Curriculum Themes for C4

Child development and leitmotif for this class

In class four children are still very much in childhood though the harbingers of major change appear here or there. The forces of an autonomous inner life are beginning to emerge in individualized ways, manifesting as embodied emotional energy and the ability to imagine other worlds. This can be both frightening and uplifting. Children begin to experience the need to regulate and shape their own relationships, follow their own interests and respond with great interest to narrative accounts of a wide range of psychological types and the complexity of their relationships. Friendship becomes more personal and exclusive. Their new-found depth of emotion needs and seeks a new relationship to the natural and cultural environment that involves their active participation, alone and with others in the fields of sport, music, nature, art and technology- especially digital technologies. The journey becomes a quest with companions.

Narrative Themes

Stories of heroes/heroines

Legends of heroes from different cultures

Musical Themes

Qualities:

- Major key, major and minor modes.
- Contrast between songs in simple and compound timing.
- Lots of rounds, and work songs.
- Very simple splitting of parts.
- Songs that can be accompanied by pipes/recorders.

<u>Topics: Seasonal and local traditions. Songs of local history/geography. Songs of the earth.</u>

Artistic Themes

Illustration, pencil work,

Painting – developing an eye for composition, forms representing an inner impulse, Materials: wax sticks and blocks, coloured pencils, coloured chalks, watercolour paints, beeswax/organic plasticine/clay, Caran d'ache pencils

Physical Themes