



Founded 1604

## Carre's Grammar School

Northgate Sleaford Lincolnshire NG34 7DD  
Headteacher N M Law

8 January 2013

Dear Parent/Carer

Happy New year to you and your family! I hope that you have all had a restful and relaxing break and that 2013 proves to be an excellent year for you all. There are a few things that I should like to draw to your attention, as well as some key dates for the term.

### School Website

The website should be the first point of reference for school news and events. Some of the things that you may find of interest:

- [The School Vision and Strategy](#)  
This was drawn up last year and sets out the school's longer term vision and the 5 year strategic intent. Parental feedback, as well as that from staff, students, governors and community stakeholders was taken into account in compiling this. Please take time to read this by clicking on the 'About' tab at the top of the home page. Any views and/or comments are, as ever, gratefully received. It is a dynamic vision and one that has to respond to the needs of both the current cohort of students, and that of future generations.
- [The Carrenian](#)  
This has been written and produced entirely by students and reflects the diverse nature of the school, incorporating school, local and national events and issues.
- [Emergency School Closure](#)  
We are into the colder winter months and the procedures are set out should there be a need to close the school due to inclement weather.
- [Calendar](#)  
The key school events are on this, and it is updated regularly.
- [School Term Dates](#)  
As people are planning their holidays, I would like to remind all parents that the governors do not authorise holidays during term time.

### Parents' Cars on the School Site

May I remind parents that we do not allow the dropping off of students on the school site after 8am for safety reasons. Similarly, in the afternoons, parents should not bring cars onto the site before 4.30pm.

### Lost Property

On the last day of each term we have a Lost Property amnesty. All unmarked property is put out for students to recognise and claim. Any unclaimed items after the amnesty are given to charity. It would be most helpful if your child's property is named as this makes it easier to hand back property which is often claimed to have been 'stolen', when, in the majority of cases, it has been left unwittingly somewhere in the school.

Recently several students have reported that they have lost their 'Superdry' coats. These coats are very expensive but with several students wearing identical coats it is very easy to pick up someone else's coat in error. It is therefore particularly important that these items are clearly and visibly marked with their owner's name.

### Behaviour On Contract Transport

Despite frequent reminders of our expectations, we are increasingly concerned about the unsatisfactory behaviour of a minority of students on the journeys to and from school. We would be grateful if you would reinforce our expectations by reminding your son/daughter about the importance

of remaining seated during the journey. Behaviour such as shouting or throwing objects is clearly unacceptable. All students sign a code of conduct regarding travel which makes it clear that poor behaviour may result in a ban from using school transport.

### **Mobile Phones**

1. Whilst we appreciate that many parents like their children to have a mobile phone with them, and we support this in principle, we will not accept them being used in lessons as they disrupt the learning of others, unless a teacher specifically instructs students to use them as a tool to support learning and it is used in a responsible manner. The school cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage. Phones should be switched off and kept out of sight during lessons. Breaches of this will result in the phone being confiscated and be made available for return at the school office at the end of the day. Should this happen a second time, parents will be required to collect the phone, in person, from the school office.
2. Students who are ill should not contact parents before they have reported to the school office. Could you please reinforce this message with your son/daughter.

### **Uniform and Appearance**

We have a formal uniform which reflects the traditions of the school and our policy on school uniform is stated in the prospectus and on the school website. We expect our students to maintain high standards of dress during the school day and also when travelling to and from school. This means that shirts/blouses should be tucked in. For boys top buttons should be done up and blazers/jackets should be worn. Hooded tops are not part of our uniform. For boys, piercing is not permitted, and they should be clean shaven. The dress code is also intended to respect cultural sensitivities. If there are any concerns, then I would be happy to discuss this with parents.

### **Pupil Premium and Free School Meals**

You will be aware that the Government is giving money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called a 'Pupil Premium'. The Pupil Premium is paid to the school for every child who has qualified for Free School Meals; this year it is £623 per child, increasing to £900 next year.

