

24th November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,



THE CARLTON
JUNIOR ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER No: 2 Autumn Term 2023



We have hit the ground running with a busy half term running up to Christmas. Hopefully, this letter will tell you a bit more about what's happening. The days are now much colder and darker, so please make sure your children come into school with a coat. We are noticing an increase in lateness so the attendance team will be supporting families who are struggling. Please do contact us if you need any support at this expensive and what can be, stressful time of year. , we are happy to help.

KEEPING YOUR CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE

As you know we send out a regular newsletter to help you keep your children safe when using the internet. We are still receiving reports of children falling out or putting themselves at risk using social media platforms such as TicTok. Please do check the age limits for these apps and monitor who is talking to your children online, and what they are saying.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

Our main Christmas events are:-

- * 3pm – Friday, 1st December – our hugely popular **PFA Christmas Fair** is back – do come & join us for a fun packed hour or so. If you can help on the day, please let Miss Tolley know. There will be some exciting games, the hugely popular tombola, raffle, cakes, refreshments & gifts to buy. We're also looking for donations of chocolates, toiletries, teddies, wine etc. Please bring any donations to the academy office. Also, on the day we need LOTS of cakes to sell on the cake stall. These can be brought into us on the morning of the fair and are always very popular. Thank you!

Our whole-school Christmas production this year will be **"Peter Pan"**. Many thanks to Mrs Worrall and Mrs Alexanderek who are running rehearsals twice a week after school. There will be three performances:-

- ★ 2pm on Wednesday, 13th December
- ★ 5.30pm on Wednesday, 13th December – it is really important that all children return at 5pm to get ready for the evening production
- ★ 9.30am on Friday, 15th December

Watch out for further details heading your way!

- * Friday, 15th December is also **Christmas dinner day** and optional **Christmas jumper day**.
- * Monday, 18th December – afternoon – **Y3/4 party**.
- * Tuesday, 19th December – afternoon – **Y5/6 party**.
- * Date tbc - The whole school will be going to St Paul's Church for a special Christmas service. Children are welcome to come to school in their Christmas jumpers for this special Christmas celebration. Date will be confirmed shortly.
- * Friday, 22nd December is the last day of term and final awards assemblies. Details to follow.

WARM WELCOME

We welcome Mrs Atkin (9.30-2.30 every day) to our office team. She will join Mrs Cooke (fulltime), Mrs Belshaw (4 days per week) and Mrs Hall (1 day per week).

FESTIVE TREAT BANK COLLECTION

All the Redhill Trust academies are again supporting the Festive Treat Bank collections in their locality. Here at TCJA we're supporting the St Paul's Church Food Bank. **We will be collecting until Friday, 15th December**, when we will take everything we've received to St Paul's. Please donate anything you can – it will all help. Some donation suggestions are mince pies, Christmas cake, tea, coffee, variety tins/boxes of chocolates, cans of pop – anything that you think would be appreciated! Thank you in anticipation of your support for this great cause. The collection box for donations will be sited in the main entrance.

“JINGLE JOG”

On Friday 8th December pupils from Year 3 and 4 will be taking part in the ‘Jingle Jog’. TCJA were allocated a number of places and these have been offered to selected pupils.

This is a mass participation event taking place at Rushcliffe Country Park. The pupils will be joining children from other schools to enjoy a festive 1 mile jog. The focus of this event is to enjoy physical activity whilst also spending social time with others of the same age.

CLASS ATTENDANCE PERCENTAGES (TO 24th NOVEMBER)

➤ Hazel –	94.9%
➤ Cherry –	95.2%
➤ Holly –	93.8%
➤ Maple –	96.5%
➤ Silver Birch –	92.1%
➤ Plum –	95.9%
➤ Pear –	92.2%
➤ Willow –	95.7%

Attendance continues to be a great concern and we need to improve! As you know we have very high targets for our attendance and we would really like to see attendance levels around 98% if we can. We really notice how pupils who have attendance lower than 90% struggle to meet their end of year expected outcomes in all year groups. Every day really counts so let’s see if we can smash the next few weeks, as we run up to Christmas, by getting pupils into their classrooms every day - we can do it!

ACADEMY IMPROVEMENT

The following priorities have been identified in our 2023-24 Academy Improvement Plan:-

- Further improve outcomes for higher attaining pupils in all year groups.
- Further develop the reading strategy to accelerate reading ages for all pupils in line with DfE Guidance.
- Further develop outcomes in writing.
- Develop the approach to the delivery of handball as part of co-curriculum offer, in line with the Trust.
- Integrate the routine and effective use of iPads into teaching strategy
- Further develop strategies to reduce the absence of all pupils whose attendance is below national average.
- Continue to embed The Redhill Academy Trust’s Equality Diversity and Inclusion objectives.

INSPIRING LEADERS

As you may know, we have four children who are ‘Inspiring Leaders’ in our school. They are leading a different focus each term. This term's focus is 'Save Paper'.

They are encouraging all the children to save paper in our academy and our local community. This makes us be more conscious about sustainability. So far, we are very pleased with all the children and adults in school, but I’m sure we can think of more ways to save paper!

