



# Life to the Full

FORTNIGHTLY UPDATES & NEWS

## Life to the Full – From Rome to Darlington: Learning, Faith and Achievement

- WELCOMING YEAR 7, CELEBRATING YEAR 11 AND YEAR 13
- PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS AND END-OF-YEAR INFORMATION
- ROME 2026: PILGRIMS, FAITH AND DISCOVERY
- FAITH IN ACTION AND STUDENT LEADERSHIP
- TEAM CARMEL SPORTING SUCCESS
- STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS AND ENRICHMENT HIGHLIGHTS
- WELLBEING, SAFEGUARDING AND ONLINE SAFETY
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- LIFE AT CARMEL
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**MONDAY 15TH JUNE - FRIDAY 26<sup>TH</sup>  
JUNE 2026**

WE ARE IN THE SEASON OF ORDINARY TIME

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JOIN CARMEL LOTTERY

# Dates for your Diary

Date	Event
Week Commencing Monday 15th June 2026	Year 12 End of Year Assessments (Week 2)
Monday 15th – Monday 22nd June 2026	Year 9 End of Key Stage 3 Assessments
Monday 15th June 2026	Year 7 Information Evening
Friday 19th June 2026 (Morning)	Year 13 Leavers' Celebration (Carmel)
Friday 19th June 2026 (Evening)	Year 13 Leavers' Ball – Redworth Hotel
Monday 22nd – Friday 26th June 2026	Year 12 Work Experience
Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd June 2026	Year 12 Induction Days
Thursday 25th – Friday 26th June 2026	Year 7 Transition Days
Friday 26th June 2026	Year 9 Celebration Dinner
Tuesday 30th June – Friday 3rd July 2026	Year 8 Culture Trails to Newcastle
Tuesday 30th June – Thursday 16th July 2026	Peru Expedition
Wednesday 1st – Friday 3rd July 2026	Diocesan Summer Festival (God Camp)
Thursday 16th July 2026	End of Year Mass – Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Friday 17th July 2026	Break for Summer Holidays



Click the image for our June Online Safety Newsletter

**Week Commencing:**  
**Monday 15th June 2026**  
**Week 11 Ord Time Year A**

**LINKED CST PRINCIPLE**  
  
**LINKED BHCECT VIRTUE**  
  
**LINKED BRITISH VALUE**

**THEME FOR THE WEEK:**  
*Mission: "When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them ... The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest."*

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 Moved by compassion for people who were "harassed and helpless," Jesus commissions His disciples to carry out healing, proclaim the Gospel, and serve freely—symbols of God's compassionate outreach. This week challenges our school community to emulate that mission by responding to others' needs with empathy and freely offering our gifts in service.

**Week Commencing:**  
**Monday 23rd June 2026**  
**Week 12 Ord Time Year CA**

**LINKED CST PRINCIPLE**  
  
**LINKED BHCECT VIRTUE**  
  
**LINKED BRITISH VALUE**

**THEME FOR THE WEEK:**  
**THEME- Worthy:** "So do not fear; you are worth more than many sparrows." – Matthew 10:31

**THEME- Worthy:** "So do not fear; you are worth more than many sparrows." – Matthew 10:31  
 Jesus reassures His disciples that God's providence extends even to sparrows—and that each of us is infinitely more valuable in the Father's eyes. In our school community this week, we're encouraged to continue our mission with courage and integrity, trusting that God knows and values every detail of our lives—even when facing fear or rejection.

