Life to the Full

Monday 9th November 2026

THE ROCK OF HOPE

Keeping our lamps burning and using our gifts to bring hope to others

- A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL
- KEY DATES TO FEBRUARY
- SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING
- ACADEMIC MENTORING DAY
- PASTORAL UPDATE
- FAITH & CATHOLIC LIFE
- CONFIRMATION & STUDENT LEADERSHIP
- FAITH IN ACTION: SVP & HARVEST
- LIFE BEYOND THE CLASSROOM
- YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMINATIONS
- TEAM CARMEL SPORTING SUCCESS
- AMAZING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS
- LOOKING AHEAD
- MEET OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM
- SUPPORT THE CARMEL PTA LOTTERY

WE ARE IN THE SEASON OF ORDINARY TIME

Table of Contents

03
Key Dates & Spirituality Reflections
04
A Message from the Principal
05
Carmel Sixth Form Open Evening
06
Academic Mentoring Day
07
Pastoral Update
08
Faith & Catholic Life: The Rosary, Mass and Adoration
09
Faith in Action: Fratelli Tutti, SVP and the Harvest Appeal
10
Confirmation & Student Leadership
11
Virtues, Music, Lunchtime Activities and Duke of Edinburgh
12
Learning Beyond the Classroom & Academic Updates
13
Year 11 Mock Examinations
14
Team Carmel: Football Success
15 T
eam Carmel: Cross-Country, Golf and National Schools Cup
16–17
Amazing Student Achievements
18
Looking Ahead
19
Meet Our Safeguarding Team
20
Support the Carmel PTA Lottery
21
Advent Liturgy and Christmas Celebration

CARMEL COLLEGE
DARLINGTON

LIFE TO THE FULL

KEY DATES

2026 – 2027

NOVEMBER

9 November onwards	Year 11 Mock Examinations
12 November	Christmas Fayre
17 November	Academic Mentoring Day
23 November	A Level Speaking Mock Examination
24 November	Sixth Form Open Evening
30 November	Christmas Tree Blessing

DECEMBER

3 December	Christmas PTA Event
4 December	Flu Vaccinations
8 December	Year 11 Parents' Evening
8 December	Year 12 Psychology & Sociology Parents' Evening
14 – 15 December	Christmas Liturgy
18 December	College closes at 1.30pm
21 December onwards	Christmas Holiday

JANUARY

4 January onwards	Year 11 Mock Interviews
11 January onwards	Lunchtime and after-school revision sessions
12 January	Year 12 & 13 Parents' Evening
18 – 22 January	Year 11 MFL Mock Speaking Examinations
18 January	Year 9 SEND & PP Options Information Evening, 5.00pm – 6.00pm
21 January	A Level RE OCR Examiner Study Day
25 January onwards	Year 10 Assessments
26 January	Year 9 Parents' Evening
27 January	Intermediate Maths Challenge, Year 10
29 January	Year 9 DTP/M Vaccinations

FEBRUARY

1 February	Spring SEND Review Day
1 February onwards	Year 11 Mock 2 Examinations
2 – 5 February	Year 10 Hospitality & Catering Practical Assessments
3 February	Year 12 Childcare and Health & Social Care Visit
4 February	PTA Event
8 February onwards	Key Stage 3 Assessment Week
10 February	Ash Wednesday
12 February	Culture Festival
15 – 19 February	**Half-Term Holiday**
22 February	Reading Assessments
26 February	Year 9 Options Deadline

Life to the Full

LIVE LEARN GROW

LIFE ON THE ROCK

Week Commencing Monday 9 November 2026
Keep Your Lamp Burning
Thirty-Second Week in Ordinary Time, Year A - Matthew 25:1-13
Theme: "Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him."

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. The difference between them was not whether they believed the bridegroom would come, but whether they were prepared and ready when he arrived.
As we continue our journey through The Rock of Hope, Jesus reminds us that Christian hope is active, not passive. Hope means living each day with faith, perseverance and expectation, trusting that God is always at work, even when we cannot yet see the outcome.
Like a lamp kept burning through the darkness, our hope shines most brightly when we remain close to Christ through prayer, acts of kindness and faithful living.
Heads: What helps me to keep my faith and hope alive when life becomes difficult?
Hearts: Lord, fill my heart with your light so that I may always be ready to welcome you.
Hands: This week, become a light for someone else through encouragement, kindness or prayer.

