

Dear Parents/Carers,

A big hello from Year 4! 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

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

### English

- The key texts we will be exploring this term are fables.
- Children will develop their writing skills by producing narratives, setting descriptions, balanced discussions and biographies.
- 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, 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 'Purple Mash' in their organiser so they can play fun, interactive games at home.

### Maths

- This term we will be covering fractions, angles and measurements.
- 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.** These are on your child's iPad as apps, so they can access them at home.

### Science

- Our Science topic this term is 'Animals Including Humans'.
- To begin with, children will develop their disciplinary skills by: gathering and recording information, classifying living things in a variety of ways and identifying similarities and differences related to scientific ideas.

- Along with this, children will deepen their understanding of their substantive knowledge by describing the functions of the digestive system, identifying different types of human teeth and construct food chains.

### **History**

- In History, children will discover the wonders of the Desert.
- Children will locate an Egyptian empire and use primary and secondary resources to give reasons and gain information.
- As well as this, children will place the Egyptian civilisation on a timeline and explain key events.

### **Geography**

- In Geography, children will use maps, globes, atlases and Google Earth to locate countries, mountain ranges, capitals, rivers and oceans of Africa.
- Children will make connections between the equator and the tropics and Africa.
- Children will use 4 figure grid references to read maps.

### **P.E.**

- This term, children are improving their Gymnastics skills from Year 3: vertical jumps, develop agility, balance and co-ordination and in Dance, children will explore and learn actions, gestures, body shapes, rhythms and travelling patterns.

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

- This term, children will continue to look at symbols and religious expression in Hinduism and Judaism.
- Children will write thoughtfully about a special place, consider why people go on pilgrimages.

### **Music**

- Children will focus on the song 'Stop!' by Joanna Mangona, based on the genre 'grime'.
- Children will identify basic musical styles and find the pulse and beat to different songs.
- Children will create their own raps.

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

- Throughout the spring term, children will look at stories in different cultures.
- Children will write phrases from memory and develop their French vocabulary and fluency.

### **Computing**

- In this unit, children will use 'Scratch' to look at repetition and games.
- In the second half term, children will use spreadsheets to collect and enter data, by adding simple formulas to a cell and extracting information from a spreadsheet to answer questions.
- For Online Safety, we will look at Health, Well-being and Life Style, as well as Privacy and Security.

### **Art and Design Technology**

- In Art, children will focus on the artist 'Joseph Thiongo' and his famous watercolour pieces.
- During the topic, children will improve their mastery of techniques including painting and drawing with a range of materials.
- In Design & Technology, children will complete 'The Great Bread Bake Off' through the 'Cooking and Nutrition' topic. Within this topic, children will find out about important people and events in the past that have shaped the way bread is made. Children will investigate and analyse a range of products, before developing their own design criteria to make their own bread.

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

- This term, we will cover two different units using our whole school JIGSAW approach: Dreams and Goals and Healthy Me.
- Within these topics, children will reflect on positive experiences, know the steps to achieve a goal, recognise that different friendships can be formed and know when people are being put under pressure.
- For more information about our PSHRE curriculum and policy, please visit our website:  
<https://www.thecarltonjunioracademy.org.uk/about-us/our-curriculum/#1591621376480-0debfdc-10a0>

### **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. Each class takes turns to visit our local library, where children can engage with new books and borrow new books to take home and read.

### **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 and reading our class book.

### **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: 'Think of someone you respect, research their life and present it to your class' and 'Gain a certificate or a trophy'.

### **Homework**

- Maths and Grammar homework will continue to be handed out each week by your child's class teacher. Please encourage your child to look after these books as there is a cost to replace them.
- Homework will be set on your child's iPad by the class teacher via Purple Mash each Friday. Your child's class teacher will also inform you of the homework task set via Class Dojo. If your child is not taking their iPad home, the Grammar and Maths homework books must be completed. If your child does not have consent to take their iPad home, they can still access their homework on Purple Mash via another device at home.

### **Important events**

We have Parent/Carer evenings on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> February. 6<sup>th</sup> March is when we celebrate World Book Day. Online Safety Day is 11<sup>th</sup> February.

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.

Kind regards,

Mrs Daly

Miss Birtwistle