

As we reach the end of our first half-term, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been a busy, exciting, and successful start to the school year.

From school council elections to residential trips and settling into new routines, the children have truly hit the ground running. They deserve enormous credit for their positive attitude, enthusiasm, and the way they have embraced new challenges. It's been wonderful to see friendships forming, confidence growing, and classrooms buzzing with learning.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank all of our families for your ongoing support. To those of you returning, we're glad to have you back. And to our new families, thank you for becoming part of our school community - we hope you already feel very much at home.

Mr Digges
Head teacher

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
95.8%	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](#).

Music Camp

A group of Year 5 children had a fantastic opportunity to attend a music camp at Ilam Hall in Derbyshire. Over two exciting days, they took part in a range of musical activities, developing their skills and confidence. The camp culminated in a wonderful performance, where they played as part of a larger orchestra. All the children involved should be incredibly proud of their talent, teamwork, and dedication!

Teams 5 & 6 Residential

What an adventure! Children from Teams 5 and 6 headed off to Edale for a two-night residential full of fun, fresh air, and fantastic challenges! From wobbly knees on the abseiling wall to brave explorations deep underground while caving, every single child showed amazing courage. We were blown away by how they cheered each other on, tackled new experiences with big smiles, and made our school proud every step of the way. Superstars, all of them!



Celebrate Black History

To mark the beginning of Black History Month, we spend a day celebrating and learning about the lives and contributions of significant Black individuals throughout history. Each class focused on a different inspirational figure, from pioneers in science to leaders in civil rights and sport, exploring their achievements and the impact they've had on the world. The day concluded with a wonderful sharing session, where children visited other classrooms to present what they had learned. It was a privilege to see our pupils speak with such confidence, pride, and understanding about these important figures. Their enthusiasm for learning and sharing helped make the day both meaningful and memorable for everyone involved.



Showing Racism the Red Card!

On Wear Red Day, our school community came together in a powerful show of support for the 'Show Racism the Red Card' campaign. Children and staff wore red clothing to raise awareness and stand united against racism in all its forms. The day began with a special whole-school assembly, where pupils learned about the importance of equality, respect, and inclusion. Throughout the day, children engaged in age-appropriate classroom activities and discussions focused on key themes such as identity, diversity, challenging stereotypes, and what it means to be an upstander - someone who speaks out and takes action when they witness injustice.

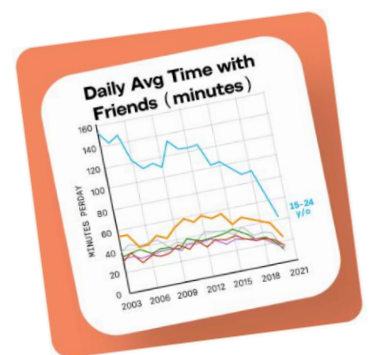


Smart-phones

We shared a letter on Dojo on 6th October to start the conversation between school and families about children's increasing use of smart-phones. Please take a moment to read the letter. You can find it on Dojo and it has also been uploaded to our website.

Headlines:

- Research is showing the increasing impact of smart-phone use on children's daily lives. E.g. 'Opportunity Cost - Compared to any other generation in history, children growing up in the smartphone era spend less time outdoors, less time playing, less time reading, less time moving and more time scrolling, alone.' More information can be found at <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/the-issue/problem>
- You may wish to sign the 'Parent Pact', a growing national movement of families choosing to delay giving children smartphones until at least age 14, and social media until 16. You can learn more and watch a [short video](#), and if it feels right for your family, [sign the Pact](#) here
- A **parents meet** is arranged on 27th November where we can discuss smart-phones and other prevalent topics around online safety. You can choose to attend at 15:30 or 17:30. Childcare will be available in another classroom during the 15:30 meeting.



Carrington News: October 2025

School Council Elections - Every Voice Matters!