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

The children wore odd socks and enjoyed watching a live lesson based on ‘Speaking Out’. We encourage all our children to report bullying if it happens and to thoroughly understand what bullying is and how it can affect people. We revisit this topic several times over the year in PSHRE and computing lessons.

CHILDREN IN NEED

Our thanks to everyone for supporting this annual charity event. We raised £365.54 through the non-uniform event and selling merchandise.



Mrs Charlesworth is our PSHRE Leader. She has updated our policy and this is now available on our website, www.thecarltonjunioracademy.org.uk.

Like many schools, we continue to follow the Jigsaw Scheme and have found it a very successful in supporting our lessons over the years. We also use Picture News each week, to discuss a wide number of issues with children. This is based on a simple question and enables all children to take part in discussions. We will be holding some parent workshops in the spring for those interested in exploring our PSHRE curriculum further – details to follow.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

We hope this gives you an idea of the busy year ahead. More dates will be arranged no doubt and some will change although we will do our best to let you know in advance of any changes.

(tbc – to be confirmed)

December

- Fri 1st Y4 Science Workshops x 2
- Fri 1st 3pm Christmas Fair
- Tues 5th 2.15pm Y6 DARE Graduation
- Fri 8th Flu vaccinations
- Fri 8th Y6 Science Workshops x2
- Fri 8th Y3/4 'Jingle Jog' – Rushcliffe Country Park
- Mon 11th 11am dress rehearsal to Y2 tbc
- Weds 13th 2pm & 5.30pm Christmas Production
- Thurs 14th pm – Y6 to TCA's Christmas Production
- Fri 15th 9.30am Christmas Production
Christmas dinner & Christmas Jumper day
- Fri 15th Last day for donations to the festive treat bank collection
- Mon 18th pm – Y3/4 Christmas Party
- Tues 19th pm – Y5/6 Christmas Party
- Fri 22nd 9am final Celebration Assemblies (9.00am Y5/6 & 9.45am Y3/4)
11am – Choir performing at local care home
Last day of Autumn term



CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY – 25th December to 3rd January

January

- Thurs 4th 1st day Spring term
- Mon 8th SATs boosters start
- Weds 17th Y5 visit to Perlethorpe
- Thurs 18th Y6 measurement programme

February

- Mon 5th Children's Mental Health Week
- Tues 6th Parents' Evening
Safer Internet Day
- Weds 7th Parents' Evening
- Fri 9th 'Thanks for all you do' assemblies with parents/carers

HALF TERM - 12th February to 16th February

February

- Wed 21st Scholastic Book Fair arrives until 28th
- Thurs 22nd Y6 Sleep Workshop CAMHS 1pm-3pm

March

- Women's History Month
- Thurs 7th World Book Day
- Mon 11th INSET Day
- Tues 12th British Science Week
- Fri 15th Red Nose Day
- Fri 15th 'Thanks for all you do' lunch with parents/carers
- Mon 18th Mock SATs week
- Mon 18th Shakespeare week

Weds 27th Pear class orienteering – Rushcliffe Country Park
Thurs 28th Willow class orienteering – Rushcliffe Country Park
Thurs 28th Final Awards Assembly

TBC TCA arts exhibition opens
TBC Yoga starts Y6

EASTER – Friday 29th March to 12th April

April

Mon 15th World Arts Day
Thurs 18th – Yr4 residential to Conkers
to Fri 19th
Mon 22nd Earth Day
Thurs 25th Y6 SATS Workshops CAMHS 1pm-3pm
TBC Move and Learn Y5

May

Mon 6th May Day Bank Holiday
Mon 13th Y6 SATs week/Mental Health Awareness Week
Mon 20th Y6 Bikeability
Tues 21st World Day for cultural diversity

HALF TERM - 27th May to 31st May

June

Mon 3rd Y6 Bikeability last group
Mon 3rd Multiplication check – Y4s
Wed 5th World Environment Day
Fri 7th Y5 Science Workshops x 2
Thurs 13th Y6 Transition Workshops CAMHS 1pm-3pm
Fri 14th Thanks for all you do assembly
Weds 19th Sports Day am
Thurs 20th Class photos
Fri 21st World Music Day
Thurs 27th Silver Birch class orienteering – Gedling Country Park
Fri 28th INSET Day

July

Mon 1st INSET day
Wed 3rd Y6 TCA Transition Day tbc
Y2 – Visit morning and new classes
Thurs 4th Y6 TCA Transition Day tbc
Mon 8th Year 2 - New Parents' meeting 5pm
Tues 16th Y6 Leavers' Assembly 2:15pm
Wed 17th Y6 Residential Kingswood (back on Fri 19th)
Weds 17th Family Afternoon and picnic lunch – Enterprise event
Tues 23rd Y6 Leavers Disco 6pm-7:30pm
Fri 26th Last awards assembly
Fri 26th Last day of academic year

We are really looking forward to an exciting and rewarding set of Christmas activities here at TCJA – we hope you are able to join us for at least some of these. If you have any queries or problems, please let us know, so that we can deal with any concerns quickly.