



IN PRESS

AN INSIGHT INTO CARR HILL'S SUCCESS STORIES

Carr Hill in Madrid

50 Year 9, 10, and 11's visit the capital of Spain to gain some cultural capital.

Eco Explorers

See what Mrs Southern has been getting up to with Years 7 and 8 during lunch.

Student Articles

Caleb, Seb, Luca, Isobel (all Y8), Milana (Y9) and Lexi (Y11) have all written articles about topics they are interested in.

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WELCOME

Welcome to the second edition of 'In Press' and a big thank you to all those who have contributed articles and taken the time to write.

As a school we are proud of the many opportunities which students have to develop their knowledge and skills outside of the classroom. In this edition we have several examples of such events including the author visit for Year 7 and many Year 6s; foreign travel with students in Madrid for 5 days at half term; creative opportunities or other experiences. It is always fantastic to see students engaged and benefitting from new experiences.

Please do enjoy reading the articles and finding more about what goes on in our school.



Mr Waller
Headteacher



Mr Ford
Editor-in-Chief

Hi all,

In this issue, we are glad to bring you stories that celebrate all the amazing things that happen here at Carr Hill.

Apart from a redesign of the layout, the newspaper has received some brilliant articles in a range of topics.

As mentioned on the front page, there are now student articles spread throughout the publication. This is a testament to their hard work to complete and edit these articles at Newspaper Club on Thursdays.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of In Press and we look forward to seeing you again in 2024!

Happy Reading!

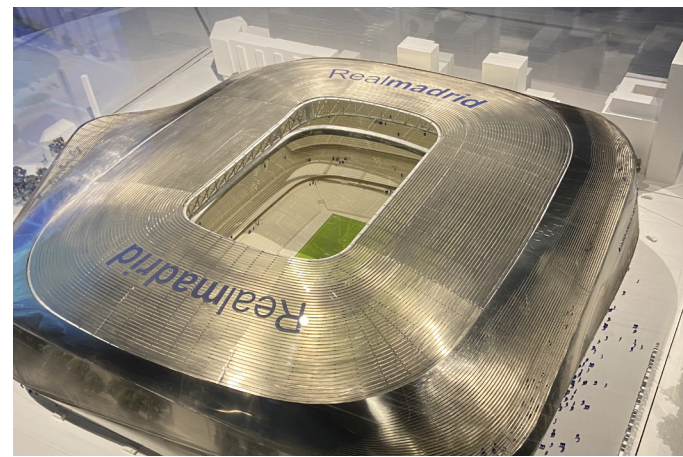
Rollercoasters, Royalty and Real Madrid

By Mrs Beckett, Staff Writer

Years 9, 10, and 11 visit Madrid



50 students along with 5 staff left Carr Hill at 04:30 on the 18th October to visit Madrid. After a flight and a short coach ride, we arrived at our accommodation. After checking in, we set off for the famous San Ginés chocolatería, a café that has been serving delicious churros since 1894.



The following day, despite the torrential rain flooding Madrid, we enjoyed visiting the Santiago Bernabéu stadium.



Both staff and students were impressed by the huge scale of Picasso's 'Guernica' (pictured left) and the melancholy of Dali's 'Girl at the window' in the Reina Sofia museum.

Friday was spent visiting UNESCO World Heritage site of Segovia, with its Roman Aqueduct (pictured right), gothic cathedral and Alcázar, that became the inspiration for many a Disney palace.

Saturday was spent at Madrid's Parque Warner, where students and staff enjoyed the rides. What impressed me most was the punctuality of the students, along with their behaviour and good humour, even when soaked to the skin!

The students were a credit to themselves, their families and to the school.



Open Evening Success

By Geetank and Luca (Y8), Student Writers

On the 28th of September 2023, we had an amazing Open Evening here at Carr Hill. At this event we had a record number of visitors and lots of positive comments.

Students contributed to the success of the evening by offering tours of the school and helped departments out too. Our School Captains and Vice Captains gave introductory talks with Mr Waller.

The parents who attended really loved the food on offer, particularly the hot chicken tandoori and the cheesy pasta. We had lovely kind staff and lots of stunning things on display.