**Week Commencing Monday 15th June 2026**  
**Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time (Year A)**  
*Theme: "Mission*  
*When He saw the crowds, He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest.'*  
*Matthew 9:36-38*

**FEAST DAYS AND MEMORIALS THIS WEEK:**  
 St Richard of Chichester (16th)  
 St Alban 20th

**Week Commencing Monday 22nd June 2026**  
**Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time (Year A)**  
*Theme: "Worthy*  
*"So do not fear; you are worth more than many sparrows."*  
*Matthew 10:31*

**FEAST DAYS AND MEMORIALS THIS WEEK:**  
 St John Fisher and St Thomas More 22nd  
 The Nativity of St John the Baptist 24th

*Jesus looks upon the crowds with compassion. He sees their struggles, their worries and their need for hope. Rather than turning away, He sends His disciples out to bring healing, kindness and the Good News of God's love.*

*This week, we are reminded that every member of our school community has a mission. We are called to notice those who need encouragement, to show compassion to those who are struggling, and to use our gifts in service of others. Whether through a kind word, a helping hand, a prayer, or an act of generosity, we can continue Christ's mission in our daily lives.*

*As we approach the end of the academic year, may we ask ourselves: How can I be a sign of God's compassion to someone this week?*

**Week Commencing Monday 22nd June 2026  
Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time (Year A)**

*Theme: "Worthy*

*"So do not fear; you are worth more than many sparrows."  
Matthew 10:31*

*Jesus reminds His disciples that they are known, loved and valued by God. If God cares for the smallest sparrow, how much more does He care for each one of us?*

*In a world where people can sometimes doubt themselves or compare themselves with others, Jesus offers a message of hope and reassurance. Our worth does not come from our achievements, popularity or success. Our worth comes from being children of God.*

*This week, we are encouraged to continue our mission with courage and confidence, knowing that God walks beside us. Even when life is challenging or when we face uncertainty, we can trust that we are precious in His sight and that He has a purpose for each of our lives.*

*As we near the end of another school year, may we remember that every person in our community is valued, loved and worthy of respect, dignity and care.*

[Follow the readings at Mass here.](#)



## **A Message From the Principal**

Welcome to this latest edition of Life to the Full at Carmel College.

As we move into the final full week of the academic year for our Year 11 and Year 13 students, there is much to celebrate and give thanks for across our Carmel community. This edition captures just some of the wonderful opportunities, achievements and experiences that continue to bring our mission of Life to the Full to life.

A particular highlight has been our recent visit to Rome, where students had the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of saints, explore some of the world's most significant historical and religious sites, and deepen their understanding of the faith they study in the classroom. The photographs and reflections included in this edition offer a glimpse into what was a truly memorable pilgrimage and educational visit.

We are also delighted to showcase the creativity and talent of our students through our latest art exhibition, celebrating the remarkable work being produced across the college. Alongside this, we congratulate our students on becoming District Athletics Champions, a fantastic achievement which reflects the hard work, determination and team spirit of our young people. From sporting success to academic excellence, performances on stage, charitable outreach and leadership opportunities, there is so much to celebrate in Carmel life.

This week is one of those special moments in the life of a school when endings and beginnings meet. On Monday evening, we look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 students and their families for their Information Evening. It seems strange that, at the very same time, we are preparing to say farewell to our oldest students. On Tuesday 16th June we will gather for our Year 11 Celebration Assembly, and on Friday 19th June we will celebrate our Year 13 Leavers' Mass with Fr Kevin, giving thanks for all they have contributed to Carmel and praying for them as they take their next steps.

As we say goodbye to one generation of Carmel students, we extend a warm Carmel welcome to the next. The excitement, hopes and aspirations of our new Year 7 cohort remind us that every year brings new opportunities, new friendships and new journeys of growth and discovery.

Thank you, as always, to our students, staff, families and governors for all you do to make Carmel such a vibrant, caring and faith-filled community. I hope you enjoy reading this edition and sharing in the many reasons we have to celebrate.

Melanie Kane

# Academic Updates

## End of Examination Season

This marks the final week of public examinations for our Year 11 and Year 13 students. We would like to congratulate all students on the resilience, determination and maturity they have shown throughout the examination season.

We look forward to celebrating their achievements when results are released later this summer: <sup>16</sup>17

A Level Results Day – Thursday 13th August <sup>16</sup>17 GCSE Results Day – Thursday 20th August

## Internal Assessments

Whilst public examinations are drawing to a close, assessment season continues for other year groups. Year 9 students begin their end of year assessments this week, with examinations continuing into next week. These assessments provide an important opportunity for students to demonstrate the progress they have made throughout the year and prepare for the demands of GCSE study.

