

Dear Families,

A warm welcome 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 Settlers	Spring Desert Discoveries	Summer We'll Meet Again
 <p>Key Question: <i>Were the Anglo-Saxons skilled or lucky?</i></p>	 <p>Key Question: <i>Were the Ancient Egyptians advanced for their time?</i></p>	 <p>Key Question: <i>What parallels can we draw between our lives and the lives of people during WW2?</i></p>

## Curriculum

At The Carlton Junior Academy, we teach a broad and ambitious curriculum. We aim to provide a meaningful learning experience for each child, which develops their knowledge and skills in each subject area. Throughout the learning journey, we plan for opportunities to explore and understand equality, inclusion and diversity.

## English

- The key text we will be exploring this term is 'Amazon Diary - The Jungle Adventures of Alex Winters' by Hudson Talbot and Mark Greenberg.
- Children will develop their writing skills by producing setting descriptions, newspaper reports and balanced discussions.
- We have DEAR time (Drop Everything and Read) every day, when the children can read and enjoy their books.
- 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 children's books.

## Spellings

- Each Monday, children will be given their spellings.
- Spellings will be taught daily and will focus on a specific sound/pattern/rule.
- On Friday the children will be asked to spell their words to show improvements.
- Spellings are uploaded onto Class Dojo each week for your children to practise at home.
- All children also have a login for 'Spelling Shed' so they can play fun, interactive games at home.

## Maths

- 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 learn different methods for addition and subtraction, then move to problem solving.
- Children will focus on 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables.
- **Please encourage your child to use the websites 'Times Table Rock Stars' or 'Maths Frame'. The Yr4 Multiplication Check is June 2025, so we need to ensure children are able to recall all times tables up to 12 x 12 within 6 seconds.**

## **Science**

- Our Science topics this term are 'States of Matter' and 'Sound'.
- Firstly, we will be identifying and classifying the three states of matter.
- To finish off this engaging topic, children will learn how water moves in the water cycle.
- In the second half of the Autumn term, children will explore how sound travels.
- To finish off this topic, children will explore how to produce insulation material to lessen sound.

## **History**

- 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.
- Next, we will find out about the Battle of Badon and become archaeologists by analysing artefacts.
- 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.

## **Geography**

- In Geography, pupils will develop their exploration skills by travelling around the world to identify biomes.
- We will learn about the differences between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.

## **P.E.**

- Our first unit of work is 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.
- Children will need their PE kits in school Monday-Friday. Please ensure PE kit follows our policy and is correct.

## **Religious Education** (in line with the Nottinghamshire syllabus)

- 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 to achieve personal goals.

## **Music**

- In the Autumn term, we will focus on the song 'Mamma Mia'.
- We will create our own compositions based on a range of musical notes and will perform these.
- The music will be created through body percussion thereby increasing accuracy, fluency and control.

## **Modern Foreign Languages (French)**

- In Autumn 1 we will focus on 'Je me présente' (Presenting myself), in which we learn to say our name, age and where we live.
- In Autumn 2, we will be learning to talk about our family in 'Ma famille'.

## **Computing**

- In this unit, children will continue to develop touch typing skills by adding images safely from the Internet and formatting them.
- They will search for images and apply filters to find images that are free to share and use.
- More skills are then learnt: adding a design to the page, adding animations to images, building a list using bullet points or numbered points, adding a screenshot or a snippet, finding synonyms for words, editing work and improving it.

## **Art and Design Technology**

- In Art and Design and Technology, we will be focusing on textiles and texture within the Middle Ages.
- 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.

## **PSHRE (Personal, Social, Health and Relationships Education)**

- This term, we will cover 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 themselves and others, identifying how special and unique everyone is, and understanding bullying.
- Our PSHRE policy can be found on our website for more information.

## **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**

- At Carlton Junior Academy, we support children to understand equity, diversity and inclusion and teach children about how they can contribute to a cohesive, respectful society.
- We read inclusive books, study protected characteristics during collective worship and focus on important figures.
- In Autumn Term, Year 4 read 'Small Things' in Guided Reading. This is a universal story, told simply and in pictures, about dealing with sadness, anxiety, depression, heartache or loss, and finding your way in the world.
- Throughout the term, we will be celebrating Black History Month and inclusivity through books.

## **British Values**

- Throughout our topics, 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.

## **Seeds to Success – Growing Greatness at Carlton Junior Academy**

- Children are encouraged to take steps towards aiming high and making a difference to their own lives and the lives of others, by developing awareness and skills in each of our values: Excellence, Respect, Responsibility, Relationships, and Determination.
- 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 academy. This term's focuses are: 'Discuss with a partner what diversity means to you and present this to the class' and 'Teach someone a new skill'.

## **Homework**

- Maths and Grammar homework is given out every Tuesday and children must return this the following Tuesday.
- Maths homework is always linked to the topic studied that week.
- Please encourage your children to look after their homework books, as there is a cost to replace these.
- Your child will be set our 'Whole School Homework' – this will be linked to major events happening throughout the year and you will receive information when this is set.

### **Important events**

Silver Birch class will be visiting a Hindu temple on the 25<sup>th</sup> September and Cherry class will visit on 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Our Christmas production will be taking place on 11<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> December and the Year 3 and 4 Christmas party is the 16<sup>th</sup> December.

We will keep you updated of other events and updates via Class Dojo where you can also message us if you have any questions. Also, don't forget to keep up to date with what's going on in school via our "X" account (previously known as Twitter). Our handle is @TCJANotts. You can also have a look at the calendar on our website.

Kind regards,

Miss Birtwistle

Mrs Daly