

Carr Infant School Newsletter

13.06.25

A busy few weeks...

We're in a busy and important part of the school year as we work hard to secure learning and celebrate the progress children have made. Over the coming weeks, we'll be finishing up end-of-year assessments to help us prepare your child's school report, which you will receive in July.

This week and next, our Year 1 children are completing their Phonics Screening Checks, and we've been so impressed with the effort and focus they've shown (for more information, see the next page). Meanwhile, Year 2 pupils have been tackling parts of their final assessments with great maturity. We are proud of how they are approaching this period –calmly, confidently, and with real pride in their work.

Year 2 are also now well into their transition to Carr Junior School. This is a big step, and while many children feel excited, it can also bring a mix of emotions. We're taking time to talk about this in class and give space for any worries or questions. Thank you to families who are supporting these conversations at home too.

We'd also like to thank everyone who has come along to our Open Afternoons so far. It's been wonderful to welcome you into classrooms and to share the progress your children have made this year. The sense of pride from pupils—showing their books and talking about their learning—has been lovely to see.

Finally, a reminder to check the dates page of this newsletter to make sure you're aware of what's coming up. There's lots happening between now and the end of term—we don't want you to miss a thing!

Best wishes,
Dr James Canniford



Check out our new website:
www.carrinfantschool.co.uk



Our Learning

Nursery

It has been a happy week in Nursery, full of purposeful play and learning both indoors and out. We've loved seeing the children connect ideas and use resources creatively.

Our enrichment text, Super Duper You, sparked discussions about what makes us unique. In Love of Reading, we continued with Hello, Friend, focusing on friendship, kindness, and exploring nouns and verbs.

For Phonics, children moving to Reception are practising recognising and writing their names, a great start for September. We also focused on the 'ch' digraph, practising skills in 'sound talking' and blending words like 'ch-i-ck' and 'ch-i-p'. In Maths, we explored the composition of numbers 3, 4, and 5 with hands-on activities.

Reception

We've had a fantastic start to the half term! In Maths, the children have been exploring teen numbers, learning that these are made up of a '10 and a bit' – a great step in building their number sense.

In Phonics, we've been focusing on Phase 4, particularly reading CVCC (consonant, vowel, consonant, consonant) words, which can be challenging as the children practice segmenting sounds carefully.

Our Design Technology lessons have been very creative, with the children making clay animals as part of their 3D sculptures project. PE has been full of fun and teamwork, with tagging games helping the children learn to follow instructions and play safely and fairly. We're so proud of their enthusiasm and progress – it's been a wonderful two weeks!

Attendance Cup

WB. 02.06.2025

Saplings	96%
Acorn	97%
Chestnut	91%
Oak	93%
Birch	94%
 Willow	99%
Alder	89%

WB. 09.06.2025

Saplings	91%
Acorn	94%
Chestnut	89%
Oak	92%
Birch	86%
 Willow	96%
Alder	90%

We are introducing a range strategies to encourage good attendance:

- **Attendance Cup** - Best whole-class Attendance
- **The Dippy Wheel** - All children with 100% that week are put into a draw to win a dippy box item
- **Attendance Improvement Certificates** - to recognise improvements in attendance over time
- **Good Attendance Certificates** - To recognise ongoing good attendance over the term

Year 1

This term, Year 1 have been busy authors! After exploring King of the Swamp, the children rewrote the story in their own words before creating fantastic new versions using original characters and imaginative settings.

In Geography, they've been learning to identify human and physical features, using maps to support their understanding.

Art lessons have been full of colour as the children explored mixing primary colours to create secondary ones, producing vibrant pieces.

In Science, Year 1 predicted the flowers different seeds and bulbs might grow into. They enjoyed using an identification video to check their predictions.

It's been a fantastic start to the term - full of creativity, curiosity, and colourful learning!

Year 2

It has been absolutely lovely to have all the children back after the half-term break! We've jumped straight into our final half-term of the year, and it's already buzzing with learning.

In English, we've been busy retelling our own exciting versions of "The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch." For Maths, we've become super statisticians, mastering tally charts, bar charts, and tables. Now, we're refreshing our brains on the wonderful world of 2D and 3D shapes.

Our Science lessons have explored the properties of different materials and taught us all about the 3 R's: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. This half-term, we'll also be delving into Geography, Computing, and Art, alongside RE, PHSE, and PE.

It's going to be a busy but brilliant last few weeks in Year 2!

Dates for the Diary

Dates in bold show parent/carer involvement

Red indicates changed dates

----- 2024 - 2025 -----

June

19th - Reception trip to Howsham Mill

20th - FOC Non-Uniform Day - Prize for the Summer Fair

23rd - Last Year 2 Writing After School Club session

29th June - FOC Summer Fair at Westbank Park

30th - Last KS1 Poetry After School Club Session

July

1st - Nursery Sports Day 1-2pm

1st - Reception & Sycamore Sports Day 2-3pm

2nd - KS1 Sports Day 2-3pm

3rd - Rocksteady Concert 2.30pm

7th - Nursery September starters stay & play 3.15pm

9th - Monthly School Tour for prospective parents 10.30am

11th - Last Reception Dance After School Club session

14th - Last Energy After School Club session

14th - Nursery end of year picnic

15th - Year 2 Leavers Performance 2.15pm

18th - School closes to all pupils for the summer holidays

21st & 22nd - Training Days

What is the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check?

All children in Year 1 across the country take part in a Phonics Screening Check during the summer term. This is a short and simple assessment that helps us check whether children are on track with their phonics knowledge—a vital skill for reading and early literacy.

The check itself involves reading 40 words—some real and some made-up ('alien words')—using the phonics skills they've been learning throughout Reception and Year 1. It is carried out one-to-one with a teacher they know, in a calm and familiar environment. Most children don't even realise they are doing a test, and we work hard to make sure it feels low-pressure and encouraging.

The results of the check help us identify whether a child may need extra support with phonics as they move into Year 2. These results will be shared with you in your child's end-of-year report. If your child doesn't meet the expected threshold this time, they will continue to receive phonics support and take the check again in Year 2.

There is no need to practise at home, though continuing to enjoy reading with your child and playing simple phonics games together is always helpful. If you'd like to see a sample check or have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher.

We're really proud of the effort our Year 1 pupils have shown this week during their checks — they've approached them with great confidence and enthusiasm.