

Carr Catchup

Fortnightly news & updates for Carr families

Hi everyone,

It has been a very busy and exciting two weeks at Carr. Each year group took part in an X Martial Arts workshop, which the children absolutely loved. The sessions focused on respect, discipline and confidence, and it was fantastic to see pupils fully engaged and embracing these important values.

This week, we also launched our 12 Days of Christmas, and we have lots of exciting festive activities planned in the run-up to the end of term. We began on Tuesday with a brilliant whole-community game of bingo—thank you to everyone who came along and helped us get into the Christmas spirit. Children have also enjoyed our whole-school Craft Day, moving around classes to take part in a range of creative activities.

Each day of the 12 Days of Christmas brings something new, along with daily attendance prizes to be won. We will continue to share reminders so that children know what is happening and can join in the fun.



As you will be aware, school was closed yesterday due to a significant heating issue. Thank you for your understanding and support—we will keep you updated as the situation progresses.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Winston

Spotlight on Attendance



What a great start to the week with the start of our 12 Days of Christmas Attendance Challenge! This is running from Tuesday 2nd December to Thursday 18th December. Our aim is to promote and reward outstanding attendance in the final weeks of term. So far we have given away eight prizes to eight very happy children! We hope the children are enjoying and looking forward to the festive fun that we have in store this December.

Reasons why good attendance is important

- Regular attenders make better progress, both socially and academically
- Regular attenders find school routines, school work and friendships easier to cope with
- Regular attenders find learning more satisfying
- Regular attenders are most successful in transferring between primary school, secondary school, higher education and employment or training

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please contact the office on 01904 798996 or email admin@carrjunior.elts.org.uk or attendance@carrjunior.elts.org.uk and Mrs Williams, our Attendance Officer, will be happy to help you.

Dates

Monday 8th - Wednesday 10th December - Year 5 Peat Rigg

Monday 8th December - Whole School Candy Cane Hunt

Tuesday 9th December - Whole School Free Festive Snack

Wednesday 10th December - Whole School Festive Treasure Hunt

Wednesday 10th December - Year 3 Samba Workshops

Thursday 11th December - Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day

Thursday 11th December - FOCS Secret Santa Stalls

Thursday 11th December - Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day

Friday 12th December - Reindeer Rush

Friday 12th December - FOCS Secret Santa Stalls

Monday 15th December - Carol Concert 2pm

Tuesday 16th December - Carol Concert 9.30am

Wednesday 17th December - Christmas Movie Afternoon

Thursday 18th December - Last day

Friday 19th December - Training Day

Carr Junior School governors are currently seeking enthusiastic new governor volunteers who are not parents/carers of the school (due to the current parent / non-parent ratio) to join the team.

They are specifically looking for expertise in business, finance, safeguarding, SEND and all aspects of education but do welcome interest from all communities and backgrounds.

If you are passionate about education or making a difference to the lives of children in our city and want an application form or to arrange a visit to our school, please contact clerk@elt.org.uk.



PE Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 4	Year 6
Year 3	Sparks PM			Year 3

Class 4CG

4CG have been delving into the secret world of Bletchley Park over the last couple of weeks! We had a go at creating our own secret codes based on the idea of the enigma machine. We created a cipher by swapping each letter in the alphabet with another one. We then wrote a coded message to our partner to see if they could crack the code. We gave them some clues to get started!

Additionally, 4CG had a wonderful Christmas craft day this week, making intricate and sparkly wreaths to decorate our trees. We are now getting into the festive spirit!

Class 4K

This week, 4K have unleashed their creativity to write their own sequels to our recent writing unit, *Winter's Child*. The children have taken their own unique ideas and run with them, crafting narratives that continue the adventures of the original characters or introduce entirely new ones. Their imaginations have truly shone through, resulting in a collection of incredible stories that are a testament to their improved writing skills. In addition to this, 4K have continued to shine during their practicing of our Christmas Carol songs. We are so close to the final performance and they can't wait to sing for all of their beloved family and friends.

Class 6F

Life in 6F has been a fantastic mix of curiosity and fun! We have had a full History day where we have been learning about how King John, Charles I, Charles II and Oliver Cromwell changed the monarchy. We have carried out many scientific experiments linked to light. This week, we have begun our festive fun with four excellent Christmas craft

activities and we are starting to learn our songs - ready to wow you at the concert soon. We also celebrated our first attendance trophy - fantastic effort from all in 6F.



Class 6M

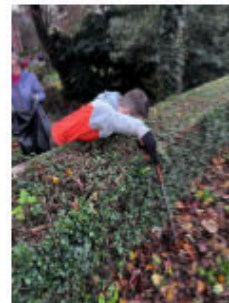
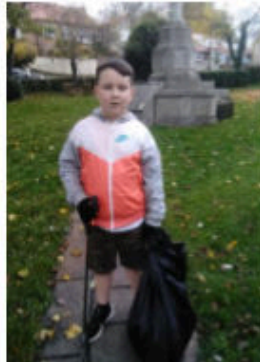
6M has been buzzing with excitement! In Science, things got *bright*—literally! We've been busy experimenting with light, exploring reflections, refractions and shadows. This week, we've had a full-on *History Day*, diving into the dramatic stories of King John, Charles I, Charles II (and Oliver Cromwell), and discovering how each one helped shape the monarchy we know today. The festive spirit has officially arrived in 6M; Christmas craft activities have got us feeling festive. Our elves have been causing havoc around the classroom and we have started learning our Christmas songs. What a fantastic start to the season!