Week Commencing Monday 16 November 2026
Do Not Bury Your Hope
Thirty-Third Week in Ordinary Time, Year A - Matthew 25:14-30
Theme: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

As the Church approaches the end of the liturgical year, Jesus reminds us that hope is never passive. In the parable of the talents, the faithful servants trust their master and use what has been entrusted to them. Only the servant who is ruled by fear hides his gift away.
This is the heart of The Rock of Hope. Christian hope gives us the confidence to step forward rather than hold back. It encourages us to use our gifts, take opportunities, serve others and trust that God is at work through us.
A life built upon Christ is never buried in fear. It grows, bears fruit and becomes a source of hope for others.
Heads: What gifts has God entrusted to me, and how can I use them well?
Hearts: Lord, give me the courage to trust you and to use the gifts you have placed within me.
Hands: Use one of your gifts this week to make a positive difference in the life of another person.

Follow the readings at Mass here



A Message From the Principal

Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term. I hope that our students, families and staff enjoyed a restful half-term break and have returned refreshed and ready for the busy weeks ahead.

As we move into November, the mornings and evenings are becoming noticeably darker and the weather is changing. I would ask everyone to take particular care when travelling to and from College, especially when walking or cycling. Reflective clothing, suitable lights and careful attention when crossing roads can make an important difference. Good attendance, punctuality and strong daily routines also remain essential as we begin this important part of the term.

For our Year 11 students, mock examinations are now underway. These examinations are an important opportunity to practise working under formal conditions, demonstrate what has been learned and identify the areas that require further attention. I know how hard many students have been working, supported by their teachers and families. I encourage them to remain calm, organised and consistent: make full use of the revision resources and sessions available, ask for help when it is needed and remember that steady preparation is far more effective than last-minute pressure. We wish every Year 11 student the very best.

There is also a great deal to look forward to across the College. Our Christmas Fayre takes place on Thursday 12 November, bringing together families, local sellers and members of the wider community for a festive evening at Carmel. Academic Mentoring Day follows on Tuesday 17 November, giving students in Years 7-10 and Year 12 an opportunity to reflect on their progress with parents, carers and mentors and to set meaningful targets for the months ahead.

On Friday 20 November, some very familiar faces will take to the stage for Carmel Does Stars in Their Eyes, raising funds for our HCPT Lourdes pilgrimage. Then, on Tuesday 24 November, we will welcome prospective students and their families to our Sixth Form Open Evening. This is an important opportunity to discover the courses, facilities, support and wider experiences available at Carmel Sixth Form and to begin planning the next stage of their education.

This edition of Life to the Full also contains much to celebrate. Our students continue to achieve remarkable success in sport, dance and other activities, while more than 200 young people have volunteered to become involved in our St Vincent de Paul Society. The generosity shown through our Harvest collections, the confidence demonstrated in our Student Leadership elections and the prayerful participation of students in Mass, Adoration and the Rosary all reveal the strength and character of our community.

Our new half-term theme, The Rock of Hope, reminds us that Christian hope is more than optimism. It is the confidence that Christ remains beside us through every challenge and calls each of us to become a source of encouragement and light for others. During these darker weeks, may we continue to look after one another, work with purpose and bring hope to everyone we meet.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of Carmel College.

Melanie Kane

SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for the Carmel Sixth Form Open Evening on Tuesday 24 November 2026 at 6.00pm

Keynote presentations from the Principal and Director of Sixth Form
Meet staff from all subject departments
Explore our outstanding facilities
Chat with current students

Collect your copy of the Prospectus 2026/27
We welcome applications from students of all schools!



Academic Mentoring Day

Carmel's Academic Mentoring Day will take place on Tuesday 17 November for students in **Years 7-10 and Year 12.**

The day provides an important opportunity for students and their parents or carers to meet individually with an Academic Mentor. Together, they will celebrate achievements, review progress, recognise strengths and areas for development, and agree meaningful targets for future learning.

Appointments can be booked through the Arbor Parent App by selecting Guardian Consultations. Bookings close at 5.00pm on Thursday 12 November.

Students should attend their appointment in full school uniform. Independent learning activities will be set through Arbor for completion during the day at home. Students in Years 11 and 13 will attend College as normal for mock examinations, revision or coursework.

We value the partnership between home and College and look forward to welcoming families for these important conversations about progress, achievement and ambition.



