an individual silver medal, his highest finishing place in the second race was 2nd.

## And there's more...

On Thursday 12 December, 34 students took part in a Gedling and Ashfield cross-country event. Our students were fantastic and 18 of those students who competed qualified for the County Finals. This means that they placed within the top 12 in their race.

Sadie came 2nd in her race, Leo came 1st in his race as did Olivia.

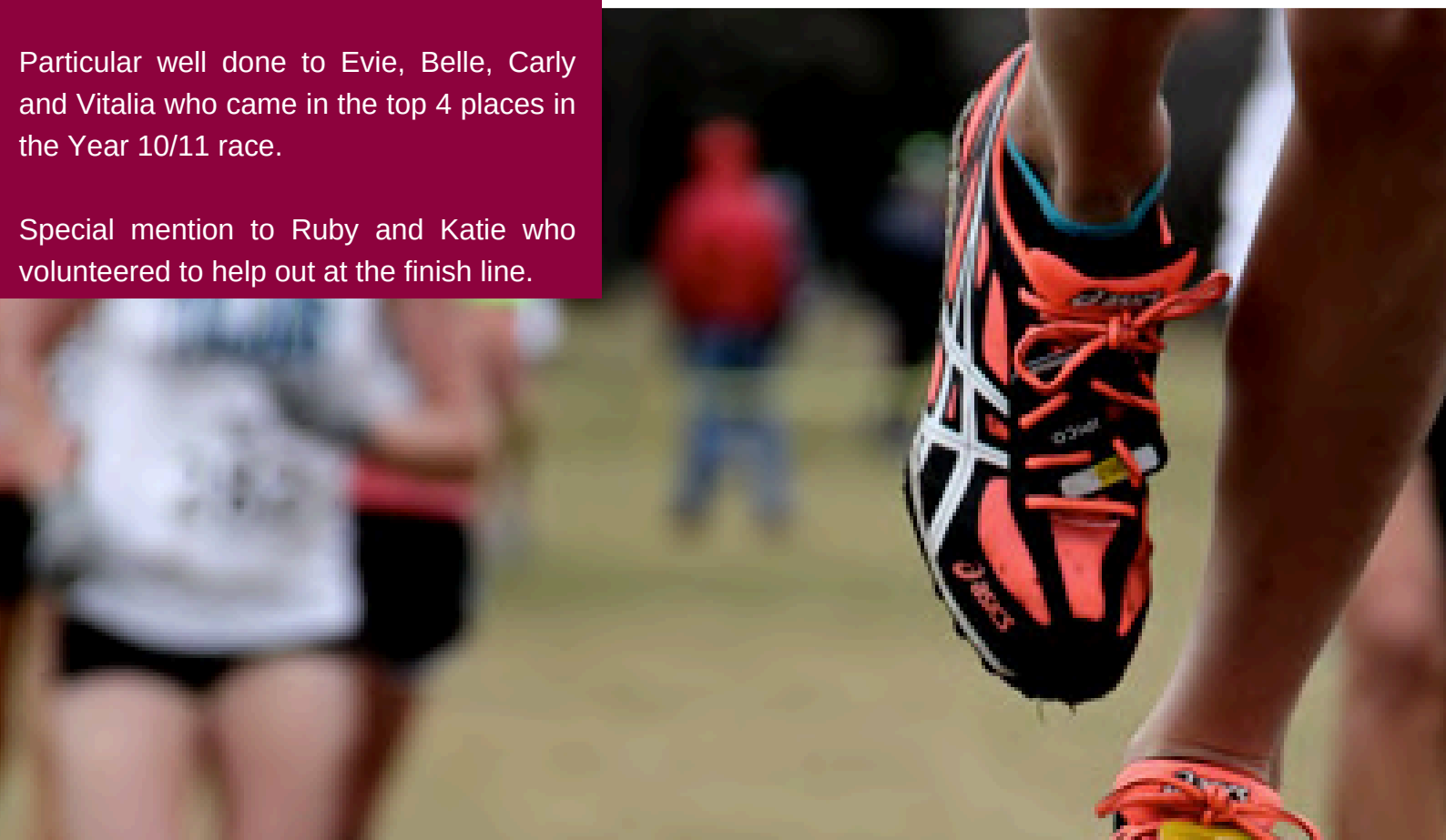
Particular well done to Evie, Belle, Carly and Vitalia who came in the top 4 places in the Year 10/11 race.

Special mention to Ruby and Katie who volunteered to help out at the finish line.

Jessica was in bronze medal position going into the last race but a clash with football meant she was unable to complete the series. There's always next year...

Sadie was the most improved TCA student across the league, finishing in 18th at the first fixture, 10th at the second and ending on a high in 7th at the last one.

Congratulations to everyone who ran in any one of the races – and an even bigger well done to those who completed all 3!



# BREAKING NEWS

## YEAR 10 COUNTY MERIT LEAGUE FINAL SUCCESS!

Just before I finished the newsletter, I received this amazing news and delayed sending the newsletter out so that I could share it with you all. Here's Mr Sharpe's report.