Mr Waller wrote in his letter to parents, "We had a fantastic Open Evening and have received great feedback from many visitors to the school. It was so impressive that over 150 students volunteered to come back and help with subject areas or act as tour guides. They were all an absolute credit to the school. Thank you to all the staff who worked so hard as well."



The school also received an amazing email from a parent who was impressed with our school and a particular student:



"I attended the Open Evening last night and I wish to congratulate you all on a fantastic and successful event. My son and I had never been to Carr Hill before. The welcome from the students and staff, from the car park to all the classrooms, was superb. We both left the school feeling incredibly positive and my son decided that he would apply for Carr Hill. I would like to congratulate a student who really shone and impressed us with his knowledge. He was a Year 8 and demonstrated experiments in the Physics classroom (Geetank), he managed to engage with my nervous son and get him to conduct the many experiments in the room with an excellent attitude and delivery of information, even with a broken wrist!"

All in all, the evening was a roaring success for all, showing the public what Carr Hill is all about!

Rugby World Cup 2023

By Caleb (Y8), Student Writer



Even though rugby isn't everybody's cup of tea, a lot is going on in the sport as France are hosting the 2023 Rugby World Cup.

Rugby began thanks to an unconventional gesture: that of William Webb Ellis, a student who took the ball in his hands while playing football in 1823 and crossed the field with it, breaking the rules of the game at the time.

The creative team behind the Opening Ceremony of the Rugby World Cup 2023 have chosen to follow in this path, moving away from the usual ceremony standards, and to tell a story that goes back to the roots of French culture. Led by Jean Dujardin (actor and co-writer of this ceremony), some thirty individuals embodied France's culture, as well as its art of living at the ceremony on September 8th. The 80,000 fans at the Stade de France and millions of TV viewers were taken on a poetic and colourful journey through a story of romance and brotherhood.



Tournament Bracket

This World Cup signified the first time the All Blacks, three-time winners of the tournament, had ever lost a pool match. No wonder France were serenaded off the pitch with a rousing rendition of La Marseillaise. Temperatures that lingered in the 80's in Fahrenheit (27C), and the frenetic pace of the game meant the players didn't have anything left in the tank to celebrate.

For England, George Ford opened with an incredible 27 points (all scored by drop goal or penalty kick), which gave England a massive head start in the battle of the group stages. Ford made his England debut as a replacement against Wales in the penultimate round of the 2014 Six Nations Championship as England claimed their first triple crown in over a decade.

France, Ireland, Wales, and England topped their respective groups.

In the final, South Africa beat New Zealand 12-11 in a nail-biting game. This is after they won a closely fought battle in the semis against England 16-15.

Not to be in the tournament the end for England, but hopes are high for the Six Nations in February.



What is the JMC?

By Isobel (Y8), Student Writer

Have you ever wanted to take part in the National and the International Maths Competitions? Well, this is for you!

The Junior Maths Challenge (JMC) is a set of maths questions, taking 2 minutes for each question on average. Year 8 and 9 top set maths groups will take on the challenge. All questions are multiple choice and there are 25 questions, the first 15 questions are the easiest, getting harder till the end.

What levels can I achieve?



By getting questions correct, you can earn points. Each correct answer earns you 5 points. Getting a question wrong earns you no points. If you get a certain amount of points, you have bronze, silver, and gold levels of achievement. In 2023, you needed 52 points for a bronze, 66 points for a silver and 82 for a gold. If you get above 88 marks, you enter what is called the Kangaroo. This is a challenge for people who pass the JKMT challenges. But if you get even more points, up to 113 points, you can enter the Olympiad, which is an international competition! Very few people get to this stage, 300,000 take on the challenge and only 12,000 on average get through!

If you get to the Kangaroo or Olympiad stage, then you need to take a second test. Then you can get even more points, and, on the Kangaroo stage, some people get to participate in the Olympiad!

