



Founded 1604

Carre's Grammar School

Northgate Sleaford Lincolnshire NG34 7DD
Headteacher N M Law

10 January 2014

Dear Parent/Carer

Happy New Year to you and your family!

At the start of the year, as is customary, I would like to take the opportunity to update you about some of the changes that have taken place, and issue some reminders that help the school to run smoothly.

Staff News

Sadly, **Mr Sam Emerson** has left us to take up a new post as Head of History at Wisbech Grammar School, having been with us for four and a half years as our Head of History. We wish him well as he progresses his career. **Mrs Sally Wilson** and **Miss Tracy Mills** will be sharing the role of Acting Head of History in the short term, and **Mrs Karen Handley** has joined us until the end of the academic year, having previously worked at Boston Grammar School and The King's School, Grantham. In the Maths Department **Mrs Amanda Blair** has taken over as Second in the Department, joining us from Kesteven and Sleaford High School Selective Academy, and **Ms Victoria Wiseman** has been appointed as Head of Maths. **Mrs Jacqueline Millband** has joined us in the English Department, having previously worked at The Haven High School, Boston.

Congratulations to **Mr Ashley Thomas** and Laura on the birth of Maya, and to **Mr Jesse Ratcliff** and Sharon on the birth of Benjamin.

School Website

The website should be the first point of reference for school news and events. Some things to which I would like to draw your attention:

- 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 the weather.
- 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.

Breakfast

There were several incidences last term of students reporting to the school office that they felt ill or faint in the morning, often during or after a strenuous physical activity or music lesson. Upon investigation, the boys concerned have come into school without any breakfast. Breakfast is a very important meal to start the day so could you please, therefore, ensure that your child has a nutritious breakfast before he leaves for school to avoid this situation occurring.

Contact Details

We have also had incidences where parents have gone away on holiday, often abroad, and left their child in the care of another family member or friend. If this is the case, please ensure that you have notified the office with full contact details in case of emergency or sickness.

Students' Property

We have become increasingly concerned about the vast amount of students' property which is simply being left around the site. It has always been the case that sports bags must be taken home rather than left at school overnight. We also have a huge number of unnamed items regularly left in school. Again, I would be grateful if parents could ensure that all things that are brought to school are clearly named. These are often expensive items and the casual way in which some boys approach looking after their belongings is quite staggering. Any items found abandoned on site are taken to the school office and, if named, are returned to the student. However, if students have misplaced or simply forgotten where they have left an item they should look around the site and retrace their steps to see if they can find it themselves. At the end of each term a lost property 'amnesty' is held, and any remaining unclaimed and unnamed items are donated to a worthy charity. It is an important part of their education for boys to learn how to look after their possessions, so I hope to secure your active support in getting the message across.

Office Opening Hours

For your information, the school office is open between 8.15am and 4.45pm Monday to Friday, and between 9am and 1pm on weekdays during most school holidays. The office will, however, be closed this half term between 18-21 February (inclusive). Any messages can either be left on the answerphone, or emailed into enquiries@carres.lincs.sch.uk.

Cashless Catering

Please may I remind parents once again to ensure that there are always sufficient funds on their child's ParentPay account. Although it is the start of a new term, there are several students with very little money on their accounts and overdrafts are no longer permitted except in exceptional circumstances.

Vacancies within school

We are looking to appoint two members of staff on a casual basis, to work as and when required:

Catering Assistant

We are looking for someone who:

- Has a Level 1 in Food Safety
- Has experience of working in catering, preferably within a school environment
- Is hardworking and adaptable
- Has good interpersonal skills and has empathy with children and young people
- Is available to work at short notice

Cover Supervisor

We are looking for someone who:

- Has an NVQ in Supporting Teaching and Learning or equivalent
- Has experience of working with students in a formal setting without immediate supervision
- Has good interpersonal skills and has empathy with children and young people
- Is ICT competent
- Is available to work at short notice

If you would like to apply for either vacancy, full details and an application form are available on the school's website at: www.carres.lincs.sch.uk.

Closing date for applications is midday on Friday 17 January 2014. If you have any queries about either vacancy, please call Mrs Julie Body, Head's PA, at the school.

Poetry Live!

On 5 March the English department is running a Year 11 trip to see the 'Poetry Live!' Show in Nottingham. Students will be studying a cluster of poetry for one of their GCSE English Literature papers. Designed to support this exam, it is an opportunity for students to hear from some of the poets themselves who will talk about language, structure and themes. There will also be a talk from one of the chief examiners who will speak about examination technique. This is the third year the department has run the trip; it has proven hugely successful in helping students prepare for the exam and achieve high grades in the past. We therefore highly recommend that your son attends and hope that you will support the trip.

Further details of the trip will follow shortly.

Key Forthcoming Events

15 January	Year 12 Parents' Evening (St George's Academy)
21 January	Year 11 Parents' Evening
30 January –	Cricket world record attempt
1 February	
1 February	Rotary Young Chef final
6 February	Intermediate Maths Challenge
6 February	Year 9 Options Evening
7 February	AS/A2 Ethics Conference (Cambridge)
w/c 10 February	Year 13 mock exams
12 February	Year 7 Parents' Evening
12 February	Year 9 Careers Roadshow
13 February	END OF TERM 3
14 February	Staff Training Day
24 February	START OF TERM 4
w/c 3 March	Year 12 mock exams
3 March	Onatti French Play
5 March	Sainsbury's School Games
5 March	Poetry Live!
6 March	Year 9 Parents' Evening
13 March	Onatti French Play
19-21 March	Year 12 Geography residential (Lake District)
24 March	Easter Concert
26 March	Year 9 PSHE Day
27 March	School Photographs
2 April	Rewards Assembly
3-4 April	GCSE Art exam
4 April	END OF TERM 4

Finally, I would like to thank parents for their support and encouragement in the education of our students and wish you and your family all the best for 2014.

Yours sincerely



N M Law
Headteacher