Year 12 students are also completing their end of year assessments, which conclude this week.

Students in Years 7, 8 and 10 have now completed their assessments and are spending time in lessons reviewing their progress, addressing misconceptions and strengthening key knowledge and skills.

End of year reports for all year groups will be issued during the final week of term.

## End of Term Arrangements

Further details regarding the end of term will be shared with families shortly, including arrangements for the early finish on the final day of the academic year.

# Sixth Form Updates

## Year 13 – Final Exams and Celebrations

A huge well done to our Year 13 students as they reach the final stages of their A Level examinations.

Throughout this demanding period, students have demonstrated tremendous resilience, maturity and determination, and we are incredibly proud of the way they have approached examination season.

We look forward to celebrating with our Year 13 students at the Leavers' Mass on Friday 19th June at 10:00am, followed by refreshments and an opportunity to gather together as a year group before moving on to the next stage of their journey.

The celebrations will continue on the evening of Friday 19th June with the Year 13 Leavers' Ball at Redworth Hall Hotel.

This special occasion provides students with an opportunity to celebrate their time at Carmel together, reflect on the friendships and memories they have made, and mark the end of their Sixth Form journey before moving on to university, apprenticeships, employment and other exciting opportunities.

## Year 12 – Assessments, Work Experience and Leadership

Year 12 students are currently completing their end of year assessments, which conclude this week. These assessments provide an important opportunity to review progress and prepare for the challenges of Year 13.

Students will then take part in Work Experience Week from Monday 22nd to Friday 26th June, gaining valuable insight into future careers and pathways beyond Sixth Form.

Preparations are also beginning for university, apprenticeship and employment applications. The UCAS process is now being launched, while applications for the Sixth Form Student Leadership Team, including the prestigious roles of Head Student and Deputy Head Student, will open shortly ahead of elections later this term.

## Sixth Form Induction 2026

We are looking forward to welcoming our incoming Year 12 students for Sixth Form Induction Days on Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd June.

Students should check their emails regularly for important information and arrangements. The induction programme will provide opportunities to experience taster lessons, meet staff and current students, explore enrichment and leadership opportunities, and begin building friendships ahead of September.

We look forward to welcoming the next generation of Carmel Sixth Form students to our vibrant and successful Sixth Form community. 🎓❤️

# YEAR 11 AND YEAR 13 EXAMS

 <b>YEAR 11 &amp; YEAR 13</b> <i>You've got this!</i> ❤️ ★ NEXT WEEK'S GCSE & A LEVEL EXAMS ★				
MONDAY 15TH JUNE	TUESDAY 16TH JUNE	WEDNESDAY 17TH JUNE	THURSDAY 18TH JUNE	FRIDAY 19TH JUNE
<b>YEAR 13 (A LEVEL)</b> ☀️ <b>AM Exams:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AQA A Level Chemistry Paper 3</li> </ul> 🌙 <b>PM Exams:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCR A Level Religious Studies Option A (Developments in Christian Thought)</li> </ul>	<b>YEAR 13 (A LEVEL)</b> ☀️ <b>AM Exams:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCR A Level Biology: Unified Biology</li> </ul> 🌙 <b>PM Exams:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No examinations</li> </ul>	<b>YEAR 13 (A LEVEL)</b> ☀️ <b>AM Exams:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AQA A Level French Paper 2 (Writing)</li> <li>• OCR A Level Computer Science: Algorithms &amp; Programming</li> </ul> 🌙 <b>PM Exams:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No examinations</li> </ul>	<b>YEAR 13 (A LEVEL)</b> ☀️ <b>AM Exams:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No examinations</li> </ul> 🌙 <b>PM Exams:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCR A Level Mathematics A: Pure Mathematics &amp; Mechanics</li> </ul>	<b>YEAR 13 (A LEVEL)</b> ☀️ <b>AM Exams:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Edexcel A Level Italian: Writing, Response, Works &amp; Translation</li> </ul> 🌙 <b>PM Exams:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No examinations</li> </ul>
<b>YEAR 11 (GCSE)</b> ☀️ <b>AM Exams:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GCSE Physics Paper 2</li> </ul> 🌙 <b>PM Exams:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No examinations</li> </ul>	<b>YEAR 11 (GCSE)</b> ☀️ <b>AM Exams:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GCSE Spanish: Writing</li> </ul> 🌙 <b>PM Exams:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No examinations</li> </ul>			