Year 9 Inter-Mentor Competition

By Mrs Southern, Staff Writer

Every week Mrs. Southern has been setting the Year 9 Mentors weekly challenges to complete either inside or outside of school. Activities so far this year have include the Memory Meltdown task, Construction Chaos and Phenomenal Photoshop. The weekly challenges are to be completed by a different member of the Mentor group in order to encourage all Year 9s to get involved with their year group. The students who have completed the task so far have shown a real commitment to our school values as well as their ability to work as a team and ultimately shown their desire to be crowned the ultimate winners.



Year 9's attempting to build a sound structure with pasta and marshmallows

Y11 Buddhism Trip

By Mr Churm, Staff Writer



Year 11 had the exciting opportunity to visit the Manjushri Kadampa Meditation Centre and Buddhist Temple at Conishead Priory in Ulverston on 3rd and 4th October. Over 80 pupils went on each day, as part of their GCSE Religious Studies course. They were taught about the Buddhist faith by experienced monks and nuns and other volunteers, helping them further understand the beliefs and practices that they have been studying in school.

Pupils were taken on a guided tour of the priory and temple and took part in a meditation workshop in the temple itself. They were guided through the Buddhist technique of 'mindfulness of breathing' as an aid to calming the mind and experiencing peace. A number of pupils are now going to try meditation at home as a way of resting and relaxing. Afterwards, they enjoyed learning about some key features of the temple, including the shrine and many golden statues and artefacts. One of the most interesting aspects of the trip was the circumambulation of the temple; a feature of Buddhist worship, where you walk around the temple contemplating your own thoughts. On one of the days, a group of pupils also took part in a dramatic retelling of the life of the Buddha.



The year 11's also had the opportunity to explore the beautiful surrounding area, spending some time in the woods and at the beach. Many pupils also enjoyed a visit to the gift shop. The monks at the centre commented that Carr Hill pupils had been calm and very well-behaved and the staff accompanying them were impressed with their mature and respectful approach to the day. All of the year 11's were a credit to the school and themselves and our staff really enjoyed taking them on this visit.

Female Empowerment

By Lexi (Y11), Student Writer

I think that it's important to recognize how far women have come from the way life used to be only a few decades ago. For women in the UK, we don't face even half of what the women in the 1900's experienced; getting paid only a fraction of what men earned, not being able to enter certain professions, no means to an education. They could not own property, they weren't able to vote, they didn't even have legal rights to their own children, and the list goes on.

Women fought for the rights that we are grateful to have today, and I think it's only right for us to acknowledge some of the women who got us to the point we're now at.

Simone paved the way for modern feminism. Debatably her most influential work, "the second sex" was written in 1949 and helped begin a conversation around modern feminism. Her (at the time) controversial philosophies helped launch an ever-evolving conversation about what feminism is.



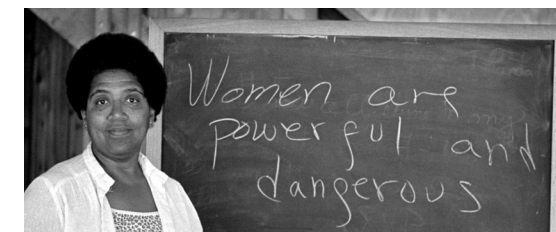
Simone De Beauvoir

The suffragettes fought relentlessly for women's rights, more specifically their right to vote. Their movements and protest allowed for the nationwide right for women to vote in the 1920's.



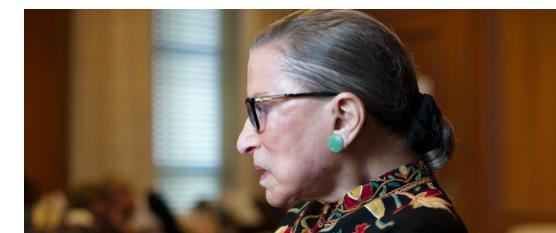
The Suffragettes

Audre called out the feminist movement for being exclusively for white women and argued that for feminism to be powerful, it needed to acknowledge the value of all women, not just one type. This argument was depicted in her book "Sister outsider" and is credited for shaping a more inclusive feminist movement.



