

Carr Infant School Newsletter

11th February 2026

This term has seen so many of our children make great progress whilst enjoying a wealth of learning opportunities. We have been wowed by the volume of bronze stickers, and silver stickers too, that really highlight some of the excellent learning behaviour that our children show us each day. We have even been able to award our first 2 gold awards - this was a very special and proud moment for our school. In Year 2 we have seen children really hone and improve their writing skills, especially in their recent persuasive pieces where they were tasked with persuading staff to recruit a school guinea pig! Our Year 1 children have wowed us with their phonic knowledge and they are working hard to become fluent, enthusiastic readers. In Early Years, children have produced some excellent writing about Supertato and have been working incredibly hard to form letters and words with increasing accuracy - well done!

It has been wonderful to get to know you as families and members of the local community. This is something that we are eager to continue to build on. With that mind, watch this space for upcoming community events as we look to make school life and pupils achievements even more visible for our families.

As we move into Spring 2 we will continue to celebrate those excellent learning behaviours in school (with more gold awards, I am sure) whilst also turning our focus to raising the profile of reading even further.

Have a resful break with your families,
Best wishes
Matt Oxley

Reception

This half term in Reception, we have been busy with lots of fun and exciting learning!

In our "I Am a Scientist" learning, we have been exploring pushes and pulls. We also investigated floating and sinking, making sensible predictions before putting objects into water to see what would happen. There were lots of fantastic ideas and great new scientific words being used! We have also been learning all about hibernation. Children loved making clay hedgehogs, carefully rolling the clay and adding spiky backs. We talked about how some animals go to sleep for the winter and why they need to stay warm and safe.

In RE, we have been learning about special places of worship. Children enjoyed creating their own colourful stained glass window paintings and designs.

Our role play area has been full of excitement as we celebrated Chinese New Year. Children explored decorations, artefacts and pretended to prepare special celebration meals.

It has been another successful half term with super progress, and we are really proud of the children!



Our Learning

Nursery

What a super half term the children have had, extending their ideas through play and developing skills across all areas. In the last weeks of the half term, our Phonics focus has been the sounds c, k, and e, with children listening for initial sounds, sound talking, and blending. During Rhyme Time, we tuned into sounds and rhymes, enjoying "Row, Row, Row Your Boat." In Love of Reading, we explored Amazing by Steve Antony, generating synonyms such as awesome and great, identifying verbs, and building sentences with nouns. In Maths, our focus has been numbers 1-5, working on 1:1 correspondence, recognising numerals, and matching quantities. We finished the half term by learning about Lunar/Chinese New Year, which falls on 17th February.

Year 1

It has been a wonderful few weeks of learning in Year 1! In Maths, the children have been busy exploring the relationship between numbers by working on their doubles and using that knowledge to solve near doubles. We have been very impressed with their growing confidence in mental recall. In English, we are focusing on embedding our phonics teaching through our daily writing, encouraging the children to apply their sounds to spell increasingly complex words independently. Our Science sessions have been full of discovery as we continue exploring our senses, learning how our bodies help us understand the world around us. A real highlight was our History lesson where we investigated how teddy bears have changed over time. We used a timeline to see that bears have been popular for over 100 years and even enjoyed a teddy bears' picnic with our own favourite bears to compare their features

Attendance Cup

Whole School **95%**

Saplings **98%**

Acorn **95%** **88%** Chestnut

Oak **95%** **95%** Birch

Alder **91%** **100%** Willow 

We are aiming for 95% minimum attendance. Missing more than 10% throughout primary school is the same as missing over 6 months of school.

Year 2

What a fantastic first half of the Spring term we've had! Our budding authors have been busy writing persuasive letters to Mr. Oxley, using expanded noun phrases and facts to make their arguments truly shine.

In Maths, we mastered money and began exploring multiplication through grouping—a skill we'll continue to sharpen after the break. Our Science investigations took us into the world of materials and their properties, while History saw us soaring through the timeline of significant events in flight.

In PE, we've been perfecting our aim in target games and finding our rhythm in dance by counting in 8s. We also explored spiritual connections to God in RE. Finally, in DT, we studied balanced diets and tasted various ingredients to design our very own delicious wraps!

Dates for the Diary

Dates in bold show parent/carer involvement
Red indicates changed dates

----- 2025 - 2026 -----

February

12th – Training Day – school closed to all pupils

13th – Training Day – school closed to all pupils

23rd – School re-opens to all pupils

26th – Individual school photographs

March

5th – World Book Day

18th – 20th – Scholastics Book Fair

20th – FOC non-uniform day for the Easter Fair

23rd – FOC Easter Fair

26th – Nursery Easter Bonnet Parade – 8.45am

26th – Rocksteady concert – 2.30pm

27th – Last day in school before the Easter holiday

April

13th – School re-opens to all pupils following the Easter holiday

Individual Photographs

All children in school will be photographed individually. We will NOT be taking any sibling photos during the day, or before or after school. Children will need to come into school dressed in their school uniform.

Reading update at Carr Infants!

Today, you will notice that your child has a reading diary in their book bag! In order to raise the profile of reading further, we would like to record our reads at home so that we can celebrate them in school. Children will be awarded a bronze, silver and gold certificate for 10, 20 and 25 reads respectively. These certificates do not have any link to our behaviour policy but allows us to have a shared language.

Children will continue to come home with books, however parents can make a note of a different text that has been read, even if this is football programme or comic that they enjoy reading. The idea is to simply celebrate frequent reading as we know that this leads to improved fluency and helps us to foster a love of reading.



Gold Awards

Joshua and Addie have both received gold awards during our celebration assembly today!



Joshua received his gold award for always making the right choices and demonstrating the correct behaviours around school. During lessons he is always sat smartly, ready to learn, and will always give new things a try.

Addie received her gold award for always making the right choices and demonstrating the correct behaviours around school. Addie always works really hard in lessons and isn't afraid to ask for help.



Spring 2 updates! Clubs

We are excited to share that as of Spring 2 we will begin working with Ignite Sports. This means that for the remainder of the Spring term our clubs will have a sports focus. These clubs will run from 3:15pm to 4:00pm, on at least four afternoons each week. These clubs will commence in week 2 of the Spring half term - WC 2.3.26.

Early in the first week back, more information will be circulated as to how our families can sign children up to those clubs, free of charge.



CARR ART STUDIO

Next half term Carr will have its own art-centered classroom to support emotional regulation and provide a therapeutic outlet for students. Art allows children to express emotions and feelings whilst regulating.

We also hope to develop our children's sense of achievement and pride in their creations. By offering this creative space, we aim to enhance their emotional well-being but also foster a love for the arts and encouraging self-expression. This approach will allow children to further develop self-regulation skills before returning to the classroom. Watch this space for further updates!