

As we come to the end of another busy and enjoyable Christmas term, we would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been a wonderful few months at school. The term has been filled with learning, creativity, and festive cheer, and we are incredibly proud of all that the children have achieved.

From classroom activities and seasonal events to performances and celebrations, the children have shown enthusiasm, kindness, and resilience throughout the term. We would like to thank you for your continued support, particularly during this busy time of year, and for working so closely with us to support your children's learning and wellbeing.

We wish you and your families a happy, peaceful Christmas and a healthy New Year. We look forward to welcoming the children back refreshed and ready for the new term!

## Working together for school attendance

Thank you to the whole community for being such amazing partners in your child's learning, committed to promoting strong school attendance. It makes a huge difference.

Reminders:

School	National
95.3%	94.5%

- The target is 96% for every child
- You can see the attendance policy in full or read a summary of key points on the [school website](#).
- Do remember that children can come to school if they have a cough or cold. We will look after them and be in touch if they need to go home.

## Teams 3 & 4 Carol Singing

Year 3 and 4 spread festive cheer with a joyful carol-singing visit to our local care home, warming hearts and bringing smiles to residents and staff alike. They also performed beautifully for parents, sharing the Christmas spirit with confidence and enthusiasm.

Well done Teams 3 & 4!



## Nativity Performances

Our KS1 and EYFS children made us all incredibly proud with their nativity performances, bringing the Christmas story to life for parents with wonderful singing, great, confident acting and amazing costumes. Their enthusiasm, teamwork and growing confidence shone through in every scene, making each performance really special. Well done!



## Christmas Fayre

The Christmas Fayre was a huge success. The children created decorations linked to celebrations from across the world, reflecting the wonderful diversity of our school community. The hot chocolate was particularly popular! Thank you to everyone who attended - such a high level of community engagement is what makes these events so much fun!



## Christmas Tree Assembly

Our Christmas tree was creatively decorated by the children during a special assembly before the very exciting 'turning on of the lights'!



## Thank you and goodbye Mrs Humphriss!

Mrs Humphriss will be leaving our school at Christmas after making the decision to retire.

Mrs Humphriss has been a valued member of our staff for 19 years, and in that time, she has supported, encouraged, and inspired so many of our children. On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to express our heartfelt thanks for her dedication, warmth, and commitment.



While we are, of course, sad to see her go, we are also delighted for her as she begins this new chapter. I know you will all join me in wishing Mrs Humphriss the very best for her retirement and the exciting opportunities ahead. She will always be a part of our school family.

## Online Safety

Thanks to everyone who has contributed in some way to discussions about keeping our children safe online. If you were unable to attend the parent workshop, the slides from the workshop can be found on our website with lots of other useful information:

<https://www.carrington.nottingham.sch.uk/parents/e-safety>

We'll try and involve more of you in future events over the year.

## SMARTPHONE FREE

Following previous correspondence and discussions with parents, carers and governors, **Carrington will be a smartphone-free school from 13th April 2026.** That means no smartphones on school grounds - for any year group. All correspondence and information shared so far can be found on our school website.

## School Governors Q&A!

Liz Walker

1). What's your role on the governing Body?

I have been an opted-in governor for over 3 years. Opted-in governors are volunteers who bring specific skills, experience or an external perspective to help a school's leadership and success. They act in the best interests of a school's community rather than representing a specific group like school staff or parents of pupils.



2). Why did you decide to become a Governor?

When the school first opened in 1963, I was one of the first pupils to be admitted. I have always loved the school, as do former pupils who are still friends of mine. It provided us with a great education, wonderful values and it had such a happy supportive environment. I became a

governor because I wanted the current school to follow those same standards and values, as well as being run effectively. I am happy to say that it does all those things.

3). What's the best thing about being a Governor?

For me it's seeing the school maintaining high educational standards and having an excellent attendance record. It's seeing the supportive environment that helps pupils overcome whatever challenges they are facing and ensures they achieve their potential.

4). What do you do when you're not a Governor?

Before retirement, I had been a Specialist Careers Adviser working with A'level students going into higher education. I set up the first Access Scheme to Oxford & Cambridge Universities on behalf of the London Borough of Brent. I then became a Marketing Manager for an education company, organising conferences for School Leaders and Governors, including the School Governors National Conferences on behalf of the DfES & Ofsted. I was also a Director of North West London Chamber of Commerce and worked with foreign embassies in London and British embassies abroad, organising international business investment conferences.

5). What's one thing you'd like parents to know about the Governing Body?

You don't have to be an expert on school governance or the education sector to become a school governor. There are plenty of training courses to support new and existing governors. School staff and fellow governors are very friendly and supportive. I'm sure everyone who becomes involved, finds it a rewarding experience.

7). Favourite thing about the school?

The wonderful, happy atmosphere that permeates the school. The pupils are lovely with wonderful manners and staff are so kind and friendly!

# Carrington News: December 2025

**Key Dates:** More dates and further details about each event will be added to Dojo after the Christmas break.

Please visit our school website using the links below to view the academic term dates for 2025-26. [School Website Term Dates 2025-26](#)

First day back after Christmas	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January
Stay and Read	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> January 14:30
Mental Health Week	2 <sup>nd</sup> February
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February
Valentines Disco	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February
Last day of half-term	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February
<b>INSET Day</b>	<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>
First day back after half-term	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February
World Book Day	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March
International Food Event	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March
Last day of spring term	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>INSET Day</b>	<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>
<b>INSET Day</b>	<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July</b>



**HAPPY CHRISTMAS!**