The school council were elected by their peers during 'Election Week' in September. During the week, the school was buzzing with campaign chatter and colourful posters while children proudly delivered speeches to their peers! The week ended with every child casting their vote. Congratulations to all those who were elected and a special mention to all the other children who had the courage to apply and present to their peers - there's no doubt you will all go on to make a difference to school life at Carrington in other ways!



Children in Need - 14th November 2025

Friday 14th November is Children in Need Day. We will be marking the day with a 'Children in Need' disco with all proceeds from ticket sales going to charity. Don't forget to buy a ticket! The school council got together to make other plans for the day. Below are two of our reps, Orla and Miloh from team 6, sharing their ideas.

"All children are invited to come to school wearing PJs, spotty clothes or something yellow!"



"And remember that we expect staff to dress up too!"

School Governors

Welcome to our new section on school governance! Carrington is a maintained school (as opposed to being part of an academy trust). This means that a board of governors, who are all volunteers, has oversight of how the school is run. We feel that it is important for you to get to know our governors and how we work. Over time we will introduce our Governors to you one by one. We are all very approachable and if you have any questions or want to get in touch, please do so, via the school office.



Dr Nell Masey O'Neill, Chair of Governors

Q&A with Nell!

1. What's your role on the governing body?

I have been a parent governor since 2019, when my oldest daughter joined in F2. However, I have been Chair of Governors since December 2022.

2. Why did you decide to become a school governor?

I am a passionate believer in the state education system and that all children have a right to an excellent education and a safe school experience. However, it does rely on volunteers and this was my way of contributing to school life.

3. What do governors actually do?

In short, governors are responsible for making sure that the school has clear strategic direction and that finances are used effectively. We also make sure that school leadership is performing necessary functions, such as safeguarding. We read a lot of policies! We work closely with school leaders and lots of different stakeholders. However, we do not get involved in the day-to-day management of school.

4. What's the best thing about being a governor?

Without a doubt, watching our school and our children succeed in a happy environment!

5. What do you do when you're not being a governor?

I'm a scientist by training and work as a consultant in the Agri-food and innovation sector. Other than work, we have two daughters (in year 2 and 6) which is busy! When there is time I like to garden (amateurishly!) and am often found making something (knitting, sewing, crochet).

6. What's one thing you'd like parents to know about the governing body?

I did not have any experience of school governance before I joined the Carrington board. It has been a learning curve but there has been lots of support and training available and it's brilliant experience.

7. Favourite thing about our school?

I love the community feel that Carrington has and that it has been so easy to make friends in the community.

Carrington News: October 2025

Dates for your Diary

First day back after half-term	Monday 3 rd November
Odd Socks Day	Monday 10 th November
Anti-Bullying Week	10 th - 15 th November
Remembrance Day	Tuesday 11 th November
Children in Need Day	Friday 14 th November
Children in Need Disco	Evening of Friday 14 th November
Parents Evening	Tuesday 18 th November 15:00 - 18:00
	Wednesday 19 th November 15:00 - 17:30
Parents/Carers e-Safety Meet	Thursday 27 th November 15:30 - 16:00 / 17:30 - 18:00
Christmas Fayre - Christmas Around the World!	Friday 5 th December 14:00
Foundation Nativity Afternoon Performance	Tuesday 9 th December 13:30
Foundation Nativity Morning Performance	Wednesday 10 th December 09:30
KS1 Christmas Afternoon Performance	Thursday 11 th December 13:30
KS1 Christmas Morning Performance	Friday 12 th December 09:30
Christmas Parties	Tuesday 16 th December
Christmas Dinner	Wednesday 17 th December
Team 3 & 4 Christmas Carols	Thursday 18 th December 14:30
Elf Day! (Last day of term)	Friday 19 th December

Please visit our school website using the links below to view the academic term dates for 2025-26. An additional 2 inset days will be added to the calendar and we will share these with you as soon as they are arranged.

[School Website Term Dates 2025-26](#)