



LIFE TO THE FULL FORTNIGHTLY UPDATE

Click [here](#) for the College calendar
Click [here](#) for more information on the importance of good attendance
Please remind your children that chewing gum is prohibited at Carmel College.

CATHOLIC LIFE



Weekly Mass at Carmel

Holy Mass is offered every Wednesday at 12:30pm in our College Chapel.

All students, staff, parents and visitors are welcome to join us for this peaceful moment of prayer as we gather around the altar and place our week before the Lord.

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

We Have Now Moved to Arbor
Remember: We are **NO LONGER** using MCAS!

How to activate your Arbor account:

- Go to <https://login.arbor.sc>
- Click "Forgot your password?"
- Enter the email address you previously used for MCAS
- Set your password

Arbor

All parents/carers **MUST** now use Arbor for school communication, meals, trips and clubs.
Please complete today.

Important - Carmel College Has Now Moved to Arbor - Carmel College has now fully moved to our new parent communication system, Arbor.
Thank you to the many parents and carers who have already activated their accounts. However, there are still some families who have not yet logged in, and it is very important that this is completed as soon as possible.

! We are no longer using MCAS. All communication, meals, trips and clubs will now be managed through Arbor.
The process is very quick and straightforward, and all you need is the same email address you previously used for MCAS.

How to activate your Arbor account

Go to <https://login.arbor.sc>
Click "Forgot your password?"
Enter the email address you previously used for MCAS
Set your new password

During the process you will be asked to enter your child's date of birth to confirm your account.

If you have more than one child at Carmel, Arbor will guide you through linking all of your children to the same account, so everything appears together in one place.

You can also download the Arbor Parent App from the App Store or Google Play Store for quick and easy access.

Thank you for helping ensure all families remain connected with Carmel through our new system.

KEY DATES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event
Tuesday 17th March 2026 – 11:30am	Carmel SVP Stations of the Cross and Holy Mass at St Augustine's for the Feast of St Patrick followed by Tea Party in the Parish Centre
Monday 23rd – Wednesday 25th March 2026	Year 7 & Year 8 Retreat
Monday 30th March 2026	Holy Week Begins
Wednesday 1st April 2026	Sacrament of Reconciliation Offered
Thursday 2nd April 2026	Maundy Thursday – Lenten Liturgies (All Year Groups)
Friday 3rd April 2026	Good Friday (Bank Holiday)
Saturday 4th April 2026	Lourdes HCPT Pilgrimage Departs
Tuesday 14th April 2026	Paris Trip
Monday 20th April 2026	Students Return After Easter Break
Week Commencing 20th April – Friday 1st May 2026	Year 10 Mock Assessments
Tuesday 28th April 2026	Year 8 Parents' Evening
Monday 4th May 2026	Bank Holiday – College Closed
Saturday 9th – Sunday 10th May 2026	Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition
Week Commencing Monday 11th May 2026	Year 10 Work Experience
Monday 11th – Friday 22nd May 2026	Year 7 & Year 8 End of Year Assessments
Tuesday 19th May 2026	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Monday 25th – Friday 29th May 2026	May Half Term Break – College Closed
Monday 1st June 2026	Students Return to College
Monday 8th – Thursday 11th June 2026	Rome Trip
Week Commencing Monday 8th – Friday 19th June 2026	Year 12 End of Year Assessments
Tuesday 9th June 2026	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Monday 15th – Monday 22nd June 2026	Year 9 End of Key Stage 3 Assessments
Monday 15th June 2026	Year 6 Information Evening
Monday 22nd – Friday 26th June 2026	Year 12 Work Experience
Thursday 25th – Friday 26th June 2026	Year 7 Transition Days

ClassCharts Update

ClassCharts is temporarily out of action due to circumstances beyond our control. We are working to resolve the issue as soon as possible.

In the meantime, students will be issued with **PAPER PLANNERS** to record homework & stay organised.

Thank you for your understanding.

Keeping Safe Online
| March 2026
Carmel E-Safety Newsletter





Year 10 Work Experience - Can You Support Our Students?

Our Year 10 students will take part in work experience during the week commencing Monday 11th May. This is a valuable opportunity for students to explore potential career pathways, develop workplace skills and gain first-hand experience of the world of work.

Students should now be securing their placements and updating the details on Unifrog so that arrangements can be approved in good time. Any student who is still looking for a placement or needs guidance should speak to the school careers team.

★ Can you help?

We are always grateful to members of our community who are willing to host a Year 10 student for a work experience placement. Opportunities across all sectors and industries are welcome and can make a real difference in helping our young people discover their interests and ambitions.

If you are able to support us by offering a placement, please contact:

✉ hteasdale@carmel.bhcet.org.uk



ACADEMIC

📅 **Preparing for Public Examinations** -Our Year 11 and Year 13 students continue to work incredibly hard as they prepare for the start of their public examinations.

The first Year 11 GCSE examination begins on Friday 1st May, with the final GCSE exam taking place on Tuesday 16th June.

