

Dear Parents/Carers,

A big hello from Year 6! We've got so many amazing things happening this term that we'd like to share with you. It's going to be a very exciting time and we can't wait to get started!

<b>Autumn</b> The Industrial Revolution	<b>Spring</b> Magnificent Mayans	<b>Summer</b> Shang Dynasty
 <p>An exploration into a major change in British history! We will delve into different aspects of this influential period of British history – exploring events such as the development of health and hygiene and how transport changed during this period.</p>	 <p>We will conduct a study of the Ancient Mayan civilisation c. AD 900. In this topic, we will learn about a non-European society and contrast this with British history. We will also explore countries, mountain ranges, rivers and oceans in Central America.</p>	 <p>We will explore the achievements of one of the earliest civilisations. In this topic, we will conduct an in depth study of The Shang Dynasty of ancient China. We will then locate the main countries in Asia and explore their physical and human geographical features.</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

Our English lessons are linked to our 'Magnificent Mayans' topic and we will be creating a non-chronological report based on our studies. Each class will also be reading 'Holes' by Louis Sachar as their 'Power of Reading' book. The children will produce a range of exciting writing such as: an information leaflet about the yellow-spotted lizard, and discussions around crime and punishment. Any reading at home or school will be recorded in their personal organisers and we ask that you share a book with your child each evening for at least ten minutes. 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. We welcome donations of unwanted books.

### Spellings

Spellings will continue to be given out on Mondays and the spelling test will be on Fridays. Spellings will be taught daily and will focus on a specific sound/pattern/rule. During the week, children can use 'Spelling Shed' to further develop their understanding. Every term, a whole school 'Spelling Bee' will take place involving learning the spellings from the National Curriculum's statutory lists.

### Maths

Within Maths, we will be focussing on the following topics: Decimals, Percentages, Algebra, Converting Measures (mass, capacity, length), Perimeter, Area and Volume, Ratio, and Statistics. We will continue to focus on times tables, number skills and fluency with short daily times tables and arithmetic sessions. Remember: your child can login to 'Times Tables Rock Stars' to improve their rapid recall of times tables and division facts through fun timed activities.

### Science

This term, our Science topics will be exploring 'The Circulatory System'. We will be learning about the functions of the heart, blood vessels and lungs and their importance within our bodies. We will also consider the role of exercise in keeping our heart and lungs healthy.

## History

We will be studying the Ancient Maya in our History topic, 'Magnificent Maya'. We will begin by investigating two intrepid explorers called John Lloyd Stephens and Frederick Catherwood who studied the ancient civilisation. We will then analyse artefacts and explore some of the cultural beliefs of the Maya and how they differ from modern day beliefs. In addition to this, we will learn about the production of chocolate and finally, we will explain the different predictions as to what happened to the Ancient Maya civilisation and what traditions have been kept by their ancestors.

## Geography

In Geography, we will extend our knowledge and understanding beyond the local area to include Central and South America. This will include the location and characteristics of a range of Central and South America's most significant physical features. We will develop our use of geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to use eight point compass points confidently and accurately, and draw and use maps and atlases.

## P.E.

We have some exciting things planned for PE in Year 6! We will be continuing our work with gymnastics and fitness circuit training with a focus on developing flexibility, strength, technique, control, and balance. Children will work towards these skills in both activity areas throughout the first half term of spring. After February half term, Year 6 will be taking part in netball. As netball is a competitive game, pupils will be practising throwing and catching in isolation and combination, playing competitive games, and applying basic principles suitable for attacking and defending.

## Religious Education

In line with the Nottinghamshire syllabus, we will be learning about 'Beliefs and Questions'. The children will explore the idea of consequences and how this might impact how a person behaves. We will explore the concept of Zakat and Judgement Day (in Islam) and Karma and Ahimsa (in Hinduism) and consider how we treat the world in which we live. Finally, we will consider how we can make the world a better place.

## Music

Through our Charanga programme, we will be using and exploring staff and other musical notations. We will also be exploring the song 'A New Year Carol' – practising our singing, reading music and playing instruments.

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

Our Jigsaw programme will help us to explore the topic 'Goals and Dreams' and 'Healthy Me'. We will explore personal goals and discuss how we will achieve them. This topic will link to the British Value of 'Mutual Respect', and understand how we can help and support children around the world.

## Computing

In Computing this term, we will be learning about spreadsheets, creating formulas and using data in a spreadsheet to create line graphs. The children will be able to use the skills learnt to answer real-life problems and plan an event. We have also been successful in a bid to join 600 schools in the brand-new Coding to Success programme funded by BAE Systems, the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force. The programme has given school two free Lego Education Spike kits, so that we are able to learn about robotics and coding. This will fuel the passion of our children and encourage the next generation of scientists, engineers and computer programmers. For 'Online Safety', we will look at our online reputation and we will explain the ways in which we can develop a positive online reputation. The children will develop strategies that they can use to protect their 'digital personality' and online reputation. We will also explore the impact that technology has on health, well-being and lifestyle, looking at how it can affect mood, sleep, body health and relationships.

## British Values

Throughout our curriculum, the children will learn the fundamental British Values. 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 explore 'Rule of Law' through our class book 'Holes'.

### Art and Design & Design and Technology

In Art, we are concentrating on mastering painting techniques using watercolour. This will extend on previous learning to focus on adding detail using a more complex medium. In D&T, we are travelling the world to learn about global food: where food comes from and key dishes from certain countries.

### Seeds to Success

In school, we encourage children to take steps towards aiming higher and making a difference to their own lives and the lives of others by developing awareness and skills in each of our school's values: Excellence, Respect, Responsibility, Relationships, and Determination. At The Carlton Junior Academy, we aspire to be the best that we can be. We learn that trying new challenges is exciting and helps us to step outside of our comfort zone through our 'Seeds to Success'. Each half term, we choose a 'seed' to focus on as a whole school. In the Spring term, we will be focusing on the following: 'Think of a job you would like to do when you're older and research it thoroughly' and 'Join an after-school club'.

### 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. In Spring Term, children may also bring home a short arithmetic test to help prepare them for the end of year SATs.

Kind regards,

Mrs de Gilbert & Mrs Charlesworth & Mrs Foster