Audre Lorde

In 1970, Bader-Ginsburg founded the law journal that focused exclusively on women's rights. She later became the second supreme court justice which she held up until her death on the 18th September 2020.



Ruth Bader-Ginsburg

Frank Cottrell-Boyce visits Carr Hill

By Mrs Carter, Staff Writer

On 4th October, we welcomed the Award-winning children's author Frank Cottrell-Boyce into school, for a talk and book signing for his recently released new book 'The Wonder Brothers'. Frank wowed the audience of our Year 7 students and approximately 150 children from primary schools in the local area, with his stories and a couple of readings from his most recent book 'The Wonder Brothers' and a previous book 'Cosmic' (first published in 2008). Frank asked the students in the audience about their experiences of their first day of school, and he talked to them about the main ideas of the new book, introducing them to the giant rabbit and asking them what they would do if Blackpool Tower disappeared.

'The Wonder Brothers' is a story of two diminutive magicians, who set out to retrieve the Blackpool Tower which has dramatically vanished in the night. The book is full of tricks, twists and deceptions - 'Maybe you don't believe me. Maybe you don't believe in magic. I bet you will by the time you've heard what happened to us.'

Frank then answered a range of questions from the audience, and the students were so patient waiting for their turn to get their book signed.

Elaine Silverwood, of Silverwood Events and Book, Bean & Ice Cream in Kirkham, was the main organiser of the event. Elaine arranged for Frank to attend and felt it would be a fantastic event to hold here at school. The press were also in attendance and took photos of the event.



Ms Fry arranged for 4 students to meet Frank before the event started, these students were put forward by Year 7 teachers / mentors as being incredibly hard working and having exemplary behaviour during their time in Year 7. Georgina, Jake, Jessica and Rhys had time to chat with Frank, whilst they finished their lunch and even had their photo taken by the photographer from the Blackpool Gazette.

Mr Waller wrote, "It was lovely to see the hall full with 300 Year 7 and primary children for the visit of author Frank Cottrell-Boyce. Frank was talking about his new book, 'The Wonder Brothers' and told the young people about his writing. I didn't know before the event that he'd written the script for the famous Diamond Jubilee scene of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with Paddington Bear! He signed 129 copies of his book at the end for those who had purchased one."

How school can find your future

By Milana (Y9), Student Writer

If you force yourself to be interested in something, you will eventually become captivated. This may be in the study of a subject that you may find engaging because you started learning about some aspect of it and it was something new that caught your attention. While in other subject matters, you may not enjoy them as much, but it's okay since everyone has different interests.

DID YOU KNOW?

In the mouth of a person, there are more bacteria than there are people in the world.



Science is a really interesting subject to me and I find it fascinating to learn about atoms, chemical interactions, and compounds. I adore how science is never-ending. From speculations about how the universe began to the tiny atoms that contributed to our creation, among many other things. While I don't particularly appreciate astronomy, the investigation of space leads to it, therefore it's interesting to see some hypotheses planned.

I'm more of a biology and chemistry person, and I don't understand why I don't find geography interesting, but once you get the hang of it and don't let go or miss any important information, you might be surprised how much you want to learn more about it. Science is a rigorous, systematic endeavour that builds and organizes knowledge in the form of testable explanations and predictions about everything.

Here are some thoughts that might give you a better idea as to your future career plans:

What's your vision of growing up?

Think of topics/subjects you may enjoy

How may you use your favorite subjects to relate to your job?

Help yourself to improve and find a subject that is for your personality

"Your education is a dress rehearsal for a life that is yours to lead."

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUB NOTICE

Do you want to get hands-on with science and help save the planet?

→ Join the club! ←

KS3 SCIENCE CLUB

When: On Friday at 12.35 starting on 13th October
Where: In SC4 with Mrs. Altham
How: To find out more and to sign up, ask your science teacher!

Looking forward to seeing you there!

PREFECT UPDATE

By Mr Long, Staff Writer

The first half term of this academic year has seen the launch of Carr Hill's four prefect teams.

The teams, based on the school's four guiding virtues (Commitment, Aspiration, Resilience and Respect) are setting about doing good works, being generous with their time, and making the school a better place.