PASTORAL UPDATE

Important Online Safety Reminder



Families are asked to remain vigilant following reports of a large group chat called "Biggest Group Ever", which may contain inappropriate and upsetting material. Young people can be added without their permission and the name of the group may change.

Parents and carers are encouraged to check their child's messaging apps and remind them to:

Leave, block and report unfamiliar group chats.

Never open, save or forward inappropriate content.

Tell a trusted adult immediately if they see something upsetting.

Review privacy settings controlling who can add them to group chats.

Most importantly, children should know that they will not be in trouble for asking for help, even if they have opened something by mistake. Anyone with concerns should contact their child's Pastoral Team. Click here for our most recent Online Safety Newsletter

St Cuthbert Leads the Attendance Challenge



St Cuthbert remains at the top of the House attendance leaderboard with an excellent attendance figure of 96.1%.

The competition is extremely close, with St Aidan and St Hilda sharing second place on 95.7% - only 0.4 percentage points behind the leaders. St Bede remains firmly in the competition as the Houses continue to encourage strong attendance across College.

Every day in school matters. Regular attendance helps students remain connected to their learning, friendships and wider College life.

Congratulations to St Cuthbert, and well done to every student whose attendance is helping their House.

Electric Bikes and E-Scooters: Know the Law

Following advice from Durham Constabulary, families should check the law before buying an electric bike or e-scooter.

Privately owned e-scooters may be used only on private land with the owner's permission. Using them in public can result in fines, penalty points and seizure.

Legal e-bikes must have working pedals, a motor rated no higher than 250 watts and assistance that stops at 15.5mph. Riders must be aged 14 or over. Modified or more powerful bikes may require registration, insurance and a driving licence.

Please check carefully before purchasing one as a Christmas gift.

🚗 Parking Pledge – Keeping Our Community Safe

Please help us keep students and our local community safe by supporting our Parking Pledge.

Where possible, please walk or cycle, or park a short distance away and walk the final few minutes.

When driving:

- Follow the one-way system via The Headlands
- Park on the left-hand side only
- Drop off using the nearside door
- Keep driveways, pavements, verges and keep-clear markings free
- No vehicles on site between 3:15–3:45pm

Thank you for helping us reduce congestion,
keep everyone safe and respect our neighbours.



FAITH AND CATHOLIC LIFE

A Month of the Rosary





October brought several beautiful opportunities for prayer as students across Carmel marked the Month of the Holy Rosary. Around 220 Year 7 and 8 students gathered in the presence of the travelling Jesus Youth statue of Our Lady of Walsingham. After learning about the story of Walsingham, students took turns to lead the five Joyful Mysteries, joining children around the world through Aid to the Church in Need's One Million Children Praying the Rosary initiative. Together, they prayed approximately 11,660 Hail Marys!

Thank you to Aji, one of our parents and a parishioner of St Augustine's, for arranging the statue's visit as part of its journey through local schools and parishes.

On the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, students from 7C and 7P prepared and led Mass with great reverence. Before Mass, they gathered in the chapel to pray the Rosary, before listening to Fr Kevin's homily on the Magnificat and Mary's trust in God. Later that day,

Carmel's Governing Body gathered at the historic Shrine of Our Lady of Grace in Osmotherley for an afternoon of recollection. Governors prayed for our students, staff and families, and some of the stones painted by Year 7 during their recent Ethos Days were placed before the statue of Our Lady and the infant Jesus.

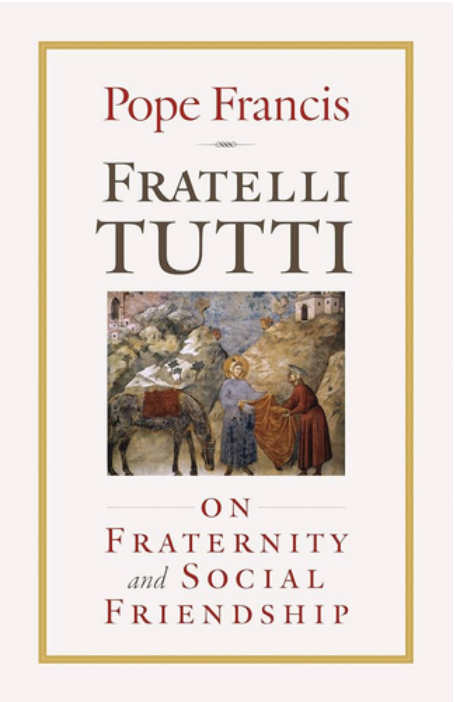
These simple acts of prayer reminded us that we entrust the whole Carmel community to Mary's loving care, knowing that she continually brings our prayers to her Son.
Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us. Our Lady of Walsingham, pray for us.

