



Carlton le Willows newsletter

Welcome to the Spring term edition of the Carlton le Willows Academy newsletter

April 2025

In This Issue



Here we will share some of our many student success stories and give you a taste of life at Carlton le Willows.

Including:

- **World Book Day**
- **Student council**
- **Cambridge University visit**
- **National training camp**
- **Medals for netball team**
- **Proud Thursday**
- **Uniform pop up shops**
- **What's on**

World Book Day



STAFF at Carlton le Willows Academy pulled out all the stops as they dressed up as well-known literary characters for World Book Day on 6 March.

The chance to see staff in costume has become a much loved annual feature of the Carlton le Willows school year and every World Book Day brings a different surprise.

This year was no exception, with our learning manager team creating quite a stir popping up in their Where's Wally costumes. Just how long did it take students to spot all six of them??

As ever the English department were also out in force, along with our teaching assistants, with a varied array of fictional characters gracing the classrooms. We had everyone from Gandalf, Hagrid and Sherlock Holmes to Sully and Mike from Monsters Inc. Always with an eye on those set texts, Head of English Matt Ruffles even came as Birnam Wood!



1 - "Till Birnam forest come to Dunsinane!"



Student council



STUDENTS at Carlton le Willows Academy are using their voice and encouraging others to get more involved in school life following the formation of a brand new Student Council body.

A total of 16 students – four each from years 7 to 10 – get together each week to discuss how best to make an impact, have their say within the Academy and get everyone involved in Academy life.

Said Teacher of Geography Miss Orme, who is leading the project: “Being on the Student Council is a valuable platform for giving students a voice. Allowing all different year groups to work together has enabled greater team working and positivity around the school.”

One of their first roles was to help organise the annual Food Bank appeal and they have been representing the student body at parents’ evenings throughout the year.

Just last week the council presented to Principal Jaspal Mehat with a range of ideas they would like to implement including charity event, bike safety assemblies and getting more involved with rewards events for students and staff.

The student councillors secured their roles after an election process at the beginning of the academic year. Launched in assembly by Miss Orme, students then submitted application forms answering questions about what ideas they may wish to see implemented and why they would be a good choice for the council. More than 200 students applied to join and the learning manager team and Miss Orme then selected 12 applicants from each year group. These students were invited to write anonymous manifestos which tutor groups were asked to vote on and winners were selected from the top votes.

Keen to ensure they let everyone be heard, the student council are currently in the process of doing a student voice to find out what students would like them to focus on. It looks like being a busy year ahead!

Year 11 pizza rewards



YEAR 11 earned themselves a pizza rewards and quiz event after attending interventions in the first half of the spring term. In line with other rewards events, students must have had consistent good attendance and no behaviour issues in order to attend.

Introduced last year, this is a popular event for Year 11, serving as a chance to relax and enjoy themselves during a busy school week.

Trip to Cambridge University



YEAR 12 students from Carlton le Willows Sixth Form broadened their skills and knowledge around university applications during a trip to Cambridge University earlier this term.

The trip was organised as part of the HE+ scheme, which is designed to encourage students to aim to study at Oxbridge and other competitive applications. During the day the group attended a lecture on their chosen subject area; spoke with other students about the Cambridge experience and attended a session on making competitive applications to Russell Group Universities; as well as enjoying a tour of the city.

Call up to national team for Kai



A CARLTON le Willows footballer, who has been playing the sport since he could walk, has been selected to take part in a training camp for the Thailand national football team.

Year 11 Kai, who currently plays for Nottingham Forest, has just returned from three weeks in Thailand where he lived and worked alongside other national playing hopefuls at the FA Thailand U17s training camp.

“This was the opportunity of a lifetime for me, and an honour. Facilities at the training camp were great and once I had got used to playing in the heat I was able to settle in to training. If I had the chance it would be a dream to play for the national Thai team.”

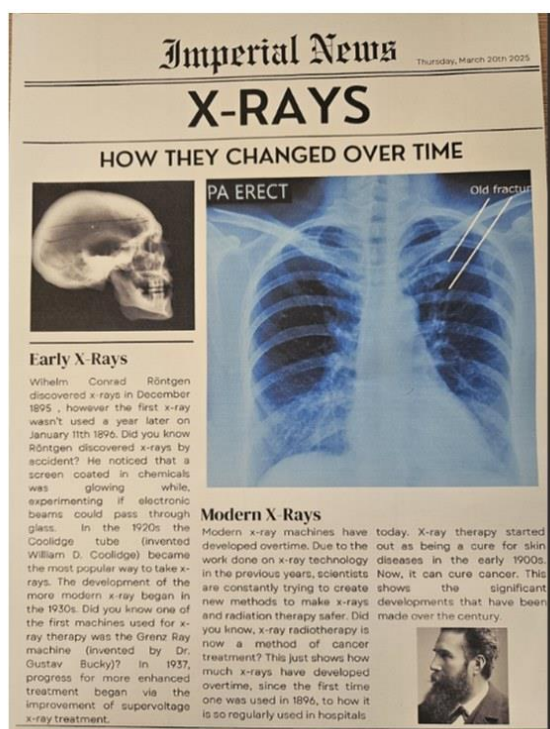
The move follows an offer for the 15-year-old, who plays right back, to play in the Asia Cup qualifiers last year – an opportunity he had to miss due to injury. However the President of FA Thailand sent her European team scout to invite Kai to this spring’s camp.