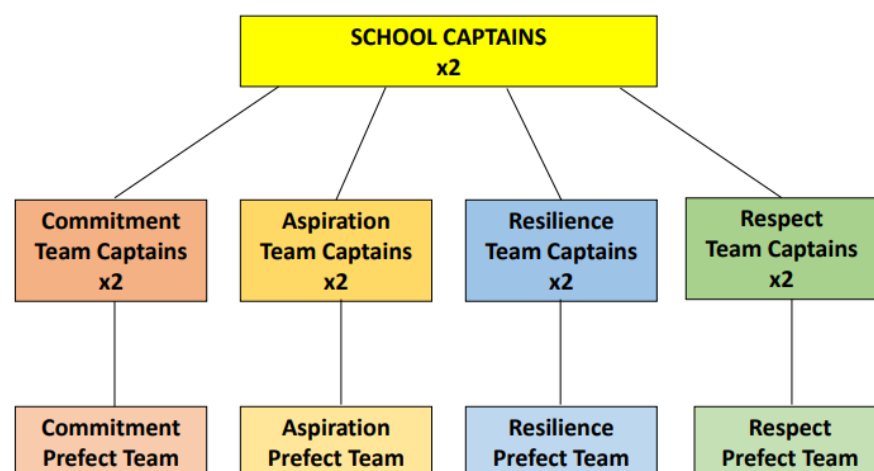
The Commitment Team are establishing a school shop, open every morning, which stocks all the key stationery items our pupils are required to have. The Commitment Team are proving to be a reliable, good-natured and dedicated group. Alongside the duty they are performing to the school, they are learning about stock-taking and other skills required to run a successful retail business. Perhaps the World's next Jeff Bezos is among their number!

The Aspiration Team are working on displays around school. Having worked to a quick deadline to improve a display board before Open Evening, they are now setting their sights on the Allen Wood Studio. They are keen to make this room (which is also the Prefect Common Room) into a space which says something of Carr Hill at its best. Their first big project, which they hope to complete during this Half Term, is a display inspired by the Carr Hill Dove.

The Resilience Team are a major force for good, with over thirty pupils amongst their number. Their initial focus is to help our new Year 7 pupils. They attend Form Time with the Year 7's twice per week, helping them to be organised and prepared for the day. As time goes on they are keen to offer more individual mentoring for those who need it. To our youngest and newest pupils, they are becoming a set of trusted faces who – hopefully – make secondary school seem a less daunting place.

The Respect Team has changed its focus, and brought fresh thinking into how the team can best operate. Rather than perform duties, the new focus of this team is to champion "Respect" as a virtue in different ways. They are embarking on two initial projects: one linked to fundraising for worthy causes, and the other linked to protecting and respecting the natural world. Details will follow as their plans develop!

If the first weeks of this year are a guide, then the prefects of Carr Hill will prove to be a wonderful collective force for good. Their behaviour in class has been exemplary, and their appearance and presentation set the ideal tone for what a good pupil at Carr Hill should be. They made excellent guides and ambassadors on Open Evening, and we look forwards with optimism for what they can go on to achieve.



Alyssa & Sophie

School Captains

"Hello, my name is Alyssa, and I am incredibly lucky to be the current School Captain of Carr Hill High School.

When I first started in Year 7, I was overwhelmed by the amount of change that I needed to go through from Primary School to High School, quickly too. However, during my time at the school, I have made some amazing friends and grown into a better person.

Carr Hill has helped me to mature, as well as giving me a lot of new opportunities. These include participating in School productions, running the This Girl Can sports group and flying with 50 fellow students out to New York on a school trip.

Carr Hill is welcoming to everybody, and no matter what your interests are, there will always be some sort of extra-curricular activity to participate in, from Dance Club to Chess Club.

This school supports all students and encourages them to be Committed, Aspirational, Resilient and Respectful to others, and helps all students to become the best version of themselves and ultimately achieve their goals.

I hope to see you all at Carr Hill!"

Alyssa
School Captain

"Hello, I'm Sophie and I'm incredibly proud to say that I am one of the two School Captains of Carr Hill, alongside my good friend Alyssa.