❤️ *We believe in you!* | #LifeToTheFull ❤️

## SUPPORTING POSITIVE TRANSITIONS

As we approach the final weeks of the academic year, a significant amount of work is taking place to support students as they prepare for the next stage of their Carmel journey.

Students across the College have taken part in transition assemblies, helping them reflect on their achievements this year and look ahead with confidence to the opportunities and challenges of September. Alongside this, Year 10 students have participated in a series of respect assemblies, exploring themes including healthy relationships, respect for others, positive masculinity and tackling misogyny. These important sessions form part of our commitment to ensuring every member of our community feels safe, valued and respected.

## Introducing “6 for 6”

We are delighted to launch our new “6 for 6” programme, which will see members of our incoming Year 12 cohort supporting Year 6 pupils as they make the transition into secondary school.

Students will be taking part in safeguarding and peer mentoring training before supporting Year 6 pupils during their transition days and throughout their first year at Carmel. This initiative provides valuable leadership experience whilst helping our newest students settle quickly into College life. It is a wonderful opportunity for young people to develop confidence, responsibility and a commitment to service within the Carmel community.



# Pastoral and Well-Being

## Enjoying the Summer Term

The recent sunshine has seen many students making excellent use of our new outdoor equipment, generously funded by the PTA. Giant chess, Connect 4, swingball, handball and other activities are helping students stay active, socialise with friends and enjoy their breaktimes away from screens.

We encourage all students to continue making the most of enrichment opportunities, spending time outdoors and maintaining a healthy balance between study, technology and physical activity during the final weeks of term.

## Attendance Matters

As we move towards the end of the academic year, we would like to thank families for their continued support in promoting excellent attendance.

Regular attendance helps students achieve their academic potential, build confidence, develop friendships and feel fully connected to college life.

A reminder that:

- Term-time holidays cannot be authorised
- Unauthorised leave may result in a fixed penalty notice
- Missed learning can be difficult to recover

With 175 days outside term time available for holidays and family events, we encourage families to protect those valuable 190 school days wherever possible.

If you require support regarding attendance, please contact your child's Pastoral Learning Manager.

## SUPPORT OUR CARMEL RE:NEW SHOP

Our Carmel Re:New Shop continues to support families whilst reducing waste and promoting environmental stewardship.

We are particularly grateful to Year 11 families who are beginning to donate items of uniform that will no longer be needed after examinations. Donations of blazers, ties, skirts, trousers, PE kit, football boots and school shoes are always welcome.


The Re:New Shop will be open to parents and carers on:

 Tuesday 30th June, 4:00pm–5:00pm

 Tuesday 7th July, 4:00pm–5:00pm

No appointment is necessary. Simply report to Main Reception and follow the signs.

Prices are capped at £5 per item, helping families access high-quality uniform at a fraction of the retail cost whilst raising funds for the PTA.



## ATTENDANCE

Why is it so important?

Children are required by law to attend school **190 days** per year. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least **95%**.


ATTENDANCE	DAYS ABSENT	WEEKS ABSENT	LESSONS MISSED
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons

How do you measure up?