Kai, who has dual nationality as his mum is from Thailand, says he has been playing football from a very young age. “I come from a big footballing family. My grandad played for Nottingham Forest and my dad played when he was younger so I was brought up to play football.”

His first club was in Rushcliffe, from where he moved to a Gedling team. Kai was scouted at the age of 14. After a two week trial he signed a two year deal with Nottingham Forest.

As a Forest player Kai has a busy schedule of fixtures coming up against teams from Newcastle, Derby and Manchester City in the next few weeks, all while studying for his GCSEs. We wish him the best of luck as he follows his dream career.

British Science Week winners



WELL done to Milly in Year 8 whose poster for British Science Week caught the judges' attention and secured Carlton le Willows the second place in a Trust-wide competition.

Milly's was one of an impressive 43 entries from students in Years 7, 8 and 9. The science department judged the best Academy entries to submit an overall winner to compete for the prize against all other schools in the Trust.

Science teacher Mr Smith said: "All the posters were very good, it was very hard to pick our winner, but Milly did a great job!"

Medals for Year 10 netballers



CONGRATULATIONS to our Year 10 netballers who collected two medals in just two weeks this term.

The team were placed in bronze position in the Central Venue League, after reaching the final following an unbeaten run in the rounds.

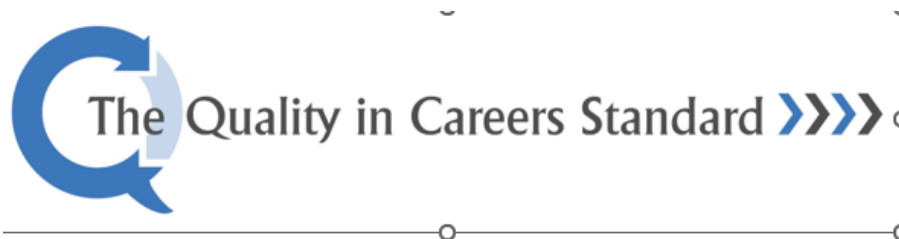
The final at West Bridgford School saw them lose just one game - to eventual winners Rushcliffe 6-2. They also drew to West Bridgford and George Spencer, then beat Colonel Frank Seely and Arnold Hill to take third place.

And the Year 10 players have also tasted success in the County competition. Having won all games in their section to get in to the top group, they faced Nottingham High School and Nottingham Girls High School (NGHS) in the final.

The team lost to the High School 6-3 and drew with NGHS 4-4, so picked up a bronze medal due to one goal difference.

Said PE teacher Mrs Jones: "Considering both these schools spend hours training and a lot of the team play for clubs, our team did amazingly well. I am so proud of them."

Quality in Careers Standard



CARLTON le Willows Academy has officially been accredited for the Quality in Careers Standard Award, which is the single national quality award for overall careers education and guidance provision in secondary schools, sixth forms and colleges. This standard is fully aligned with the Gatsby Benchmarks for "good career guidance" and complies with the Department for Education's statutory guidance.

As the country's dedicated national quality award, the Quality in Careers Standard – through external assessment – uniquely accredits the four components of overall careers education and guidance provision: Careers education, careers information, careers advice and careers guidance

The accreditation of this prestigious award is testament to the commitment of Academy staff, who work incredibly hard to support, inform and inspire our students during their time at school, sixth form and towards their next steps in education and work.

Proud Thursday

STUDENTS who have produced beautiful work throughout the week are given the chance to showcase their efforts to members of the senior leadership team every week during Proud Thursday.

Having shown their work they receive a certificate and a treat.

Take a look at some of this term's Proud Thursday winners below.











Uniform pop-up shops

UNIFORM stockists SPT Uniforms will be holding two pop up shops at school this summer, so parents and carers can stock up on new uniform ready for the new year.

SPT staff will be in school on Monday 21 July and on Thursday 14 August 2025 from 10.30am - 2.30pm, with stock in all sizes. The team will also be able to assist with measuring if you are unsure what size your child needs.

There is no need to book a slot, just come to the main Burton Road entrance and staff will be able to sell you uniform.

If you would prefer you can order online, at any time, from <https://sptuniforms.co.uk>



Upcoming events

Dates for your diary for the summer term include:

First day back at school	22 April 2025
Year 8 Parents' evening	08 May 2025
Year 13 Prom	20 June 2025
Year 11 Prom	26 June 2025
Year 6 transition days	30 June - 4 July 2025
School musical Oliver Jr!	8 & 9 July 2025 (6.30pm)
Year 6 transition evening	10 July 2025
INSET days	21 & 22 July 2025
Uniform pop up shops	21 July 2025 (10.30 - 2.30)
Uniform pop up shops	14 August 2025 (10.30 - 2.30)
A Level Results Day	14 August 2025

GCSE Results Day

21 August 2025

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