

Welcome back! First, a huge thank you for all of your hard work helping the children with their home learning over the lockdown period. It's great to see all of them back at school and eager to learn! Here is the Year 4 curriculum overview for the Autumn Term.

Autumn	Spring	Summer
<p data-bbox="172 297 497 327"><b>The World in Our Hands</b></p>  <p data-bbox="121 595 549 685">Focuses on key aspects of physical Geography including climate zones and biomes.</p>	<p data-bbox="671 297 927 327"><b>African Adventures</b></p>  <p data-bbox="592 595 1010 685">Based on the achievements of ancient civilizations and comparing different regions in Africa.</p>	<p data-bbox="1137 297 1369 327"><b>Carlton Explorers</b></p>  <p data-bbox="1042 595 1465 685">Explores the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods.</p>

At The Carlton Junior Academy we teach a broad and ambitious curriculum. We aim to provide a meaningful learning experience for the children that develops knowledge and skills in each subject area. As part of our 'The World in Our Hands' topic, the following subjects are taught.

### **Maths**

At The Carlton Junior Academy we follow the 'mastery' approach of teaching maths, based on the idea of children securing their understanding of concepts at their pace through modelling and precise teaching. Our Maths lessons this term include the following topics: place value, addition and subtraction, fractions and decimals and measures. The whole school is continuing to focus on times tables and your support in working at home with the children to develop their tables' knowledge would be much appreciated. Please encourage your child to use the fantastic website 'Times Tables Rock Stars' to improve their rapid recall of times tables and division facts. They can also access this at home using their individual login details.

### **English**

Each class is focusing on the book 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. It is a very exciting adventure story of four children fighting for survival in the Amazon Rainforest and won the Children's Book of the Year Award in 2017. The children will produce several types of writing including: description, persuasion, reports, newspapers, explanations and recounts. Each child is allocated with a school reading book. This will be at an appropriate level for them. Any reading at home or school will be recorded in their personal organisers. We ask that you share a book with your child each evening for ten minutes. The whole school also takes part in DEAR time (Drop Everything And Read) after lunch for 15 minutes when everyone reads a book of their choice for pleasure, therefore practising the important reading skills needed in everyday life. We will continue with the 'Bookworm Challenge' awards. Please encourage your child to take care of their book and return it to school when finished.

### **Spellings**

Spellings will continue to be given out on Mondays and the spelling test will be on Fridays. This year, spellings will be taught daily and will focus on a specific sound/pattern/rule. Once every half term a whole school spelling event will take place involving learning the spellings from the National Curriculum's statutory lists. Please encourage your child to access the exciting online resource Spelling Shed which enables them to practise spelling in a 'fun way' at home.

### **Science**

We will begin by identifying and locating water habitats of the UK and learn about the variety of animals and plants that live there. We will compare the coastal habitats of the UK to other ocean habitats such as the Atlantic and the Tropical Coral Reef. The children will then use classification keys to group animals and plants into specific scientific groups depending on observable features. Following on from this we will study the structure of marine food chains and learn about the importance of microscopic Zooplankton and Phytoplankton. Finally, the children will learn how habitats can change and how this can pose a danger to wildlife.

### **Geography**

Pupils will develop their exploration skills by travelling around the world to identify which biome is the most important and why we should look after it. They will begin by studying Ordnance survey maps and using four-figure grid references. They will then use digital historical maps in order to establish the changes that have happened to Carlton

over time. In addition to this, they will learn about the differences between the Northern and Southern hemisphere. Each week they will explore a different biome including: tundra, desert, grassland and tropical rainforest.

### **Art/Design and Technology**

We start off by developing shading techniques when creating observational drawings of plants. We will then move on to study the techniques of great historical artists such as Cezanne and Rousseau. The children will learn how these great artists used medium to create their distinctive styles. The children will apply their knowledge of these styles to create their own images of a rainforest.

### **Computing**

The Children will be learning Word Processing skills. Some of the skills they will learn are how to change the page design, add borders, use and format text boxes, add and format pictures and add a screenshot. They will also learn how to search for information and images safely and quickly on the Internet. We take every opportunity to grow the children's ability to safeguard themselves online so, time will be spent thinking about whether everything on the internet is true.

### **MFL (Modern Foreign Language)**

This term, the children will be continuing to learn conversational French. They will focus on French celebrations and festivals and identify similarities and differences to those held in the UK.

### **Relationships Education & PSHE (Personal and Social Health Education)**

Our Jigsaw programme topic is 'Being Me In My World' which covers a wide range of themes, including: a sense of belonging, welcoming others and being part of a school community, a wider community, and a global community; it also looks at children's rights and responsibilities, working and socialising with others, and pupil voice.

### **RE**

In line with the Nottinghamshire syllabus, the first learning unit entitled 'The Journey of Life and Death' explores key events that religious people celebrate such as a Jewish Bar Mitzvah and the Hindu wedding ceremony. We will also discuss what we are looking forward to in our own lives and how we could achieve personal goals.

### **PE**

During the Autumn Term we will learn skills in Hand Ball and Dance. Both classes will also receive a weekly Yoga session that will incorporate elements of mindfulness and mindful movement to help the children in their adjustment as they return to school and deal with the new 'normal'.

### **Music**

Through our Charanga programme, we will use and explore staff and other musical notations. We will create our own compositions based on a range of musical notes and will perform these in solo and ensemble contexts. The music will be created through body percussion thereby increasing accuracy, fluency and control.

### **British Values**

Throughout our topic the children will learn the fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. The importance of laws and mutual respect will be promoted continuously through the school's behavior policy. Children will learn the importance of responsibility and relationships when reading our class book The Explorer. Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs will be taught during RE lessons when discussing Judaism and Hinduism.

### **Whole School Homework.**

Homework continues to be given out on a Tuesday and the children have one week to complete it. Maths homework is always linked to the topic studied. Other homework tasks are set throughout the year and are linked to the current topic. The children get longer to complete these tasks as they are encouraged to produce their very best 'take care' pieces.

Finally, we are delighted to introduce Mrs Emma Wragg (a new Teaching Assistant) to our amazing school team. Mrs Wragg will be working in Rowan class. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you require any further information. Thank you for your continued support!

Kind regards,