

Class Reception

The Bliss Charity School



Term 2



Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back for Term 2. We hope you have had a relaxing break and the children are refreshed and ready for a busy but fun term ahead. They all settled in extremely well last term and they enjoyed getting to know each other, working alongside their new classmates to learn our class rules and expectations.

Our initial assessments are now complete and they were shared with you at our parents meetings at the end of Term 1. The children will now be developing their skills, knowledge and understanding based on their needs and we will use *Tapestry* to monitor and record your child's learning.

We will start the term with our new topic 'Dinosaurs'. We will then use the children's understanding and knowledge of dinosaurs to investigate the ice age, which will lead us into learning about the seasons and Christmas!

For the latter part of this term we will visit our local village church and investigate how we and others celebrate Christmas, as well as creating a range of Christmas decorations for you to keep for many years to come!

As part of Class Reception's Christmas celebrations, the children will perform a Nativity at the church alongside Class 6. This will take place on Monday 18th December. Please feel free to join us for some Christmas carols.

Mrs. Caller and Mrs. McNair

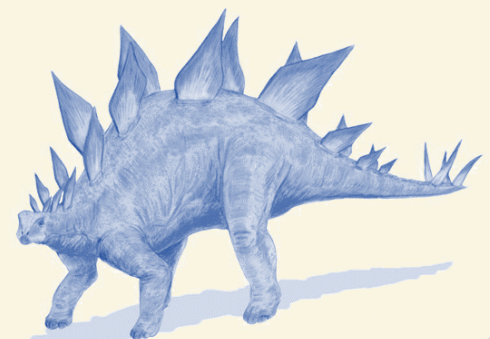


Term 2 Topic: *Dinosaurs!*



Our topic this term will start with 'Dinosaurs', leading on from our 'Wild Animals' last term. Through this topic the children will investigate dinosaurs and build on their prior knowledge. I'm convinced this topic will stimulate all children as I know there is a huge love of dinosaurs already!

Our new topic will be embedded within our classroom and, where possible and relevant, each area of the Early Years curriculum will have a dinosaur theme. The children will be using technology and different books to find out facts about dinosaurs. We will also use a range of measures to investigate dinosaurs, looking at size and weight and giving the children the opportunity to develop their ability to identify numerals up to and beyond 10. The children will also continue their love of being outdoors by creating 'dino hides' together, hopefully demonstrating their collaboration and social skills.



Helping your child at home ...

- Thank you for supporting our 'Well Done' celebration board. This is a great opportunity for your child to proudly share something they have achieved at home. Please continue with these, we never tire of the children sharing these with us and their peers.
- Please also continue the fantastic start made with sharing books together. We encourage the children to change these books during 'free choice' time daily but please feel free to come in and choose a book at the end of the day if this hasn't happened.
- We have taught the children the sounds *m, a, s, d* and *t* so far and we will continue with set 1 over this term. We will notify you when we teach the children a new sound so please ask your child about words that may start with the sounds taught or look for them in the books you share together.
- New *Kinetic Letters* practise will come home soon and this will focus on our 'Abracadabra' family letters. We will send home a homework sheet for you to complete and then send back into school. The children should be able to explain how to write the letter shapes but there are instructions on the sheet to help you.
- In addition to learning new sounds and letter shapes, please regularly share the 'Red Word Turtle' with your child.
- Identifying numerals at home and in other environments - such as the supermarket and on village walks - will also help your child consolidate their learning.

Class Reception information ...

- PE will continue to be on Tuesday morning and Wednesday afternoons. We will be going outside regularly so please ensure your child has suitable clothing and footwear for colder conditions.
- In PE the children will develop their teamwork skills through games and improve their gross motor skills using a range of small PE equipment. Gymnastics will continue on a Wednesday with Carol. These sessions have proved to be extremely popular with the children so far.
- **Thursday** is outdoor classroom day so please send your child in clothing suitable for the outdoors. Long jeans, joggers or leggings are suitable. The children do not need to come to school in school uniform on this day.
- Due to the children's ages and development, if you feel the need to supply your child with spare underwear etc. please put this into your child's PE bag.
- The children have embraced our additional snack opportunities, which is linked to our topic. Please see the notice on our window if you would like to see what your child is having.
- If your child requires any medication please give this to the office. Any asthma inhalers can be given to either Mrs. McNair or myself.
- Please remember to select and order your child's hot dinners.
- Please keep us informed regarding contact details for your child, including collection arrangements. This can either be done through the office or via the Class Reception staff.
- Any communication that we have for you will be put into your child's book bag. Likewise, if there is anything you have for us, please put it in the book bag as we check these on a daily basis.

We have an open door policy at Bliss. If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to speak to one of us.

Mrs. Caller