

Squirrels' Curriculum Leaflet

Spring term



Carlton VC Primary School

Our Curriculum:

In Squirrels class we have a wide age range of children and their development is rapid. We follow the Birth to 5 matters, curriculum document this is freely available on the internet for download if you are interested in looking into it more closely.

We have a play-based curriculum as this is the best way for young children to learn. Birth to 5 Matters supports us in targeting the children's next steps in their learning.

"Play is the work of childhood"
Jean Piaget

"A child's greatest achievements are possible in play, achievements that tomorrow will become her basic level of real action."

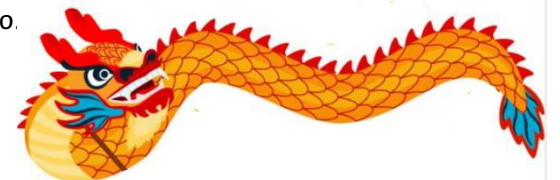
Lev S. Vygotsky

We do not follow "topics" or "themes" in Squirrel class. We instead follow the children's interests and needs. So, one day we might be learning about robots the next minibeasts, unicorns, dinosaurs etc. There may be lots of different areas of interest going on during one day as different children have different interests. By following the children's interests in this way, the children are always engaged in their learning and enthusiastic.


Children can learn many different things through each interest, maths, Literacy, communication and Language, understanding the world, PSED, Physical development and Creative development are all intertwined in a holistic approach. A child while playing with toy dinosaurs may be developing their; maths by sorting grouping and counting, Communication and language by telling stories and role play, PSED by sharing with others or exploring feelings, Physical development by manipulating small parts, Creative development by building worlds for the dinosaurs to live in and by acting out stories, understanding the world as they think about carnivores and herbivores the list is endless.

This does mean that it is impossible to say in advance exactly what 'vehicle' we will be using to target each child's next steps. Each child is treated as an individual and their needs met accordingly.

Having said all this there are some areas which will always interest young children and will always be included in the year. Such as Seasons, celebrations, their family and themselves. These will be discussed throughout the year as they arise. E.g. we will definitely be Learning about Winter, spring, Pancake day, Easter and Chinese New Year this term. It is also important that as adults we also share with the children our own interests our enthusiasm is infectious, as I am sure you have noticed at home, children love to be involved in whatever you are interested in too.



There are a few areas of our curriculum which are more structured. These are Phonics, Reception Maths, and RE. For these subjects we follow schemes of learning. These do not detract from our play-based curriculum and are delivered in fun and lively ways.

Reception Maths	<p>For Reception Maths we follow the White rose scheme. This is a mastery approach and systematically works through the areas of maths needed by they children to achieve deep levels of understanding in Maths. White rose promotes learning through doing and playing and discussion.</p> <p>This term we will be working on the representation, composition and one more and one less of numbers up to 10. We will be learning about capacity and mass and comparing these. Length and height and 3D shapes.</p>
Phonics	<p>Carlton Primary School follows Twinkl Phonics SSP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nursery – take part in daily, Level 1 phonics lessons and activities, focussing on discriminating sounds, rhyme, rhythm and environmental sounds. Reception – Reception are currently working on level 3. In level three they will learn about digraphs (2 letter one sound eg. ee) and trigraphs (3 letters 1 sound eg. igh) and by the end of this level will know one way of representing each sound in the English Language. They will be working more on segmenting and blending sounds to read and write words. 
RE	<p>Carlton Primary School follows the Bedfordshire Agreed Syllabus for RE. As a church school we also use the Understanding Christianity Scheme to develop a deep understanding of Christianity.</p> <p>This Term Reception children will be learning about belonging and how we feel and show that we are part of a group. Including discussing families, baptism, and symbols. Also, why Easter is important to Christians.</p>

Join our learning Journey at home

Go on a walk and notice the signs of the seasons

Cook some food together

Practice the phonics sounds at home.

Involve children in your daily chores and talk to them about whatever you are doing together

Get little hands busy. Threading beads, using playdough, painting, drawing, chalking, jigsaws

Share books and stories

Celebrate special times in your family and talk about them

Count things together in daily life. e.g. "can you get out 4 spoons?" "We need six apples"

Don't forget to add your experiences, learning and special events to Class Dojo so that we can share them in school