For Year 13 students, the first A Level examination begins on Monday 11th May, with the final examination on Thursday 18th June.

This is an important time for our students and we are proud of the dedication, resilience and maturity they are showing as they approach these significant milestones.

End of Year Assessments- Across the College, students will also be preparing for their end of year assessments. Our Year 10 students will complete their Mock assessments in the examination hall, giving them the valuable experience of sitting formal examinations ahead of their final GCSE year. These assessments begin on Monday 20th April, and students should now be actively preparing.

Other assessment periods across the College include:

- Year 7 and Year 8 end of year assessments: Week commencing 11th May - 22nd May
- Year 9 end of Key Stage 3 assessments: 15th - 22nd June
- Year 12 end of year assessments: Week commencing 8th June - 19th June

These assessments help teachers measure progress, identify strengths and support students in preparing for the next stage of their learning.

Revision and Study Support -Families with students in Y11 are encouraged to check Arbor daily for the 'Five-a-Day' revision questions, which support GCSE subjects and help students practise retrieval and recall.

📁 **Revision Advice for All Students-** Effective revision is about working smart and staying consistent:

- Plan short, regular revision sessions
- Work in focused 30-45 minute blocks
- Take brief breaks to stay fresh
- Choose a quiet, organised workspace
- Tackle harder topics little and often
- Limit distractions and refocus quickly when they arise

Small, steady steps make a big difference ★

🔗 Revision resources:

carmel.bhcet.org.uk/carmel-curriculum-intent/revision

🔗 Curriculum information:

carmel.bhcet.org.uk/carmel-curriculum-intent



PASTORAL



Attendance Matters - Easter Attendance Challenge- Good attendance continues to be one of the most important factors in helping students succeed and thrive in school. This half term we are continuing to encourage excellent attendance through our Attendance Streak Challenge, where every full day in school builds a streak. If a streak breaks, students simply start again and aim higher.

To keep the momentum going through the Easter term, we are launching a special Easter Attendance Challenge. Students with strong attendance will be entered into prize draws and rewards, celebrating commitment, resilience and the daily effort it takes to show up ready to learn.

A gentle reminder:

- Holidays must not be taken during term time
- Medical and dental appointments should be arranged outside school hours where possible
- Arriving on time helps students begin the day calmly and positively

If your child is experiencing difficulties with attendance, wellbeing or engagement, please contact their Pastoral Learning Manager via admin@carmel.bhcet.org.uk so we can work together to offer support.



Year 9 Vaccinations - Monday 24th March- Students in Year 9 who did not receive their vaccination in school last Friday will have another opportunity when the vaccination team returns to Carmel College on Monday 24th March.

The vaccines offered protect against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio and MenACWY.

Parents and carers are asked to [click here](#) to complete the online consent form to either give consent or decline the vaccination.

There are also information videos available on the link which explain more about the vaccines and the process.

✓ Please ensure the form is completed as soon as possible so the vaccination team have the correct information. Thank you for your support.



Uniform Expectations Reminder- Thank you for your continued support in maintaining our high standards of uniform and presentation. A reminder that:

- Students must wear plain black shoes
- One pair of stud earrings only is permitted
- Acrylic nails, nail polish and false eyelashes are not permitted

Your support helps ensure consistency and a strong sense of belonging for all students.



Safeguarding - Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

- Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Thornton, Vice Principal (Pastoral)
- Deputy DSLs: Mr McCann and Mrs Parnaby

If you have any concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing, please contact the safeguarding team through the main school office.



Renew Shop - Donations Welcome- Thank you for the continued support of the Carmel Renew Shop, which helps ensure all students have access to essential uniform items. We are currently grateful for donations of school ties and other clean, good-quality uniform items.



LIFE TO THE FULL AT CARMEL!

💬❤️ **Lent and the SVP Heart to Heart Appeal**- Our Lenten Appeal is now underway and this year we are supporting the SVP Heart to Heart Campaign, raising funds for the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society, particularly supporting those who experience loneliness or who may be living on the margins of our community.

Throughout Lent, students are being encouraged to reflect on how simple acts of kindness, generosity and time can make a real difference in the lives of others. Many forms have already begun organising fundraising ideas, and it has been wonderful to see the creativity and compassion of our students.

🍀 **St Patrick's Day Celebration - 17th March**- We are looking forward to a special St Patrick's Day celebration on Monday 17th March at St Augustine's Church and Parish Centre.

The afternoon will begin in church with Youth SVP leading the Stations of the Cross at 11:15am, followed by Holy Mass at 12:15pm. After Mass, parishioners and guests will be invited to the Parish Centre for tea, cake and celebration, with a special focus on welcoming and celebrating our elderly community.

We would be very grateful for donations of cakes to help us provide refreshments for the afternoon.

If possible, please ensure cakes are nut-free and individually packaged.