In Year 7, I was so afraid of new people and changes to what I knew so well. However, as the year went by, I made new friends in lessons and my teachers gradually helped me to adjust. My mentor and I have a great bond and he helped me to feel more comfortable in a new School environment.

Now I am in Year 11, I am very proud to be a part of a large team of committed, hardworking prefects, who will be happy to help you if you have any queries.

When it comes to extra-curricular activities, there is always something for every interest, from the sports teams to the School Musical (which I'm a big fan of).

No matter what you like to do, or even if you don't know what you would like to try, there are always opportunities for all students to challenge themselves and be encouraged to show resilience and commitment.

I hope you enjoy experiencing our School and we look forward to seeing you in September!"

Sophie
School Captain

I AM...

DRAMA CLUB PERFORMANCE

By Miss Parkinson, Staff Writer

On Wednesday 11th October, our Drama Club put on a performance designed in the 'I AM....' format, which is a collection of songs, dances and dramatic passages to get a point across to the audience. This performance was called "I AM A PERSON". Miss Parkinson has been running the Drama club over the last year or so, and since September she has worked on this show's concept with her group for their weekly club. The students decided what they wanted to do to get the core message across, and the topic was 'Bullying'. This strikes a chord with all of our students and families, as we each face individual challenges day-to-day.

Difficulties with dealing with situations were brought to life by the group, with many taking part in a 'game-show' style dramatisation. It was incredibly effective in getting the message across.

Miss Parkinson wrote straight after the performance, "This I AM performance was a brilliant success, with a great turn out of parents, friends and other students. The cast was a mix of 22 Year 7's 8's and 9's. They were all fantastic! For a handful of these students, it was their first time performing in front of an audience, which is tough alone...never mind at school! We have successfully raised some money out of ticket sales to go towards the Performing Arts departments production of High School Musical!"

Miss Parkinson reflected on the performance with the group at this weeks session, and the feedback was that the students loved being able to put on this show with their friends, many of them being a part of different dance/drama organisations out of school. The students were grateful to the audience for their support on the night too.



Eco Explorers

By Mrs Southern, Staff Writer



Every Wednesday lunchtime the Year 7 and 8 Eco Explorers meet in HU2 with Mrs. Southern. The aim of the club is to develop a further understanding of Geography outside of the classroom and look at how we can promote sustainability within the school. In their first session The Eco Explorers needed to get to know each other so they created their own flag on biscuits. Some used inspiration from traditional flags while others chose to demonstrate their own creativity by adding their own designs including tractors to their new flag.



The Eco Explorers also participated in the National Education Nature Park and Climate Action Award on the 4th October. This was an activity called the Hidden Nature Challenge which asked school children around the world to investigate nature around their school area. The aim was to find nature occurring in unexpected places, find plant or animal life in what could be considered a nature free zone as well as finding the smallest sign of nature in different areas around the school. The group went out with clipboards and a camera to document the results. The images were uploaded to ArcGIS a website specialising in Geographical Information System (GIS) and will be used to show how much nature is around schools globally.

Seb's Weird Days

By Seb (Y8), Student Writer

There are so many weird days in the year some of which are not worth celebrating. But who cares if they're weird, or stupid or pointless because we're all a little bit weird really. So, you may like some of these weird holidays coming up.

How about the 3rd of November, which is Sandwich Day, or 5th of November, national Zero Tasking Day which is a (not very) valid excuse to sit on your phones all day. There are, however, more practical holidays like Clean out your refrigerator Day [15th of November] or Chaos Never Dies Day [9th of November] and you know the teachers are going to hate that.

Here's a fun one, tongue twister day [8th of November] try this, a synonym for cinnamon is a cinnamon synonym. And last one, world kindness day where we're all kind to each other for the whole day. Just kidding, spicy guacamole day is much more memorable [14th of November] and is on the same day as national pickle day.

Thank you for reading and enjoy celebrating these weird holidays.

CARR HILL HIGH SCHOOL



Commitment Aspiration Resilience Respect

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