**89% & Below**  
Drastic effect on academic achievement

**95% - 90%**  
Cause for concern

**100% - 96%**  
Excellent





## CARMEL RE:NEW SHOP

### DONATIONS





**PROM DRESSES  
SMART SUITS  
FIRST HOLY  
COMMUNION  
DRESSES**

HELPING OUR CARMEL COMMUNITY  
REDUCING WASTE • SUPPORTING FAMILIES  
ONE DONATION AT A TIME

= ALSO WELCOME: UNIFORM DONATIONS =  
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR CARMEL FAMILY =

## PARKING PLEDGE – KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

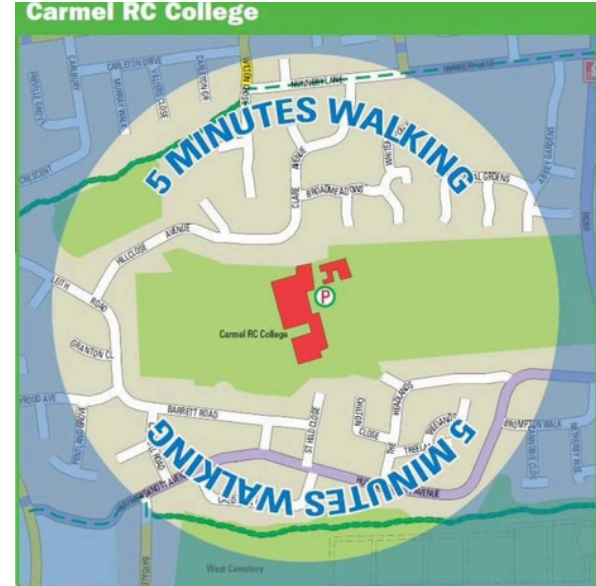
The safety of our students and local community remains a priority. We ask all families to continue supporting our Parking Pledge.

Where possible, we encourage walking or cycling to College. If driving is necessary, please park a short distance away and walk the final few minutes.

When dropping off or collecting students:

- Follow the one-way system via The Headlands
- Park only on the left-hand side
- Use the nearside door for drop-off
- Avoid stopping on keep-clear markings or across driveways
- Do not park on pavements or verges
- No vehicles are permitted on site between 3:15–3:45pm

By working together, we can reduce congestion, improve safety and show respect for our neighbours. Thank you for your continued support.



## Phone-Free School Day

Following the completion of external examinations, Carmel College will move to a phone-free school day from 1st July 2026.

Mobile phones must remain switched off and out of sight throughout the school day and should not be seen or used anywhere on site.

As part of this development, form time will once again conclude each day with a short Examen prayer. Rooted in the spirituality of St Ignatius of Loyola, the Examen encourages students to pause, reflect on their day, give thanks for blessings received, consider how they have treated others, and look ahead with hope to the day to come. This simple daily practice will help students end each day with gratitude, reflection and prayer.

Further information regarding the implementation of the phone-free school day will be shared with families shortly.



## 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.

# Year 9 Stepping Up Day and Formal Celebration Lunch

Excitement is building as we prepare for our Year 9 Stepping Up Day and Formal Celebration Lunch on Friday 26th June.

This special event marks the end of Key Stage 3 and the beginning of students' GCSE journey. The day will include activities, awards, speeches, music and a formal three-course lunch as we celebrate the achievements of the year group and look ahead to Year 10.

Importantly, every Year 9 student will take part, and no student is asked to contribute financially towards the event.

Planning is now well underway, with our Year 9 Formal Dinner Committee continuing their fundraising efforts and helping shape the day. We are also grateful to local businesses, families and supporters who have already offered assistance.

If you would like to support the event through sponsorship, donations or contributions towards decorations, table centrepieces or student favours, we would love to hear from you.

We look forward to celebrating this important milestone with our Year 9 students later this month. 🎉🎊



## Fun House Fridays This Half Term

As we move through the final weeks of the summer term, there is still plenty to look forward to with our remaining Fun House Friday activities. These popular events continue to provide opportunities for students to have fun, try something new, represent their house and enjoy time with friends.

Friday 19th June – Art Attack

Students will help create lanterns for our End of Year Mass on the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. These lanterns will reflect our theme of The Light of Hope and will form part of our final celebration together as a school community.

Friday 26th June – Interhouse Rounders

One of the most popular sporting events of the year returns as houses compete for points, pride and bragging rights on the field.

Friday 3rd July – Carmel Does Countdown

Students can test their skills in letters, numbers and the famous Countdown conundrum to see who will become Carmel Champion.

