

Dear Parents/Carers,

A big hello from the Year 4 team! We have lots of exciting things happening this year that we'd like to share with you. It's going to be another amazing year and we can't wait to get started!

Autumn The World in Our Hands	Spring African Adventures	Summer Carlton Explorers
 <p>An exploration into rainforests, and focusing on the key aspects of physical geography, including climate biomes and biomes.</p>	 <p>Based on the achievements of Ancient civilisations and comparing different regions in Africa.</p>	 <p>Explores the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods.</p>

Curriculum

At The Carlton Junior Academy, we teach a broad and ambitious curriculum. We aim to provide a meaningful learning experience for the children which develops knowledge and skills in each subject area.

English

The key texts we will be exploring this term are 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. Children will develop their writing skills by producing: diary entries, non-chronological reports and instruction texts. The whole school DEAR time (Drop Everything and Read) will commence every day after lunch for 15 minutes, the children always enjoy this time to settle down after lunch and really engage in their reading book. Please encourage your child to read at home too and record this in their organisers. Children who read 3 times each week will be eligible for our 'Bookworm Challenge' awards. Please encourage your child to take care of their reading book and return it to school when finished. We also welcome donations of unwanted books.

Spellings

Each Monday, the children will continue having a 'blind spelling test'. These are then marked and spellings will be given out for children to glue into their organisers. Another spellings test will be completed on Friday to show improvements. During the week, children can use 'Spelling Shed' to further develop their understanding of spelling rules. Every term, a whole school 'Spelling Bee' will take place involving learning the spellings from the National Curriculum's statutory lists.

Maths

At the Carlton Junior Academy, we follow the 'mastery' approach of teaching mathematics, meaning pupils of all ages acquiring a deep, long-term, secure and adaptable understanding of the subject. Achieving mastery means acquiring a solid understanding of the maths that's been taught to enable pupils to move on to more advanced material. This term we will be covering place value and numbers up to 1000, learning how to compose and decompose numbers, compare, order and look for patterns. Next, children will be learning different methods for addition and subtraction, moving onto problem solving. Children will focus on 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables. Please encourage your child to use the fantastic website 'Times Table Rock Stars' to improve their rapid recall of times tables.

Science

Our Science topics this term are 'States of Matter' and 'Sound'. Firstly, we will identify and classify the 3 states of matter, then moving onto recording how materials change, when they are heated or cooled. To finish off this engaging topic, children will then know how water moves in the water cycle, applying their knowledge of how the water changes from one state to another. In the second Autumn term, children will explore how sound travels through practical investigations and using scientific vocabulary. To finish off this topic, children will explore how to produce insulation material to lessen sound.

History & Geography

In History, we will be investigating how the Anglo-Saxons and Scots settled in Britain by identifying what 'settlers' are and respond to historical questions. Then, we will read the story of 'Hengist and Horsa' and decide whether evidence from the past can be relied upon. Next, we will find out about the Battle of Badon and become archaeologists by analysing artefacts whilst developing our understanding of primary and secondary sources. In addition to this, we will look at the Anglo-Saxon society and develop the appropriate use of historical terms such as thane, churls and slaves. Finally, we will explore Sutton Hoo and famous Anglo-Saxon kings and queens, giving reasons why we think they were important to the Anglo-Saxons. 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.

In Geography, we will learn about the differences between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.

Each week we will explore a different biome, these include: the tundra, desert, grassland and tropical rainforest.

P.E.

We have exciting things planned for PE! The children will be focusing on two different units of work. One being gymnastics and exploring balance along with a range of movements. The second unit of work is tag Rugby; playing competitive games and applying basic principles suitable for attacking and defending.

Religious Education

In RE, we will be undertaking a unit entitled 'The Journey of Life and Death'. Within this topic, we will explore key events that religious people celebrate such as 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.

Music

Through our Charanga programme, we will be using and exploring 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.

MFL (Modern Foreign Languages)

Madame Vasco (our French specialist teacher) will continue to teach conversational French each week. The children will explore different celebrations and festivals held in France and compare these to the festivals and celebrations in England.

PSHRE (Personal, Social, Health and Relationships Education)

This term in PSHRE, we will be covering two different units using our whole school JIGSAW approach: Being Me in My World and Celebrating Difference. In the 'Being Me in My World' unit, children will learn about being a school citizen, rights, responsibilities and democracy, and rewards and consequences. In the 'Celebrating Difference' unit, children will learn about first impressions and judging by appearance, accepting self and others, identifying how special and unique everyone is and understanding bullying.

Computing

In Computing, we will be learning new word processing skills such as formatting images and textboxes to create a poster. Whilst searching for images to insert into Word, we learn how to add filters to Bing and Google to obtain ones that are copyright free. Also we will learn to become more effective users of the Internet, considering plagiarism and looking at hoax or spoof websites. We take every opportunity to grow the children's ability to safeguard themselves online too, so we will understand what information we shouldn't share on the Internet and look at scams and phishing. Using gaming as a stimulus for discussion, we will consider some of the methods used to buy things online.

Art

In Art and Design and Technology we will be focusing on textiles and texture within the Middle Ages linking to the Anglo-Saxons. We will be learning about the Bayeux tapestry and how Art has shaped history. This will serve as a starting point to create our own tapestry using stitching techniques.

British Values

Throughout our topics, 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. Tolerance and respect

of those with different faiths and beliefs will be taught during RE lessons. Children will learn the importance of responsibility and relationships during our PSHRE lessons and reading our class book 'The Explorer'.

Homework

Homework continues to be given out on a Tuesday. Maths is given out every Tuesday and the children have one week to complete it. Maths homework is linked to the topic studied that week in class. Whole School Homework this term is going to be linked to the History and Geography topics explored in class. Children will be able to choose their homework task from a range of exciting options! New tasks will be given out to children next week on 14th September. Our 'Meet the Teacher' session will occur on 13th September 2021, where you will be able to meet the Year 4 team. On 12th October, we will be celebrating our Harvest Festival at St. Paul's Church – we hope parents and carers will be able to join us. Furthermore, our Christmas Production will be taking place on 8th & 10th December.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Kind regards,

Miss Simmons

Miss Kerrison