If you think you may be eligible, please apply as follows:

- Apply online at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/FSMapply](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/FSMapply)
- Apply by phone with the Free School Meals Team at 01522 782030
- Apply by post (you can download a form from the Free School Meal page on Lincolnshire County Council on the Downloads tab)

Even if you choose for your child not to have Free School Meals, if you qualify the school will receive £623. No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming. The cashless catering system also allows your child to purchase his/her lunch without anyone else being aware that they are on Free School Meals.

### **Military Reservists**

It may be possible for the school to obtain additional funding for students whose parents are military reservists. Although full details are not yet known, if you have reservist liability please would you email your details to my PA at [julie.body@carres.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:julie.body@carres.lincs.sch.uk) or call on 01529 302181.

### **Head of Sport**

The school PE department has a clear vision and strategy to ensure that students at Carre's receive the highest quality PE and opportunities beyond the classroom – an inclusive 'sport for all' within a competitive framework. This has now been aligned to the developing House system to create opportunities beyond sport. Mr James Offer will lead on this in his new role as Head of Sport, developing extra-curricular opportunities, whilst Mr Martin Wilson will continue as Head of PE, focussing on curriculum and academic PE.

### **Minibus**

A huge thank you to the Parents' Association for their help in raising the money for the purchase of a new minibus for the school, which arrived this week. This will prove invaluable for the myriad of trips and visits that the school runs and enhance our already impressive enrichment programme.

### **Music Magpie**

A thank you also to those parents who donated items recently for the Music Magpie collection. £69.50 was raised, which will be used to purchase equipment for outdoor recreational activities.

### **Key Forthcoming Events**

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 8 January      | START OF TERM THREE                                 |
| 10 January     | Theatre trip to Stratford                           |
| 11 January     | Provisional date for Year 9 CATs                    |
| 13 January     | British Basketball League Finals trip (Birmingham)  |
| 14 January     | AS/A2 External Exams start (4 weeks)                |
| 15 January     | Year 11 Parents' Evening                            |
| 16 January     | Governors' F&R and FGB meetings                     |
| 30 January     | Year 7 Parents' Evening                             |
| 4 February     | Year 9 Citizenship Day                              |
| 7 February     | Year 9 Options Evening                              |
| 11 February    | Governors' P&W and F&R meetings                     |
| 12 February    | Governors' T&L meeting                              |
| 15 February    | END OF TERM THREE                                   |
| 15-20 February | Germany trip  |
| 15-24 February | Lake Tahoe Ski trip                                 |
| 15-24 February | St Lucia trip                                       |
| 25 February    | START OF TERM FOUR                                  |
| 27 February    | EP Conference Cambridge                             |
| 27 February    | Year 11 Theatre trip to Nottingham                  |
| 27-28 February | North Yorkshire moors Geography trip                |
| 28 February    | U14 and 15 Notts High 7's                           |
| 1-5 March      | Berlin trip   |
| 5 March        | U13 Notts High 7's                                  |
| 7 March        | Year 9 Parents' Evening                             |
| 12 March       | Photographs: Sport and Form - Year 8, 10, 11 and 13 |
| 13 March       | Curriculum Day                                      |
| 13 March       | Leeds Royal Armouries Trip                          |
| 13 March       | Maths Trip to Bletchley Park                        |
| 18 March       | School Music Concert                                |
| 18 March       | Primary School Tag festival                         |
| 19 March       | U13 and U14 County Rugby 7's                        |
| 19 March       | Governors' F&R and FGB meetings                     |
| 20 March       | Year 12 Parents' Evening                            |
| 25 March       | Year 11 Exam Prep talk to parents                   |
| 25-26 March    | GCSE Art exam                                       |
| 26 March       | Year 9 PSHE day 'It's that Easy'                    |
| 27 March       | Key Stage 3 Rewards Assembly                        |
| 27 March       | END OF TERM FOUR                                    |
| March/April    | RFU level 2 course being run at Carre's             |

Finally, I would like to thank parents and carers for their support and encouragement in the education of our students and wish you and your family all the best for 2013.

Yours sincerely



**N M Law**  
Headteacher