

Carr Lodge December News



Dear Families,

What an incredible Term 1b we have had here at Carr Lodge. Children have completed their Term 1 units of learning with interest and incredible engagement. I have been so impressed as I have reviewed learning across the academy at the quality of teaching and learning I have seen. We have also had some fantastic enrichment opportunities for pupils from trips, visitors, tournaments and clubs as well as our wonderful Christmas Performances and Celebrations. You can't beat the Christmas season in a Primary School! I want to thank everyone, who is part of the Carr Lodge community, for supporting us and making the last half term the success it has been. We look forward to seeing everyone in January after a well-deserved rest for everyone!

Have a wonderful festive period.

Mrs Sarah Crampton -Principal

Nursery

Nursery have had a lovely half term enjoying the world of Busy Bees they have been completing their learning 'All About Me'. We have settled further into life at school and loved our Outdoor Learning. The children have all gone from strength to strength in their confidence and learning. We are so proud of their achievements in their Carol Concert.

Reception

We've had a fun-packed Autumn 2 in Reception! We explored different types of houses and homes in Doncaster and then compared them with homes from around the world. We also enjoyed using the Bee-Bot to navigate around our very own model of the local area! We finished in style with our incredible 'Wriggly Nativity' and amazing Santa Breakfast. Well done everyone!

Year 1

Year 1 have had a busy half term! The children have enjoyed learning about how houses have changed over time in History. They found it particularly funny that Tudor houses were made using daub — a mixture that even included animal dung!

To link with their History learning, the children have also created their own clay houses. During our parent Stay and Learn session, they worked with their adults to design their houses using patterns, before making them independently in class. We are so proud of their creativity and hard work!

Year 2

Year 2 have had a brilliant term finding out about Transport past and present. Our trip to Danum Museum helped us to learn more about trains and their impact on Doncaster. We had a fantastic culmination of our DT learning when parents joined us to make a Carr Lodge bus using axles and wheels. These took pride of place in a display along our corridor so that we made our very own museum exhibit! In English we have had a big push on phonics to further support fluency in our reading and daily reading lessons are underway. We have written a fiction text inspired by the book 'The Journey Home', read and performed poetry inspired by transport, written our own transport poems and we are in the process of writing a recount of our school visit. In music, the children have become experts in clapping back and performing a rhythm and reading musical notation. They have loved performing their rhythms on percussion instruments. It has been such a creative term- well done everyone!

Year 3

Year 3 have had a great start to the year! Our topic in History this term has been Prehistoric Britain. As part of this we went to Creswell Crags to walk in the footsteps of early humans, learning more about this time in history. Alongside this we have read two books in English 'Stone Age Boy' and 'Stig of the Dump' with the children producing two amazing writing pieces based on these. In science we have studied rocks starting off with a talk from Rock expert Mr Sabir which inspired the children to want to learn more and then moved onto a topic on light this half term.

For DT, we have been learning about seasonal fruit, did a taste test and designed and created a seasonal tart! We have learnt all about Sikhism in RE, as well as starting to learn French with the focus being on counting to 10, how to say 'My name is' and how we are feeling. The children have got stuck into this and are enjoying learning a new language. In PE this half term we have learnt how to perform rolls and balances in floor-based gymnastics and yoga poses and movements in Yoga.

In the new year we will be moving on to our topic on Egyptians!

Year 4

Year 4 have rounded off our Industrial Revolution topic in style! We've leapt into the shoes of the 'Junior Export Agency' and utilised our skillset from the Geography side of our topic in solving a logistics nightmare! Additionally, our parents collaborated with the children in the class to produce a final piece for our Iron Man art sequences. What we didn't need adult support with was baking our Christmas buns as part of our DT topic - they flew off the shelves at the Christmas Fair and were a lovely festive treat.

In English, we have immersed ourselves in the difficult lives of children in the Industrial Revolution and enduring the hardships of the cotton mills, workhouses and coal mines, all reflected in our diary entries in English that really tug on the heartstrings.

We've studied all about Judaism in RE, in addition to learning to say what we are able to do in French, or, more appropriately: *nous pouvons vous dire ce que nous pouvons faire en français*. In PE, we've gracefully galloped through a half term of floor-based gymnastics, in addition to battling it out together on the Dodgeball court(s)!

Roll on the Romans in the New Year!

Year 5

Year 5 have had an exciting and productive half term!

We have completed our fascinating topic on the Kingdom of Benin, exploring its rich history and vibrant culture. In PE, the children have enjoyed developing their balance, strength and flexibility through our fantastic gymnastics sessions. We also had great fun at the Halloween disco, which was a real highlight!

In English, the classes worked incredibly hard to write powerful and imaginative stories inspired by Harriet Tubman's courageous escape to freedom. To round off the half term, Year 5 took part in a brilliant transition taster day at Sir Thomas Wharton, where they got hands-on in both Food Studies and DT.

It's been a wonderful few weeks and we're very proud of everything they've achieved.

Year 6

What an incredible start to Year 6 we've had!

The children have settled brilliantly into their final year of primary school and have shown maturity, focus and enthusiasm in everything they do. It's been a busy term, but a fun and memorable one too.

In English, we've thrown ourselves into reading *The Boy at the Back of the Class*, using the story to inspire a biography, a narrative and a persuasive letter. The pupils have worked with real effort and creativity, producing writing they can be very proud of. Our Maths learning has taken us through place value, the four operations and into fractions, decimals and percentages. The children have shown great determination, tackling challenging problems with growing confidence.

History has been a real highlight. We began by exploring Ancient Greece, its geography, climate and biomes, before moving on to its influence on democracy. From there, we connected these ideas to the Civil Rights Movement, learning about influential figures such as Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, Nelson Mandela and Emmeline Pankhurst. As part of this, we also took part in Worldbuilding sessions, where the pupils immersed themselves in historical moments, including the world of Emmeline Pankhurst and the fight for women's rights. These sessions brought history to life and helped the children understand the courage and determination behind social change. This learning linked perfectly to our Social Justice Project and the performance at Hall Cross Academy - the children were amazing: dedicated, expressive and genuinely fantastic performers.

In Art, we explored the vibrant world of Frida Kahlo, studying her style and creating our own self-portraits inspired by her work. The results were bold, thoughtful and wonderfully unique. In Science, we investigated *Light and Evolution*. A standout moment was our Stay and Learn session, where parents joined us to explore animal adaptations. The children loved showing off their knowledge and creativity, and it was fantastic to have families involved. In DT, we have learned about street food around the world and have made Samosas.

Overall, it's been a fun, energetic and inspiring term. Year 6 have worked incredibly hard, embraced new challenges, and supported each other every step of the way. We are very proud of them and excited for everything still to come!

Other News

Santa Dash - Thank you to everyone who supported our Santa Dash this was an incredible event and we treated the children with a Silent Disco today for their hard work. We will be using the money raised to ensure Fitness Fortnight is the best event ever this year!

Christmas Fair- Thank you to everyone who supported our PTA at the Christmas Fair. It was an amazing event and really got people in the Christmas Spirit.

Dates:

- We will be welcoming children back on Tuesday 6th January 2025.
- Monday 5th January is an INSET Day- where our staff teams will be working on evolving our Values Curriculum even further!
- Term 2 Dates will be released in Week one.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from everyone in the CLA Team!

Carr Lodge Autumn Gallery



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