Prayer, Scripture and Responsible Stewardship



Students from 7E and 7L thoughtfully prepared and celebrated their Form Mass with Fr Tony. Drawing on St Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, the community reflected on responsible stewardship: recognising the gifts God has entrusted to us and using them in the service of others.
Before Mass, students prayed the Rosary together and each received a set of Rosary beads to take home. A special mention goes to our growing Music Ministry Group, whose singing added greatly to the celebration.
Forms 7R and 7M also prepared Scripture and prayers for a beautiful period of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Their reverence and their singing of Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord made the occasion particularly special.
The community prayed for Pope Leo XIV following his recent surgery. We give thanks that the Holy Father has received favourable medical results, requires no further treatment and has resumed his work and public ministry while continuing his recovery. We ask God to grant him lasting health, strength and peace.
Well done to all the students who prepared these prayerful celebrations and placed Christ at the centre of our College life.

Fratelli Tutti: Brothers and Sisters All



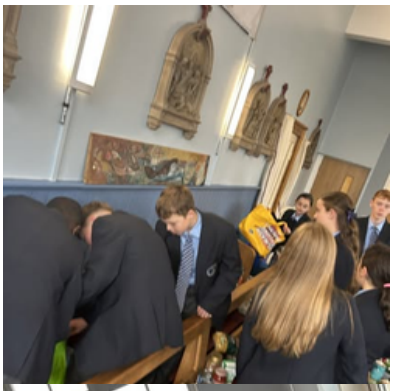
Students from across the Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust family have given voice to the words of Pope Francis in a special film inspired by his encyclical Fratelli Tutti.
Pope Francis reminded us that we belong to one human family, united by our shared dignity as children of God. His message of fraternity, friendship, inclusion and love challenges us to ensure that nobody is forgotten, excluded or made to feel that they do not belong.
As we listen to the voices of our young people, we pray that our schools, our Trust and the whole human family may learn to see one another not as strangers or outsiders, but as brothers and sisters who are equally loved by God.
May Carmel always be a place where everyone is welcomed, everyone is valued and everyone belongs.
Watch the film: Fratelli Tutti

More Than 200 Students Join the SVP



More than 200 students attended the launch of Carmel's St Vincent de Paul Society for the new academic year, filling every available seat and demonstrating a remarkable desire to serve others.
The SVP invites students to turn concern into action by putting faith into practice through acts of kindness and service. Over the coming weeks, students will help to plan care-home visits, litter picks, fundraising activities and other ways to support the local community.
As Blessed Frederic Ozanam, founder of the SVP, said: "Charity must never look to the past, but always to the future."
It is wonderful to see so many young people choosing to give their time to others and putting Carmel's virtues into action: 200 young people united by one mission to put love into action.
St Vincent de Paul, pray for us.

Small Acts of Great Love: Our Harvest Appeal





The generosity of the Carmel community has made a real difference to people both at home and overseas.
Hundreds of food items and household essentials were donated for the St Vincent de Paul Society's Darlington Food Bank and the Diocesan Justice and Peace Refugee Service. Year 7 students helped to sort and pack the collection during their Virtues lessons, turning what they had learned into practical service.
Congratulations to St Cuthbert's House, which collected the greatest number of donations, with forms J and P leading the way.
We are also grateful to John Kilgour and the parish SVP team, who are distributing the donations to people in need.
Alongside the local collection, families and staff raised £515 for CAFOD's Harvest Appeal, supporting communities facing hunger and poverty around the world.
Every tin, packet and donation was a small act of love which, together, became something extraordinary. Thank you to everyone who helped Carmel put faith into action this Harvest.

The Sacrament of Confirmation 2026-2027

Young people in Years 8 and 9, together with students in Years 10-13 who have not yet been confirmed, are invited to join this year's parish-led Confirmation programme.

The programme is coordinated by Mr Gardner at Carmel College in partnership with our priests, catechists and parish communities. A compulsory meeting for candidates and their parents or carers will take place at Carmel College on Wednesday 4 November at 5.00pm. This includes candidates who have already registered their interest.

