



Carrick Academy Newsletter

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- Reminders**
- * S5/6 Parents Evening on 17 November
 - * S4 Prelim Timetable issued Thursday 5th of November
 - * S4 Prelims begin on Monday 23rd November until 4th December
 - * Next Parent Council Meeting: Mon 1st Feb 2010

D.I.S.C.O!

On the 29th October, pupils from Carrick Academy enjoyed the annual Halloween Disco at the Town Hall in Maybole. All pupils were dressed to impress and the teachers even more so, the outfits ranged from witches and fairies to things as bizarre as fried eggs! Everyone had a fantastic evening and enjoyed dancing and socialising. Special thanks to the Pupil Social Committee and all the teachers who helped out, it was much appreciated and you all did a great job!



HEAD TEACHER REPORT

I would like to use my column in this parents newsletter to bring to your attention some recent improvements to the school environment and also to highlight the wider achievements of some of our pupils.

The garden area in front of the new building, which was overgrown and unsightly, has been dug over and turfed to create a much more easily maintained lawn area. The new building itself requires re-painting and a request has been made to the local authority to have this work carried out.

The internal learning environment has been given a boost by the purchase of around 80 computers to refresh the facilities in four of our ICT labs. The purchase of these computers has been funded by the School of Ambition project and will make a significant difference to our ability to engage pupils in high quality learning experiences.

I would like to mention some recent events which have provided our pupils with opportunities to develop confidence in their presentation and public speaking skills. On Saturday 24th October we had a team of pupils from various year groups involved in the South Ayrshire Mini Trials at Ayr Sheriff Court. Our pupils performed very well on the day and won both of their 'cases'. On Monday 26 October, four of our pupils presented to P7 parents on their experience of life at Carrick Academy which went down very well indeed with the audience. Finally, on Saturday 31 October, ten of our pupils took part in 'The Boyhood of Burns' production in Maybole Town Hall, an event which was thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance.

These are just some examples of the many and varied activities that our pupils take part in outwith the formal curriculum and the manner in which they performed in all three events confirms my view about the range of talents we have within the pupil population at Carrick.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school if you have any matters of concern that you may wish to discuss.

Keith Webster
Head Teacher

Children in Need—Reminder

Remember to bring extra money on Friday 20 November for Children in Need.

There will lots of activities throughout the day in the Common Room and O11.

This is not a non-uniform day.

NEW STAFF

We have a number of new staff this year and we have interviewed them to get their initial reactions of the school.

Mr Wright - PE

How have you enjoyed your first few weeks at Carrick?

My first few weeks at Carrick have been very rewarding, I have thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it! Each day is different in the school and there is always so much going on!

How are you finding it different from previous roles you have had?

There is a great atmosphere around the school with so many people getting involved in different activities. Even though Carrick Academy is one of the smallest schools within South Ayrshire we all pull together and work hard to benefit each other both in school and in the local community. This is something which I have found a great help during the start of my teaching career.

What was your first impression of Carrick Academy?

My first impression was one of surprise as all pupils seem to enjoy school!! During my first week at Carrick I saw the majority of pupils and staff walking round with a smile on their face! A month in to my new post and I am happy to say that everyone is still smiling! Long may this continue!

Miss Howie - Maths

How have you enjoyed your first few weeks at Carrick?

I have enjoyed settling in at Carrick and getting to know all the pupils and staff. Everybody is very friendly. The highlight so far has to be playing in the teachers v pupils football match where we won!

How are you finding it different from previous roles you have had?

Being at Carrick is different to the previous roles I have had because it is a smaller school than I have worked in before. I think being in a small school is good as it encourages a sense of community with everyone able to get to know each other.

What was your first impression of Carrick Academy?

The staff and pupils are all friendly and help you whenever you need it. It's great that most rooms have interactive whiteboards. I am looking forward to getting involved in the Maths department and in the activities of the school. I can see there are a lot of sports and other activities for pupils to take part in which is great!

National Entitlement Card

South Ayrshire Council has issued a new smart card free of charge to residents of South Ayrshire aged between 11 and 25. The card is part of a scheme to give people access to benefits and services across Scotland. The card will show the name, date of birth, card number and a photograph of the holder. Photographs have already been taken in the school. More information is available at the Young Scot website www.youngscot.org

ICE QUEST Galliford Try Scholarship

Former pupil and School Captain, David McIntyre, has recently been awarded an ICE QUEST Try Scholarship for the full duration of his current course at Glasgow University. The ICE QUEST Undergraduate Scholarship is widely known in the civil engineering industry and David has done extremely well to have been awarded such a prestigious and impressive scholarship. The scholarship will be to the value of £3,000 per year or for up to 4 years or a maximum total of £12,000 and David will also have the excellent opportunity to gain some work experience with Galliford Try during summer holidays.



P7 Challenge Day

On Friday 23rd October, P7's from Local Schools around Maybole came up to Carrick Academy to take part in a challenge day. With the help of the PE department, several teachers from around the school and S6 pupils, the challenge day went ahead with no complications and was an enjoyable day for all. The challenges ranged from fun and physical activities such as Obstacle Courses and other various games to more challenging tasks such as Helium Stick and Rope Cuffs. All in all, everyone seemed to have a fantastic day and all P7 pupils were very enthusiastic and willing.

Rugby Scottish Cup

Carrick vs Selkirk

On the 4th November, the 1st XV gave a very fine performance and defeated Selkirk. Never behind in the game Carrick were 26 – 3 up with 6 minutes to go. In those remaining minutes Selkirk scored twice making the final score 26 – 15.

What made the result even more impressive was that 4 of Carrick's starting line up were out through injuries/illness. Carrick will play Dundee High School in the next round on Wednesday 18 November. Kick off at 2 pm.

RUGBY RESULTS

30th September

Carrick 1st XV 6 - 21 Marr 1st XV (League)

1st October

Carrick Dev XV 15 - 12 Duncanrig U16, Carrick S2 26 - 0 Duncanrig S2

2nd October

Carrick S1 0 - 12 Marr S1, Carrick S1 0 - 18 Greenwood S1

Carrick S1 24 - 6 Girvan S1, Carrick S1 12 - 3 Largs S1

Tuesday 6th Oct

Carrick U15 15 - 12 St Columba's (Scottish Cup)

Thursday 8th Oct

Marr U13 27 - 5 Carrick U13, Marr U14 21 - 0 Carrick U14

Marr U15 50 - 21 Carrick U15