

Class 2

The Bliss Charity School



Term 1



Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back to the start of another school year. I hope the beginning of the year finds you all well and that you have had a fantastic time over the holidays. Hopefully the children are now well rested and ready to start their time in Class 2. I am very much looking forward to teaching your child this academic year.

Mrs. Newton



Term 1 Topic: *Dungeons and Dragons*



The children in Class 2 are beginning the school year with an exciting topic entitled 'Dungeons and Dragons'. Within this topic we will delve back in our history to the medieval times. Throughout the topic the children will cover the key skills and objectives in the National Curriculum for literacy, geography, history, art, DT and science.

During our topic, the children will be learning about the history of castles and the developments and changes in castles over the years. They will learn about the significance of William the Conqueror and how the Bayeux Tapestry illustrates a very important piece of history.

They will also research castle defences, evaluating the different ways that castles offered protection from attack.

The children will learn about the different roles within a castle environment, focusing on the exciting and prestigious job of being a knight in particular. In art and DT, the children will have the opportunity to design and make their own castles as well as designing shields for a knight to wear, paying particular importance to the colours and symbols used. During science lessons, the children will be investigating the properties of different materials. They will accomplish this by testing out different materials to create a drawbridge and clothing for a growing knight.

Our literacy lessons will be linked to the topic. The children will begin with some drama and creative writing on dragons. They will also have the opportunity for creating instructional writing about training dragons, factual writing about becoming a knight, medieval story writing and recount writing about their school trip.

The topic will culminate in a medieval banquet where the children will be invited to dress up and take part in traditional medieval festivities. You will be invited to attend part of our banquet celebration where the children will share some of the exciting things they will learn during the topic. On this day the children will be asked to dress up in a medieval costume, for example a princess, knight or king. A date for the banquet will be given out nearer the time.

Although P.E, computing, numeracy and RE will be taught separately to the topic lessons, links will obviously be made where appropriate. In P.E the children will be practising their ball skills, as well as taking part in medieval dance rehearsals in preparation for a performance to parents during the medieval banquet.

In numeracy, the children will develop their use of all four operations and their understanding of place value. They will learn to compare and order number and to complete missing number sentences. The children will end the term by learning to add different coins together and to create a set amount of money in a variety of ways.

Our RE topic this term will be 'Books and Stories in Christianity'. During the topic the children will have the opportunity to consider which books and stories are important to them and reason their thinking. This will lead onto work on the Bible and its importance to Christians. This topic will continue to run into the following half term.

During computing lessons, the children will be covering the unit 'We are detectives' which will involve the children collecting clues and solving a mystery through the use of emails.

Helping your child at home ...

This year there will be several different ways that parents can support their children at home. The most effective way to support your child is to take the time to let them read their levelled school book to you regularly. Please can you record these reading sessions in your child's blue reading book. Children will receive awards if they read at least five times a week.

In addition to reading, the children will also be given a list of spellings every Monday to practise at home. The spellings will be tested the following Monday. Please come and see me if you would like any ideas with ways to support your child with learning their spellings.

Every Wednesday the children will take part in a 'snappy maths' session which will test their timetables knowledge. All of the children will start on their two times table. If your child receives a score of 25 or above for three weeks, they will be presented with a certificate and moved onto the next times table.

Class 2 information ...

In addition to all of the exciting things that we have planned for this term, I would like to make you aware that we will be going on a school trip to Warwick Castle on the 16th October 2017 and we have a theatre company coming in on the 18th October 2017 for a 'Kings, Queens and Castles' workshop.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to a welcome meeting straight after school on Wednesday 13th September 2017 to discuss all classroom routines with you and share the structure of the Year 2 timetable. This will also be an opportunity for you to ask any questions that you may have about your child's education.

I look forward to meeting you all very soon and do not hesitate to come and see me should you have any concerns.