The first preparation session will take place after school on Wednesday 18 November, with further sessions approximately every two to three weeks. Candidates will be expected to attend Sunday Mass regularly and become involved in parish life.

All candidates will also attend FLAME 2027 at Wembley on Saturday 6 March 2027 as an important part of their preparation. Our parishes will subsidise the visit, with candidates helping to fundraise.

Candidates would ordinarily have been baptised and received First Holy Communion. Young people who have not yet received these sacraments are still encouraged to make contact so that the appropriate preparation can be discussed.

Confirmation is expected to be celebrated in June 2027, with the precise date to be confirmed.

Register at Microsoft Forms or contact gardnera@carmel.bhcet.org.uk with any questions.

Confirmation is not the end of a journey; it is a new beginning.



Student Leadership: The Future Starts Today!

Inspired by the words of St John Paul II, "The future starts today, not tomorrow," students courageously put themselves forward for election to Carmel's three student councils.

Candidates spoke live to the whole College through the morning livestream, explaining why they wished to represent their peers and how they hoped to make a difference.

Rooted in Catholic Social Teaching, the three councils will provide important opportunities for participation, service and leadership:



The Student Voice Council, inspired by participation and subsidiarity, will ensure that students are listened to and can help shape decisions affecting College life.



The Inclusion Council, rooted in human dignity, will help create a community in which everyone is valued, respected and knows that they belong.

The Stewardship Council, inspired by care for our common home, will help the College take responsibility for the environment and put faith into action through care for creation.

These roles are more than positions or titles. They are opportunities to serve, to lead and to make a real difference. Congratulations to every student who had the confidence to stand for election.

Celebrating Virtues Across Our Trust



The inaugural Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust Virtues Awards celebrated inspiring members of our school and Trust communities who demonstrate compassion, resilience, respect and service to others.
The occasion provided a wonderful opportunity to recognise those who quietly make a difference each day and whose example helps our schools place Christ at the centre and children at the heart of all we do.
Congratulations to everyone who was nominated and thank you to all those who help bring our shared virtues to life across the Trust.

Life Beyond the Classroom

Music at Lunchtime



Carmel's talented Jazz and Rock Band provided a brilliant lunchtime soundtrack with performances of Olivia Dean's Man I Need and Amy Winehouse's Tears Dry on Their Own.
The performance was another wonderful example of students sharing their musical gifts and creating a joyful atmosphere around College. Thank you to all our musicians for an excellent concert.

Boredom Busters and Lunchtime Clubs



New Boredom Buster Boxes are available from Student Support, giving students a selection of cards, dominoes and other games to enjoy with friends during break and lunchtime, particularly when poor weather keeps everyone indoors.
Beyblade and Uni Club also opens in RE4 each day, providing a warm and welcoming space for students to spend lunchtime, make friends and enjoy some friendly competition.
These activities offer a little screen-free fun and another way for students to become involved in College life.

The Duke of Edinburgh Adventure Begins



Year 10 students successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition in the North York Moors, despite challenging wind and rain. Across the weekend, students walked, navigated, cooked their own meals on camping stoves and spent the night in tents. Without phones, home comforts or a convenient escape from the weather, they showed determination, resilience and excellent teamwork throughout.
We are extremely proud of every student for embracing the challenge and supporting one another. A huge thank you also goes to the staff who gave up their weekend to accompany, encourage and care for the group in all conditions.

Learning from Those on the Front Line



Year 12 and 13 Uniformed Protective Services students welcomed two serving Police Constables for a session that brought their classroom learning vividly to life.
Students worked through real case studies involving powers of arrest and considered the procedures and decisions officers must follow. They examined the equipment carried by police officers, heard first-hand accounts of life in the service and asked questions about routes into policing and future careers.
Thank you to both officers for sharing their time, experience and expertise with our students.

Carmel Student Rock the Stage!



Sixth Form students Eva and Faith took to the stage at Darlington Hippodrome in Darlington Operatic Society's production of We Will Rock You. They performed alongside Carmel Careers Adviser Mrs Hannah Teasdale in an energetic production filled with music and outstanding local talent.
Congratulations to Eva, Faith, Mrs Teasdale and everyone involved in the show. It was wonderful to see members of the Carmel community sharing their talents on one of the town's leading stages.