Financial contributions are also very welcome as we seek to create a joyful afternoon of friendship, hospitality and, of course, plenty of good craic 🍀

Enrichment at Carmel: A Key Expectation 🌟- At Carmel, we believe life to the full includes opportunities beyond the classroom. We are proud to offer over 80 enrichment activities, and our expectation is that every student is involved in at least one enrichment activity each week. Whether it's sport, music, academic clubs, leadership, service or creativity, enrichment helps students build confidence, discover talents, make friendships and flourish as individuals. [Find our Enrichment Timetable here.](#)

Support Carmel Through The Parents Lottery 🎰- We are grateful for the ongoing support of families and the wider community through The Parents Lottery. This is a simple but powerful way for parents, grandparents, friends and neighbours to come together and invest in the future of our young people.

Each £1 ticket gives you the chance to win £25,000 every Friday, along with a range of other prizes, while also helping fund important projects that benefit our students. Contributions support essential resources such as library books, classroom technology and wider enrichment opportunities, helping our school community to continue to thrive. 🗨️ Join here: **Parent Governor Vacancy** We welcome applications from parents or carers interested in serving as a Parent Governor. For further information, please contact Hayley Wooding (Principal's PA).

CARMEL NEWS ROUND UP!

Global Learning and Travel Experiences

It has been an incredibly busy and exciting few weeks across Carmel College, with students taking part in a wide range of opportunities that reflect our mission of helping young people to live Life to the Full. During the recent half term break, many of our students took part in unforgettable educational visits abroad. Students travelling to New York City experienced some of the world's most famous landmarks, including Times Square, the Empire State Building, the Statue of Liberty and the 9/11 Memorial and Museum. For many, highlights included seeing the city skyline in winter conditions and enjoying unique experiences such as Broadway-themed dining and even an NBA game. At the same time, another group of Carmel students travelled to the Austrian Alps, where they took to the slopes to develop their skiing skills. Across the week, students showed resilience, teamwork and determination while mastering new techniques and enjoying the stunning alpine landscapes.





Carmel College

MONDAY 9TH MARCH- FRIDAY 20TH MARCH 2026 WE ARE IN THE SEASON OF LENT



Learning from History - Battlefields Visit

Closer to home, a group of students visited the First World War battlefields of France and Belgium, deepening their understanding of history through powerful moments of reflection and remembrance. Visiting sites such as Tyne Cot Cemetery, Vimy Ridge, Hill 62, the Wellington Quarry tunnels and the Menin Gate, students gained a profound appreciation of the sacrifice made by those who served. Through prayer and quiet reflection, the trip offered an important opportunity to remember the human cost of war and the importance of peace.

Celebrating Reading - World Book Day

We also celebrated World Book Day with a range of creative and engaging activities across the school. The day began with our popular Breakfast and Book Club, where students enjoyed a calm start to the morning with silent reading and a delicious waffle treat.



Other highlights included the Masked Reader challenge, where staff read mystery passages while students attempted to guess their identities, and a lively Literary Pairs challenge that saw over 100 students searching the school to match famous literary characters. Our bookmark design competition was another highlight, with winning designs professionally printed for students to collect in the LRC alongside their World Book Day book tokens.

Careers and Future Pathways

The academic life of the College has also been thriving. We were delighted to host a whole-school Careers Fair, welcoming universities, employers and apprenticeship providers from across the country. Organisations including the NHS, Armed Forces, Civil Service and leading universities shared their expertise and opportunities with our students. Visitors were hugely impressed by the confidence, curiosity and ambition shown by Carmel students as they explored the many pathways available to them.



Serving Others - Heart to Heart Lenten Appeal

Alongside these activities, students have continued to demonstrate compassion and service through our Lenten Heart to Heart campaign, organised by the College St Vincent de Paul Society. Fundraising has already begun with creative student-led initiatives such as cake sales and other events designed to raise funds for those experiencing loneliness and hardship in our community. The generosity and enthusiasm shown by our students continues to demonstrate the strong spirit of service that lies at the heart of Carmel life.





Sporting Success for Team Carmel

Sport continues to be a major strength of the College, and Team Carmel has enjoyed a number of fantastic successes. Our U14 Girls' football team secured an impressive 5-0 victory in the County Cup Plate to progress to the quarter-finals, while our U19 boys' team produced a dramatic County Cup performance, winning on penalties to reach the semi-finals.

Meanwhile, both our Year 8 and Year 9 girls' futsal teams competed brilliantly in the South Regional Finals and have now qualified for the County Finals at the Beacon of Light. Our netballers also enjoyed an inspiring evening watching elite competition at the Netball Super League clash between Leeds Rhinos and Loughborough Lightning, experiencing top-level sport up close and gaining inspiration for their own performances.



Looking Ahead

Preparations are also underway for a number of exciting upcoming events, including fundraising for the Peru expedition, our concert Bless Our Show, and rehearsals for our upcoming school production of Sister Act. With so much happening across the College, it is clear that Carmel students continue to embrace opportunities, develop their talents and contribute positively to the life of the school and the wider community.

