

Carr Lodge News

October 2018

Where does the time go?

It only seems like a moment has passed since our last newsletter, but here we are at the end of the first half-term...and what a great half-term it has been. Our newest pupils in foundation stage have settled in brilliantly to academy life and are growing in confidence with each passing day. Our year 6 pupils have grown (a little more!) into their new blazers and everyone's attitude to learning has been fantastic.



Year 4 pupils enjoying the new library

Since September, we have launched our new reading initiative, "Reading Rockets", which, from feedback from pupils and parents, has been very well received. Pupils have been more engaged in reading and we have seen an increase across the academy in the number of pupils reading regularly at home. Obviously, this wouldn't be possible without the support of parents and carers, so a big thank you to you all – let's keep this up! Also on the theme of reading, we have been developing a new library space within the academy. This resource will be filled with books of all types, comfy reading areas, an area for technology and research and a space for pupils to enjoy sharing a book with other pupils or staff.

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Maths

Many of you have asked us about our maths policy at Carr Lodge and, in particular, our calculation policy. Next half-term, we will be holding maths workshops in every year group to show parents and carers how we teach maths at the academy. You will receive a copy of our calculation policy, the Key Performance Indicators for your child's year group as well as other online resources to support learning at home

Trip and Events

Our Year 2 pupils had a wonderful day at the Yorkshire Wildlife Park to support the learning within their topic and Year 3 had a suitably Wonka-filled day out at Cadbury World (we think the reason they were late back had nothing to do with traffic, but just the sheer weight of chocolate they were carrying in the coach on the return journey!). We have also had lots of other exiting events, including: an astronomer in year 5 and 6 who literally allowed pupils to 'reach for the stars'; Doncaster Council's Road Safety Team came to work with our Year 4 pupils to ensure they know how to keep safe when out-and-about; Year 5 and 6 pupils competed at the Doncaster Schools' Cross Country competition at the Keep Moat and, of course, we can't leave out the visit of Donny Dog and Traxy Bear after winning the Trax FM competition for free tickets for all out pupils to watch the mighty Doncaster Rovers. The match turned out to be a thrilling draw, complete with a stoppage time equaliser!



It's behind you!



Donny Dog and Traxy Bear

Staffing

After being with us since we opened, today we are saying farewell to Miss Scharnhorst, who is leaving the academy to take on new and exciting adventures in the business world. I'm sure you will all join us in thanking her for all her hard work at the academy over the last 3 years. Miss Hewitt will be joining us after half-term and will be teaching across both key stage 1 and key stage 2. She brings with her a wealth of experience as an English specialist and we are delighted that she is joining our team.

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Pupil Parliament

Congratulations to the newly elected members of the Pupil Parliament. This half-term, they have been hard at work looking at ways to develop activities at break and lunchtimes and have already implemented a 'friendship bus stop' for pupils to wait at if they are looking for a new friend to play with. They have also been deciding what the end of term house treat will be...but they are keeping it under wraps for now, like true politicians!

Attendance

Our target for attendance this year is 97%. Our new attendance policy came into force in September and I would like to take this opportunity to remind you to read through it as there are some changes, particularly around holidays taken in term time. I am really pleased with the start we have made this year – figures are already higher than at the same point last year and the pupils are really enjoying our attendance champion assemblies on a Monday morning. After half-term we will be sending out attendance certificates to all our pupils, so you will be able to see your child's attendance figure for the first half-term.

Universal Infant Free School Meals Entitlement

If your child/ren are in Key Stage 1 (Reception, Year 1 and 2) they are entitled to receive a Universal Infant Free School Meal. This means if your child is having a school meal then you do not need to pay for it. Even though your child is entitled to Universal Infant school meals, parents who are on certain benefits are still required to register on the free school meal website [here](#) to ensure your details are included in the information used to calculate the Pupil Premium Funding which schools receive as part of annual funding. This funding is additional funding we can use to support our pupils.

Uniform

We are all very proud of our smart pupils and how they represent the academy. I am sure you will agree that our uniform contributes to the pride our pupils take in attending Carr Lodge Academy. The logo on the jumper is of particular importance as it represents the link each pupil has and the sense of belonging to the academy.

Our uniform is as follows:

Nursery to Year 5

Dark green sweatshirt or cardigan with Carr Lodge Logo

White polo shirt

Charcoal grey trousers, shorts or skirt

Summer checked gingham dress in Green

Black school shoes

Year 6

Green blazer with academy logo

White shirt

Academy tie (green with grey stripe)

Charcoal grey trousers, shorts or skirt

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Black school shoes

All items with the academy logo on can be bought from Cliffs in Doncaster town centre or online at the [Tesco Uniform Shop](#)

And finally...

As the song goes, we are almost at 'the most wonderful time of the year' in a primary school and once again, our fantastic PTA have agreed to supply us with the traditional Carr Lodge 12 foot Christmas tree for the hall! Many thanks to all involved in the PTA and the invaluable support they offer to the academy.

We hope you all have a great half-term and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 5th November...don't be late!

Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Additional Information
5th November	Academy opens	-
5th November	Bonfire theme meals	We will be celebrating bonfire night with a selection of bonfire themed lunches - choices will be added to the Google Form for that week
7th November	Year 6 visit to The National Space Centre	-
8th November	Year 6 Residential Parents' Meeting	-
9th November	Flu vaccinations	Follow up session from October
16th November	Children in Need	Dress-up day. Theme TBC
21st November	Art Gallery Day	Children's artwork on display in the hall - framed pieces for sale to parents.
27th November	Carr Lodge Christmas Fayre (PTA)	Join us for some festive fun...and, of course, Santa's Grotto!
10th December	KS1 Christmas Show (2M & 1B)	5:00pm
11th December	KS1 Christmas Show (2G & 1L)	5:00pm
12th December	Reception Nativity	Caterpillars @ 2:15pm
13th December	Reception Nativity	Tadpoles @ 2:15pm
14th December	Nursery - Carols Around the Tree	10:30am for morning pupils 2:30pm for afternoon pupils
17th December	KS2 Carol Service	5:00pm
18th December	KS2 Carol Service	5:00pm
21 December	Last day of term	HoHoHo!

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