Carmel's First Golf Competition

Key Stage 4 students took to the fairways at Blackwell Golf Course for Carmel's inaugural golf competition.
The gross competition produced a close contest between Harry S and Tobias S, with both reaching two under par during their rounds. The result went to the final hole, where Tobias held his nerve to finish with an excellent one-under-par score of 70, narrowly ahead of Harry's level-par 71.
In the net competition, Luke F produced an outstanding round of 79 from a handicap of 21, giving him a remarkable net score of 58 and a comfortable victory.
Beyond the excellent golf, the students' sportsmanship made the day particularly special. They encouraged one another, conducted themselves impeccably and were a credit to Carmel.
Congratulations to gross champion Tobias S, net champion Luke F and everyone who took part. Thank you to Blackwell Golf Course for hosting such a successful first competition.



Year 11 Mocks: A Strong Start

Year 11 students have made an excellent start to their mock examinations. They have approached the first papers with maturity, focus and determination, and it has been encouraging to see so many students making careful use of revision time, support sessions and the resources provided by their teachers.

Mocks are an important opportunity to practise examination routines, identify strengths and understand where further work will have the greatest impact. We are proud of the effort students are showing and encourage them to keep working steadily, look after their wellbeing and ask for help whenever it is needed.

The simplified timetable below gives an overview of the examination programme. Students should continue to follow their own individual timetable and the detailed instructions issued by College.

Date	Morning examinations	Afternoon examinations
Monday 9 November	English Literature	Mathematics Paper 1, non-calculator
Tuesday 10 November	English Language	Chemistry Paper 1, Combined or
Wednesday 11 November	Revision session	Physics Paper 1, Combined or
Thursday 12 November	Geography or History	History or Business Component 1
Friday 13 November	French Listening and Reading	Mathematics Paper 2, calculator
Monday 16 November	Biology Paper 1, Combined or	PE Paper 1
Tuesday 17 November	RE, Foundational Catholic Theology	Mathematics Paper 3, calculator
Wednesday 18 November	Spanish Writing	RE Paper 2, Judaism
Thursday 19 November	Computer Science Paper 1 or	Spanish Listening and Reading
Friday 20 November	Design Technology or Computer	French Writing or Computer Science

TEAM CARMEL!

U13 Girls Make a Winning Start

Carmel's newly formed U13 Girls' Football Team began its Schools League Cup campaign with a victory away at Haughton School.
In their first fixture together, the players produced an excellent team performance filled with determination, energy and promising passages of play. Marnie, Verilyn, Lottie and Evie were all on the scoresheet, while Lottie was named Player of the Match.



The team then travelled to Sunderland to face Castle View in the first round of the County Cup and returned with an impressive 5-0 victory. Lottie opened the scoring before Marni completed a superb hat-trick, including a spectacular strike off the crossbar.

Ella W completed the scoring after an excellent run and cross from Verilyn.
Marni and Ella R were named Players of the Match following outstanding attacking and midfield performances respectively.
Two matches, two victories and an excellent beginning for a new team.

U14 Girls Secure a 10-0 County Cup Victory

Carmel's U14 girls opened their County Cup campaign with an outstanding 10-0 victory over Mortimer.
The team combined excellent passing and movement with determination and teamwork. Marni scored a hat-trick, Mega added two goals, and Bethany, Evie, Darcy, Pennie and Poppy each found the net. Assists came from Ava P, Pennie, Marni, Mega and Evie.
Mega was named Player of the Match after contributing two goals, an assist and an excellent all-round performance. Goalkeeper Alarna also recorded her second clean sheet in two games.



Year 7 Boys Bounce Back in Style

The Year 7 boys responded brilliantly to a narrow National Cup defeat by securing a 7-0 County Cup victory over Hermitage Academy.
The newly formed team demonstrated excellent teamwork, determination and growing confidence. Kajetan, Reuben and Ollie each scored twice, with Kian adding the seventh goal. Jack was named Player of the Match.
It is still early in the team's journey, but the players are already developing a strong understanding and some very promising partnerships on the pitch.



Cross-Country County Success





Year 9 and 10 athletes represented Carmel superbly at the English Schools Cross-Country County Round at Preston Park. Olly won the Intermediate Boys' race, while Lucy took first place in the Intermediate Girls' event - an especially impressive achievement as she is still in Year 9.

The Intermediate Boys' team also finished third overall, securing a place in the Regional Round at Stewart's Park.

Every athlete demonstrated determination, resilience and team spirit. Congratulations to our two county champions and to the whole Carmel team.