Friday 10th July – Carmel's Got Talent

A celebration of student talent featuring music, dance, comedy, magic and much more.

Friday 17th July – House Celebration Parties

The year concludes with special House Celebration Parties for the houses with the highest Class Charts totals, recognising effort, achievement and positive contributions throughout the year.

We look forward to ending another successful year with plenty of fun, friendship, creativity and house spirit. 🎉💖



## Year 8 Newcastle Culture Trails

Excitement is building as we look ahead to our Year 8 Newcastle Culture Trails, which take place at the end of June and beginning of July.

Over four days, every Year 8 student will have the opportunity to explore some of Newcastle's most important cultural, historical and religious landmarks, including the Discovery Museum, Great North Museum: Hancock, Newcastle Cathedral and St Mary's Cathedral.

Visits will take place on the following dates:

-  Tuesday 30th June – 8C & 8A
-  Wednesday 1st July – 8L & 8J
-  Thursday 2nd July – 8E & 8R
-  Friday 3rd July – 8M & 8P

We are delighted that this is a free trip for all Year 8 students, ensuring that every child can take part in this exciting opportunity. If families are able to do so, we would greatly appreciate a voluntary contribution of £7 via Arbor to help support transport costs.

A reminder that consent forms should be returned as soon as possible if you have not already done so.

We look forward to four fantastic days of learning, culture, exploration and discovery as our students experience some of the very best that Newcastle has to offer.

## Sports Day 2026





The excitement is building as we look forward to Sports Day 2026, taking place on the afternoon of Tuesday 16th June.

House pride will be on full display as students compete for valuable points in a range of track and field events. Several activities have already taken place during the past week, meaning the competition is already underway. With everything still to play for, the question remains... which house will be crowned Sports Day Champions 2026?

Students can look forward to an afternoon of competition, teamwork, encouragement and plenty of house spirit as we come together to celebrate sport, participation and friendly rivalry.

🍦 Ice creams will be on sale throughout the afternoon, with proceeds supporting our End of Year celebrations.

Students are reminded to come prepared with:

-  Full Carmel PE kit
-  Sun cream
-  A water bottle
-  A hat

With the warm weather forecast set to continue, we are hoping for a glorious afternoon of sunshine, sport and house competition. Good luck to all competitors! 🍷🏆



# Faith & Catholic Life

## Choir Leads Music for Bishop's Day Mass

Members of Carmel Choir had the privilege of leading the music for the Bishop's Day Mass for headteachers and leaders from across the Diocese. Prepared and directed by Mrs Denley, accompanied by Mr Connor, with technical support from Mr Snowball, the choir led the congregation in the Mass Setting of Christ the Saviour and hymns including Seek Ye First, Holy Forever and Christ, Be Our Light.

We received lovely feedback from those present, who commented on the quality of the music and the way it supported prayer and worship. Carmel is blessed with students and staff who generously use their gifts in service of the Church.

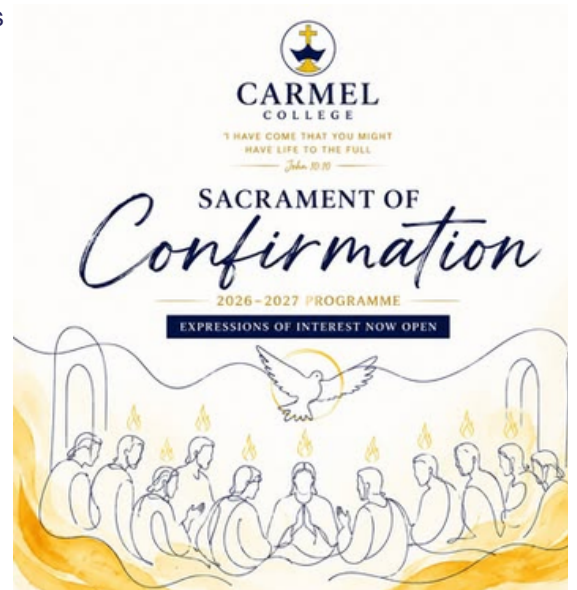


## Confirmation 2026–2027

Expressions of interest are now open for students currently in Years 7 and 8 who wish to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation during the 2026–2027 academic year.

