Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had a fantastic Easter break! It's great that we're all back learning and there is a real buzz of excitement as we begin the new term together. Here is the Year 4 curriculum overview for the Summer Term.

An exploration into rainforests, focusing on the key aspects of physical geography, including climate biomes and biomes. Spring Desert Discoveries Carlton Explorers Discovering the achievements of Ancient civilisations and comparing different regions in Africa. Explores the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods.

Curriculum

We teach a broad and ambitious curriculum which is based on the National Curriculum. We aim to provide a meaningful learning experience for all children, which develops knowledge and skills in each subject area.

English

Our English lessons will link to our History topic - 'We'll Meet Again'. Each class will also be reading 'Mr Story: Noor-un-Nissa Inayat Khan' by Sufiya Ahmed as their 'Power of Reading' book. The children will produce a range of exciting writing such as: newspaper report on the declaration of war and instructions about how to be a spy. 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.

Maths

Year 4 Maths lessons will include the following topics: multiplication and division, 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. The children will be continuing 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. During the week commencing 13th June, Year 4 will undertake the Multiplication Test Check (MTC) – a statutory test to check your child's understanding of time tables.

Science

This term, children will start off learning that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways and they will recognise how environments change and how this may pose a danger to living things. Then, children will explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things. Later in the term, children will identify common appliances that run on electricity and then construct a simple series electrical circuit, whilst identifying and naming its basic parts. After this, children will identify whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit and recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit. To finish off this topic, children will be able to recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.

History

The 'We'll Meet Again' topic focuses on the impact and experiences of people during World War 2. The children will investigate the world leaders and main events which include the Blitz. They will also examine what life was like for evacuees when they were evacuated to the countryside. In addition to this, they will find out how people communicated during the war as well as learning about the experiences of African American soldiers. They will

explore rationing and look at comparisons with present day restrictions due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Finally, they will learn about Anne Frank and why we remember her.

Geography

The 'Carlton Explorers' topic focuses on study of our local area. The children will undertake a local fieldwork study to explore the local area of Carlton, making observations and sketches of what they see and making notes on environmental issues. Following their investigations, they will explore ways in which they could improve the local area.

P.E. (Physical Education)

PE will focus on three different units of work, beginning with developing Cricket skills—focusing on how to use a bat to hit a ball with accuracy and control. Moving on from this, we will learn how to accurately serve underarm. Then we will move on to developing our skills in preparation for Sports Day on Tuesday 12th July. Finally, orienteering, we will be exploring our school site in order to take part in various outdoor activities.

Religious Education

'Hinduism and Judaism' will be our focus religions, throughout the topic of 'Worship and Sacred Places'. We will compare different types of worship and learn about the significance of synagogues for Jewish people. Our second topic, 'Religion, Family and Community', will compare different types of prayer and consider why shrines are important to Hindus. To finish off this topic, children will create their own shrine which represents something important to them.

Music

Through our Charanga programme, we will be using and exploring staff and other musical notations. We will also be exploring the song 'Lean On Me' by Bill Withers to better understand Soul music. We will listen and understand the style indicators of Soul and Gospel music and sing in unison.

Foreign Languages

Madame Vasco (our French specialist teacher) will continue to teach Year 4 once a week. The children will discuss festivals and celebrations in different cultures, and compare aspects of everyday life, both at home and abroad.

PSHRE (Personal, Social, Health and Relationships Education)

We will cover two different units this term, using our whole school JIGSAW approach: 'Dreams and Goals', and 'Healthy Me'. A vital part of this programme is about safeguarding and keeping children safe; this links to cyber safety and social networking, as well as attraction and assertiveness; children learn how to deal with conflict, their own strengths and self-esteem. In Summer Term 2, our Jigsaw programme topic 'Changing Me' deals with change such as growing from young to old, becoming a teenager, assertiveness, self-respect and safeguarding, also self and body image, puberty, attraction and accepting change as they prepare to move to Year 5 and a new class.

Computing

We will be programming using 'Scratch' to create our own computer programs and games. In the second half term we will become hardware investigators to understand the different parts that make up a computer. We will then make music and experiment with the main elements of a piece of music and compose some music ourselves. For Online Safety, we will explore the impact that technology has on health, well-being and lifestyle, looking at how it can affect mood, sleep, body health and relationships. We will also examine self-image and identity, investigating how media impacts on gender and stereotypes

Art and Design & Design and Technology

In Art, we will be learning how to use oil pastels and studying the artist Georgia O'Keeffe. We will have the opportunity to create different variations of colour using oil pastel and will learn to mix and blend oil pastels effectively. Our Design and Technology involves designing and making a torch. Children will develop an appropriate design criteria and be able to select appropriate materials and components to complete their project. Once the product is finished, they will provide a full evaluation and make suggestions for any possible improvements.

British Values

Throughout our topics, we 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. We will learn the importance of responsibility and relationships during our PSHRE lessons.

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. Through our 'Seeds to Success', we learn that trying new challenges is exciting and helps us to step outside of our comfort zone. Each half term, we choose a 'seed' to focus on as a whole school. In the Summer term, we will be focusing on the following: 'making a positive difference to someone else' and 'take care of a plant and watch it grow'.

Homework

Homework continues to be given out on a Tuesday. Maths and Grammar books have been provided and children will be assigned activities to complete each week. This will be given out every Tuesday and the children have one week to complete it. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to come in and see one of us. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Miss Simmons & Miss Kerrison