Girls Reach the Fourth Round of the National Schools Cup



Carmel's girls produced a determined comeback to defeat King James School 2-1 in the third round of the ESFA National Schools Cup.
After a goalless first half, King James took the lead early in the second. Carmel responded immediately when Evie's excellent cross was met first time by Elsie for the equaliser. Goalkeeper Athina then made a series of important saves as both teams pushed for a winner.
With only one minute remaining and penalties approaching, Athina sent a superb goal kick forward. Maddie chased it down and calmly finished into the bottom corner to secure Carmel's place in the next round.
It was a tremendous team performance, marked by resilience, teamwork and a refusal to give up.

YEAR 7 CROSS COUNTRY TEAM TRIALS!



Year 7 students are invited to take part in Carmel's Cross-Country Team Trials on Wednesday 11 November, with the opportunity to represent the College at the Town Cross-Country Championships.

Students should meet at PE at 12.35pm to change, ready for the trials to begin on the back field at 12.45pm. They will need their full school PE kit, suitable running footwear and lunch to eat afterwards. Students may bring a packed lunch or collect food at breaktime.

Experienced runners and those simply wishing to challenge themselves are equally welcome. Come along, give it your best and you could be representing Team Carmel!

AMAZING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS!

Sophie: England Gold and National Champion



Year 13 student Sophie has enjoyed an extraordinary year on the national bowls stage.
Selected to represent England U18s in the British Bowls U18 International Series, Sophie helped her country secure gold against Scotland, Ireland and Wales, retaining the trophy for another year.

At the national finals in Leamington Spa, Sophie qualified for several events and became National U17 Champion. That victory has earned her another England call-up, and she will represent her country at the British Bowls Championships in June 2027.

England gold medallist and national champion: an exceptional achievement. Congratulations, Sophie.

Vincent Qualifies for the World Masters



Year 10 student Vincent has qualified for the prestigious Junior Darts Corporation World Masters following an excellent performance in the qualifying rounds in North Devon.
His place among some of the world's best young darts players ids a wonderful reward for his precision, focus, dedication and hard work. Congratulations, Vincent, and good luck at the World Masters.

Rosie Supports a Royal Honours Ceremony

Year 13 student Rosie supported a British Empire Medal presentation ceremony at Durham Castle, assisting His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of County Durham, Mike Butterwick CBE, and presenting medals for the four recipients.
It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate outstanding community service and a fantastic example of leadership in action. Well done, Rosie!





County Hockey Call-Up for Neave

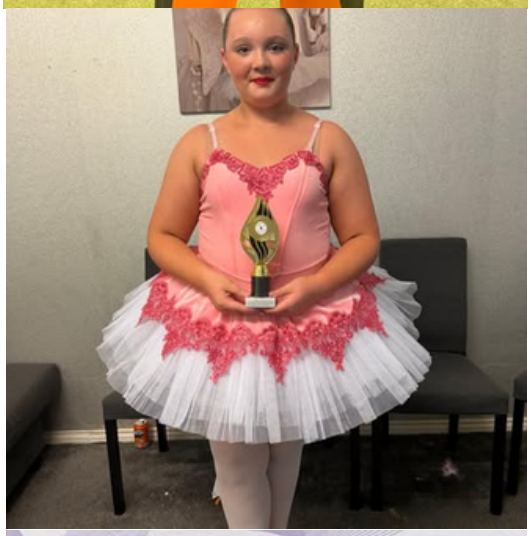
Year 8 student Neave has been selected to represent the Northumberland U13 County Hockey Team. She has also been nominated to trial for the U13 North East Hockey Team.
This is a fantastic achievement and an exciting opportunity to progress to the next level. Congratulations, Neave, and good luck at the North East trials.