Carlton entered the Year 10 County Merit League Finals day after qualifying equal top of their qualification group and faced off against four other schools in a round robin tournament. We started off the day defeating our old foes Redhill 22-13, then came out victorious in a very tight game against Emmanuel 20-14. The challenges kept coming against an athletic Becket side who pushed us close, however we defeated them too. All was on the final game against Christ the King and the boys held their nerve in a tight final 2 minutes to complete a clean sweep 18-17.

Player of the tournament - Leo. He led the team in points, blocks and rebounds.



The best part of the day was seeing the group working so well as a team and relying on each other to make big plays. Harry scored his first basket for school. Finlay had countless assists. Oliver made a couple of fast break lay ups at vital times. An excellent morning all round which I thoroughly enjoyed.

A special mention to William who sprained his ankle the day before the game but came with us as chief mascot, GCSE film footage manager and assistant coach.

We can't mention every pupil in the team by name due to not having consent, but the whole team was amazing: huge congratulations to them all



# UPDATE

## **Year 13 Moving On Day**

Early in September all Year 13 students from across our Trust attended Moving on Day hosted by Nottingham Trent University. The day was designed to support students with their next steps and included workshops with a focus on topics such as student finance and degree apprenticeships as well as revision, mental health and living independently.

## **Driving Safety**

In November all our Post-16 students took part in a theatre presentation, followed by an interactive workshop, led by Young Driver and Passenger Education Project 'Braking Point'. This provided an invaluable opportunity for students to reflect on their own behaviour and highlighted the key ways to be both a safe, responsible driver and passenger.

## **UK Parliament Week- 18-24 November 2024**

To highlight the importance of politics in our society a group of A-Level Politics students led whole school assemblies throughout the week. Lydia and Stella in Year 13 also presented to Year 12 on how they can get involved in the Gedling Youth Council and have an influence on important issues in our local area.

## **Post-16 Curriculum+**

We have launched Curriculum+ with our students and all students are committing to participate in one or more Curriculum+ activity for the remainder of the academic year. There is a wonderful variety of activities ranging from debate club, sports, music, buddy reading and lesson support.

## **Post-16 Committee**

Our Post-16 Committee meet weekly and have been proactive in arranging a number of events for both Post-16 and lower school. These events have included bake sales for the Macmillan Coffee Morning, Children in Need, Halloween dress up and a film night.

## **UCAS**

Our Year 13 students have been working hard towards their UCAS applications this term with four students submitting applications to Oxbridge. We are proud of the hard work that has gone into these applications and the time taken to complete personal statements and mock interviews. The equal consideration deadline for all applications is on 29 January 2025. It is a privilege to support our students as they make important decisions about their future.

applicaa

**Applications for September 2025 are now open (see next page).**



# CALLING YEAR 11

# POST-16 APPLICATIONS FOR 2025 ARE NOW OPEN



Following our successful Post-16 Open Evening in October we are delighted with the number of applications from our current Year 11 students to study at our Sixth Form in September. We are still accepting applications and we urge students to not miss out on receiving an offer by completing their applications using Applicaa.

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## Why TCA Sixth Form?



*High quality  
teaching*



*Amazing careers  
advice*



*Strong pastoral  
care*



*Dedicated study  
space*

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*Register by following this link:*

<https://theacademycarlton.applicaa.com/14>



# Upcoming Events

- Monday 6 January 2025 - All students return to school, 8:35am.
- w/c 6 January - Year 11 English Speaking exams (for 3 weeks)
- Wednesday 8 January - Ambition Nottingham Trip (Y9)
- Wednesday 8 January - Year 11 Parents' Evening, 4-7pm
- Friday 10 January - Year 10 Mock RE exam
- w/c 13 January - Year 13 Mocks begin (for 2 weeks)
- w/c 13 January - Year 7 Tutor Reviews
- Wednesday 14 January - Year 11 Dropdown Day
- Thursday 16 January - Year 8 Creative Writing Workshop (4 students)
- Friday 17 January - Early closure for Year 7 Tutor Reviews
- w/c 20 January - Year 11 Mock MFL speaking exams
- Monday 20 January - Early closure for Year 10 Tutor Reviews
- Wednesday 22 January - Year 10 Dropdown Day
- Monday 27 January - Year 11 Oxford University visit
- Tuesday 28 January - Year 11 Birmingham Art visit
- Tuesday 28 January - Year 11 Make it Count event, 6-7:30pm
- Thursday 30 January - Year 11, 12 and 13 Space Centre visit
- Friday 21 January - Post-16 MFL Flamenco Dance visit (evening)
- w/c 3 February - Year 8 Reading Tests all week
- Monday 3, Tuesday 4 and Wednesday 5 February - High School Musical rehearsals all day
- Wednesday 5 and Thursday 6 February - Year 11 Hospitality Final Practicals
- Wednesday 5, Thursday 6 and Friday 7 February - High School Musical, 7-10pm.
- Monday 10 to Thursday 13 February - Post-16 Germany History visit
- Friday 14 February - break up for half-term