The programme begins in September and is led by Mr Gardner in partnership with the parishes of the Hogarth Partnership, supported by clergy and catechists from across our local Catholic communities. Candidates should be baptised and have received First Holy Communion in the Roman Catholic Church. Families are also reminded that preparation includes regular Sunday Mass attendance and engagement with parish life.

We are also inviting parishioners to consider becoming catechists for the programme. Full training and resources are provided, and sessions usually take place on Wednesdays from 4:00pm–5:15pm.



## Corpus Christi at Carmel

Students from 9E and 9L gathered to celebrate Mass for the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, giving thanks for the extraordinary gift of the Eucharist.

Before Mass, students spent a short time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, praying quietly in the presence of Jesus. During Mass, we reflected on the truth that Christ continues to feed His people with His very self: Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity.

A special thank you to 9E and 9L for leading the bidding prayers so thoughtfully, and to Fr Binoy for celebrating Mass and helping students deepen their understanding of this great feast.



## Carmel Book of Remembrance and Flower Appeal

Each year, during our End of Year Mass on the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, we remember members of the Carmel community, along with family members and friends who have died during the previous year.

Names will be lovingly written into the Carmel Book of Remembrance, which will be carried in procession and placed before the altar during Mass on 16th July. Families are also invited to donate flowers to adorn the statue of Our Blessed Lady. These flowers may be offered as a prayer intention, thanksgiving, memorial or sign of gratitude, and will later be shared with local care homes.



## Rome 2026 Year 10 Pilgrimage to the Eternal City

Our Rome pilgrims enjoyed an unforgettable few days exploring the faith, history, culture and beauty of the Eternal City.

After a very early departure from Carmel, students arrived in Rome ready to walk in the footsteps of saints, explore world-famous landmarks and experience some of the most important sites in the Catholic world. Their journey began in St Peter's Square, standing beneath the great colonnades and in the shadow of St Peter's Basilica, a powerful moment at the heart of the universal Church.

Over the course of the trip, students visited the Vatican Museums and the Sistine Chapel, climbed to the top of St Peter's Dome, prayed at the tomb of Pope Francis in the Basilica of St Mary Major, and explored San Clemente, where GCSE Religious Studies learning was brought vividly to life through its mosaics, ancient basilica, Temple of Mithras and Roman spring.

The group also visited the Colosseum, Roman Forum, Castel Sant'Angelo, Trevi Fountain, Spanish Steps, Scala Santa and the Archbasilica of St John Lateran. Students experienced moments of prayer, reflection, history, sunshine, gelato and plenty of walking. A huge thank you to Miss Collins, Mrs Julian, Mr Connor and Mrs Atkinson for leading the trip and giving students such a memorable experience.



# Team Carmel

## Trust Athletics Champions 2026

Team Carmel enjoyed a fantastic day at the Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust Athletics Championships at Middlesbrough Sports Village.

Students competed alongside friends from Our Lady and St Bede, St Michael's, St John's and English Martyrs in a day that celebrated community, friendship and healthy competition across our Trust family. Carmel students showed tremendous determination, resilience, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout.

Results included U13 Boys 1st place, U15 Boys 1st place, Boys Overall 1st place, Girls Overall 2nd place and, most importantly, Carmel College being crowned Overall Trust Champions 2026. A truly outstanding team achievement.

## County Athletics Success

Four Carmel students proudly represented Darlington at the Durham Schools Athletics County Championships and produced outstanding performances.

Lucy became County 1500m Champion, running a personal best of 4:54 and breaking a Carmel record that had stood for 20 years. Ollie also claimed County 1500m gold, breaking his own school record with a time of 4:18. Daniel became County 800m Champion, while Charlie secured third place in Discus and was named reserve for the Inter-Counties competition.