❤ Carr Junior's Random Acts of Kindness ❤

We are incredibly proud of Ben (Y4), who has been dedicating his own time to help keep our community clean.

Before his Cubs Remembrance Day parade, Ben visited the cenotaph and the parade route to collect litter and ensure the area looked its best. He now goes out every Thursday after school with his grandma to continue his litter-picking efforts, and he has even set himself the goal of litter picking all the way from home to Manor School.

Well done, Ben – your hard work and community spirit are truly inspiring!



✨ Keep the Kindness Coming! ✨

Don't forget – if your child carries out a *random act of kindness*, whether in school or out in the community, we'd love to hear about it!

Please email the office **for the attention of Miss Bedda** so we can celebrate their caring actions.

We love seeing all the kind things our Carr Stars do! ❤️☀️

Personal Development Updates:

A huge thank you to all the parents and families who joined us for our Christmas Bingo!

It was a wonderful way to come together as a school community to celebrate the festive season. The atmosphere was full of joy, laughter, and excitement – especially as some fantastic prizes were won!

Thank you for helping make the event such a special and memorable evening. ❤️



29TH & 30TH DECEMBER WINTER WONDERLAND

Have yourself a merry little Christmas!

BADMINTON COURT CLASH
ELF SHELTERS
SNOWMAN PAPER CHAINS
(ICE) HOCKEY
DIY SNOWMAKING
SNOW BENCHBALL
CLAY WORKSHOPS
DANISH LONGBALL
FROSTY FOOTBALL
WALLBALL

PLUS
FRUIT KEBABS &
SMOOTHIES



BOOK NOW:
app.holidayactivities.com

YORK
Energie, Acomb



Christmas Fun

Christmas Songs

Christmas Crafts

Sunday 14th December | 11.00am
Sanderson House (The Place)
Chapelfields

All free | Everyone welcome

Christmas Food

Christmas Story

gatewaychurch.in.chapelfields.for.chapelfields

ACOMB COMMUNITY CAROLS

THURSDAY 18th DECEMBER | 6.30PM | FRONT ST

CAROLS BY THE CHRISTMAS TREE

HOT MULLED DRINKS

SCRATCH BRASS BAND*

EVERYONE WELCOME

gatewaychurch & [St Stephen's Church](mailto:ststephens)

*IF YOU PLAY A BRASS INSTRUMENT AND CAN SING READ MUSIC, WE'D LOVE YOU TO PARTICIPATE. REHEARSAL FROM 5.30PM. EMAIL OFFICE@GATEWAYCHURCH.ORG.UK TO LET US KNOW WHAT INSTRUMENT YOU PLAY.



Yorklight

We are thrilled to be bringing the beloved musical Annie to the York Theatre Royal stage in February 2026 and we are inviting York area primary school children to be part of it!

In collaboration with the theatre we are running an Annie poster competition for York children with prizes including two tickets to see the show, a personal letter from our Annies and their poster displayed at the York Theatre Royal.

This is following our popular The Little Mermaid poster competition (2024), which saw children from 7 York schools take part. A number of schools fed back that it was a great project to do in class, whilst others had children bring in posters they'd made at home. There was a lot of excitement amongst the kids and the winners had a fabulous time watching the show and seeing their poster up at the theatre.

How it works:

- Pupils design a poster for York Light's performance of Annie
- Designs are submitted to the school office, each clearly marked on the back with the **child's name, school year and school**
- All posters need to be delivered or posted to the York Theatre Royal, St Leonard's Place, YO1 7HD, arriving no later than Friday 23rd January (collection from the school office may be possible, please get in touch if you require this)
- The winning designs will be chosen by the cast, including our Annies, and the winners informed by email to the school office by 30th January

All posters must be:

- A4, Portrait orientation
- Include the following details: Annie, 12-21 February 2026, York Theatre Royal
- Other than that, we'd love to see the children's creativity in celebrating this wonderful show

The prizes:

There will be **three** posters selected to win - one from each age group - Early Years (Reception), KS1 and KS2. Each chosen artist will win:

- 2 tickets to see Annie at York Theatre Royal on Sunday 15 Feb 2026 at 15.00 or Thursday 19 Feb 2026 at 2.30pm (their choice)
- Their poster displayed at the York Theatre Royal and in the show's programme
- A personal letter of congratulations from our Annies

FREE Join us on a... gatewaychurch

CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE

in the jungle!

FOR KIDS IN PRIMARY SCHOOL

SATURDAY 20th DECEMBER

4PM - 5.30PM (DOORS OPEN 3.50)

THE GATEWAY CENTRE

Drop off your kids or stay for mince pies in our parents' cafe

GATEWAY CAROLS

SUNDAY 21st DECEMBER | 3.00PM
THE GATEWAY CENTRE

Celebrating the Christmas story with carols and readings, followed by mince pies and mulled fruit juice. All ages welcome.

gatewaychurch