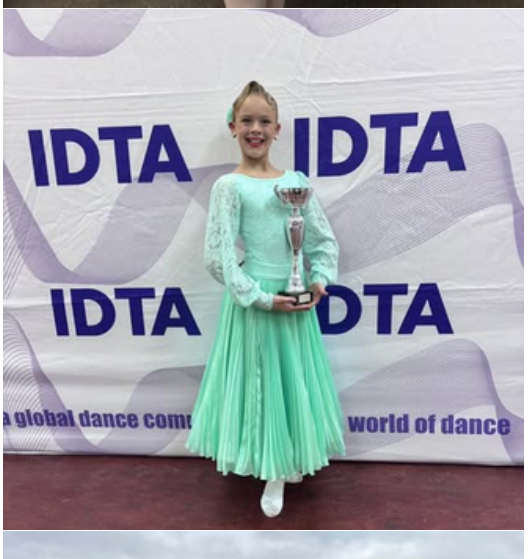


Dancing Success for Adelaide and Amber

Year 7 student Adelaide competed in the IDTA Nationwide Classical and Sequence Finals in Blackpool and reached her first-ever IDTA Blackpool final. It was a significant milestone and a wonderful reward for her commitment and determination.

Fellow Year 7 student Amber danced to first place in a recent ballet competition. Amber, who dances with Platform Perform, demonstrated tremendous confidence, resilience and courage on stage.
Congratulations to both students. The whole Carmel community is very proud of you.





Equestrian Success for Olivia

Year 9 student Olivia achieved an excellent set of results while competing with the Zetland Hunt Pony Club in the Area 2 Eventing competition at Murray House Livery Yard. Olivia's team finished second in the 70cm competition. She also placed fourth individually in the 70cm event and sixth in the 80cm event. Her performance has secured her a place in the 70cm competition at next year's Championships. Congratulations, Olivia. We wish you every success as you prepare for the Championships.



LOOKING AHEAD

Carmel Christmas Food & Craft Fayre

Join us on Thursday 12th November 2026, 6:00pm-8:30pm at Carmel College for a festive evening of Christmas shopping, food, crafts and seasonal treats. Tickets are £3.50 adults, £3 concessions, under 16s free. Ticket price includes a complimentary glass of wine or soft drink.
Bring family and friends and support this wonderful community event. We look forward to seeing you there! Tickets are available now at https://www.ticketsource.com/carmelfayre



CARMEL DOES STARS IN THEIR EYES!

Friday 20 November
St Augustine's Parish Centre
Tickets £20, including homemade curry

Some very familiar Carmel faces are preparing to step through the smoke in support of our students travelling to Lourdes with HCPT.
With a licensed bar, tombola, raffle and games, it promises to be a brilliant evening for a brilliant cause.



LA MOLINA 2027

Preparations are gathering pace for our 2027 Ski Trip to La Molina, Spain.
Students have now been allocated their ski lesson groups and Silksworth sessions are beginning.
Ski Information Evening
Thursday 26 November | 5.00pm | John Caden Hall
The countdown is on!



Fun House Fridays

Fun House Fridays continue throughout the half term, offering students friendship, House spirit and a varied programme of lunchtime activities:
Friday 13 November: Friday the 13th 60-second Life on the Rock challenges.
Friday 20 November: Big Prize Bingo.
Friday 27 November: Inter-House Advent Wreath Challenge.
Friday 4 December: Christmas Craft Factory.
Friday 11 and Monday 14 December: Christmas Cinema Club, showing Home Alone across two lunchtimes.
Friday 18 December: Christmas House Parties, with music, games and festive fun to end the term.
Students are encouraged to take part, meet others and help strengthen their House community.

Our Safeguarding Team

LISTEN • SUPPORT • PROTECT • WORK TOGETHER

If you have a safeguarding concern, please speak to a member of our Safeguarding Team without delay.

Safe People Brighter Futures



Sarah Thornton
Vice Principal Pastoral
and
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Kevin McCann
Assistant Vice Principal Behaviour
and
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Louise Parnaby
Director of Sixth Form
and
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.
Working together to keep our school community safe.

Life to the full



Support the Carmel PTA Lottery

The Carmel PTA works tirelessly to enhance the experience of our students, funding opportunities and resources that make a real difference to life at the college. One of the easiest ways to support this work is by joining the Carmel Parents Lottery.

For every £1 ticket purchased, 60p goes directly to the PTA, helping to fund projects and initiatives that benefit our young people. These contributions support a wide range of activities, including the purchase of books and literacy resources, equipment for breaktime clubs such as table tennis and badminton, enrichment activities and performances, and special events and rewards for students.

By taking part, you will not only be supporting the college community but will also have the opportunity to win prizes through the weekly lottery draws.

To join the Carmel Parents Lottery, please click the image below.

Every ticket purchased helps us continue to provide the extra opportunities, experiences and resources that enrich the lives of our students. Thank you for your ongoing support.



Advent Liturgy and Christmas Celebration