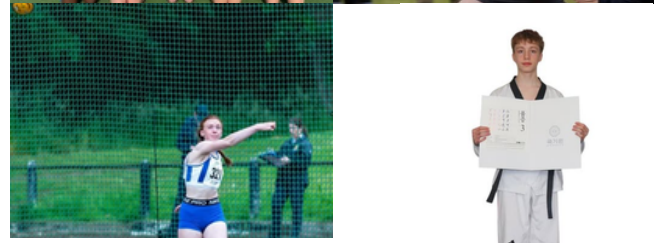
To have three County Champions and another podium finisher is a remarkable achievement.

## Cricket, Rugby and Individual Sporting Success

Our U15 girls' cricket team secured an excellent victory over Egglecliffe School, restricting the opposition to just 40 runs before batting with confidence to reach the target. It was a disciplined team performance full of accurate bowling, sharp fielding and sensible batting.

Our U13 girls' cricket team also enjoyed a thrilling match against Teesside High School, which finished in a well-deserved draw. Amelia was named Player of the Match by the opposition for her excellent bowling, including a brilliant caught-and-bowled dismissal.

Congratulations also go to Oliver in Year 9, who has been selected for prestigious rugby academy trials with Newcastle Red Bulls, and to Lottie in Year 12, who secured bronze at the Northern Championships following her recent gold medal at the North East Championships. We also celebrate Theo in Year 8, who has received his 3rd Dan Kukkiwon Certificate from Korea, recognising years of dedication and discipline in Taekwondo.



# Creativity, Enrichment and Opportunity

## Carmel Art Exhibition

The Carmel College Art Exhibition was a fantastic celebration of creativity, imagination and student talent. The exhibition was packed, with families, staff and students able to enjoy a wide range of striking and thoughtful pieces.

The work on display showcased individuality, technical skill and bold artistic expression, reflecting the creativity and dedication of our young artists. It was wonderful to see so many people supporting the exhibition and celebrating the arts at Carmel.



## Public Speaking Success

Congratulations to Ivy in Year 9 and Cian in Year 12, who represented Carmel College at the Catenian Public Speaking Competition held at Trinity Catholic College, Middlesbrough.

Ivy delivered an inspiring speech on turning failure into success, while Cian tackled the challenging motion “Abolish Youth Parliament.” Both students spoke with confidence and maturity, achieving second place in their categories and each receiving a £50 prize.



## Sister Act and Darts Club

Excitement continues to build for our upcoming production of Sister Act, taking place from Wednesday 8th July to Friday 10th July. With music, choreography, comedy and a talented cast ready to shine, this promises to be one of the highlights of the Carmel calendar.

Meanwhile, Carmel Darts Club continues to grow in popularity. Congratulations to Vincent and Mr Hope, who both hit maximum scores of 180 in Mr Crossley’s lab. Students are welcome to attend on Tuesday and Friday lunchtimes, whether they are experienced players or trying darts for the first time.



# Community and Wider Life

## Outdoor Lunchtime Equipment Launch

Our brand-new outdoor play equipment, funded by our fantastic PTA, has now launched. Students have been enjoying giant chess, Connect 4, swingball, handball, cricket equipment and more during lunchtimes.

The sunshine, ice creams and new equipment created a brilliant atmosphere around school, giving students even more opportunities to relax, socialise, be active and enjoy time with friends.



## Year 11 Prom Fundraiser

The annual Year 11 vs Sixth Form charity football match took place in the sunshine, raising funds for the Year 11 Prom. With a large crowd watching, Year 11 took the lead through a superb Will Monaghan free kick before Sixth Form equalised through Zack Bowman.

After a 1-1 draw at full time, the game went to penalties, with Year 11 holding their nerve to win 4-2. A fantastic occasion played in great spirit.



## Welcome to Our Notre Dame Australia Trainees

We were delighted to welcome teaching students from the University of Notre Dame Australia, who have travelled from Perth to continue their teaching practice and experience the English education system.

Miss Therese Topliss, specialising in English, Drama and RE, and Miss Laura Jenkins, specialising in Geography and History, will be working alongside staff and students over the coming weeks. We hope they enjoy their time at Carmel and experience the warmth of our community.



## 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.

