

The Bliss Charity School

Issue: 4

Tuesday 31st October 2017

Term 2



Hello everybody,

I hope you had a lovely holiday and you're looking forward to Term 2. The final term of the calendar year is always a very special time in a primary school and there is lots planned at Bliss over the next seven and a half weeks in the build up to Christmas.

Mr. Carter

Dates for your diary ...

This is a list of events scheduled for Term 2. If your child is involved in any activities that require special arrangements (e.g. permission to leave the school site or participation beyond normal school hours), you will receive more information from their class teacher or the school office.

October - December			
31 st Oct.	School re-opens to pupils for Term 2 Class 6 trip to 'Cosford Air Museum'	20 th Nov.	Full governing body meeting (6:30)
1 st Nov.	Class 5 trip to 'The National Space Centre'	21 st Nov.	Class 1 trip to the 'Thinktank' science museum
3 rd Nov.	Term 2 class newsletters going home NTSSF tag-rugby competition for Year 3/4	23 rd Nov.	Whole school cello performance by Matthew Shar Year 5/6 tag-rugby competition at Bugbrooke RFC
6 th Nov.	Uganda assembly for KS2 (Mr. Scanlan) Class 1 trip to 'Muddy Education' in Holdenby	24 th Nov.	<i>The Friends of Bliss</i> 'bring a bottle' mufti day Celebration assembly for classes 3/4/5/6 (9:10am)
8 th Nov.	'Healthy Body Day' including a 'Healthy Lunchbox Workshop' in the hall after school	27 th Nov.	Year 6 'heights and weights'
9 th Nov.	'Daventry and South Northants SSP' Year 5/6 football competition at Magdalen College School	29 th Nov.	Class 4 ukulele concert (2:20)
10 th Nov.	Remembrance Service at the war memorial NTSSF girls tag-rugby competition <i>The Friends of Bliss</i> 'Quiz and Fizz'	1 st Dec.	<i>The Friends of Bliss</i> 'Blissmas' (Christmas fayre at the school: 6:00 – 8:00)
13 th Nov.	Water safety assembly Governors' curriculum committee meeting	5 th Dec.	Christmas productions by Class 1 and Class 2 (2:00 – 3:00 and 6:00 – 7:00)
15 th Nov.	Flu immunisations for classes R/1/2/3/4 Boccia competition at Sponne	7 th Dec.	<i>The Friends of Bliss</i> Christmas discos: (Classes R/1/2 = 5:00 – 6:00 (Classes 3/4/5/6 = 6:15 – 7:30)
16 th Nov.	<i>The Friends of Bliss</i> cake sale after school	15 th Dec.	<i>Make Your Own History</i> World War Two 'Spitfire workshop' for Class 6
17 th Nov.	Class 3 trip to <i>Northampton Saints</i> Celebration assembly for classes R/1/2 (9:10am)	18 th Dec.	Christmas service – Class R nativity & carols at St. Peter and St. Paul's (9:30 -10:30)
18 th Nov.	<i>Junior Strictly Come Dancing Northampton 2017</i> performance at The Derngate (1:00)	20 th Dec.	<i>Save the Children</i> Christmas jumper day Last day of Term 2 (school re-opens on Thursday 4th January 2018)

Please be aware that these dates are subject to change and other activities will be added into the diary throughout the term. A feature of good teaching is to respond to children's interests as a topic or a unit of work progresses, therefore not all events can be planned too far in advance. Also, some activities – such as sporting fixtures and musical opportunities – only become available a few weeks (or sometimes days) before they take place. There is a calendar on the school website that is kept up-to-date by Mrs. Howard and the school office will always try to give parents/carers as much notice as possible about upcoming events, additional activities or diary changes.

Remembrance

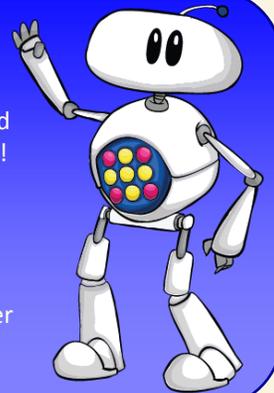
In support of the annual 'Poppy Appeal', from Thursday 2nd November children from Year 5 will visit the other classrooms each day just before lunchtime selling poppies (50p) and poppy memorabilia – bracelets, bands and pins (£1.50). For safe-keeping, money can be handed to an adult at the beginning of the day.

We will also be holding a special remembrance service at the war memorial in the village next week with the Reverend Stephen Burrow. All the children at Bliss will make and decorate a clay poppy ready to present before a two minutes silence at 11:00 on Friday 10th November.



My Maths

To support the children with developing their number fluency and automaticity in calculation, we have subscribed to an online homework system called *My Maths*. *My Maths* was trialled in Class 2 in Term 1 with fantastic results! The children enjoyed the interactive approach to homework and their parents valued the extra insight into their child's mathematics work. *My Maths* will now be extended to the rest of the school (Years 1 – 6). Each week a new piece of online homework will be available for children to complete at home through *My Maths*. The programme also contains resources and quizzes linked to the numeracy being taught in class. A letter containing further details about *My Maths* will be sent home and Mrs. Newton will be available on Wednesday 8th November after school should you have any questions or queries regarding *My Maths*.

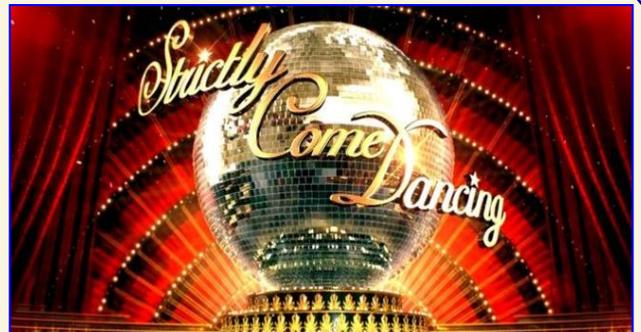


Strictly Come Dancing

Children from Year 5/6 have been busy learning the routines in rehearsal for 'Junior Strictly Come Dancing Northampton 2017' – a competition that involves 38 schools from across the county! They will be performing at The Deragate on Saturday 18th November from 1:00pm. Tickets costing £10-£15 can be purchased in person at the Box Office, by phone (01604 624811) or on the website:

<http://tickets.royalanddergate.co.uk/single/SYOS.aspx?p=51552>

It would be great to have as much support as possible. Keekeep Dancing!



Erasmus+

We are pleased to announce that a new *Erasmus+* project is underway entitled 'Children as Philosophers'. This European project aims to promote and offer an innovative methodology within the practice of philosophy with children. It aims to develop children's ability to accept differences and similarities and to live in a world in which diversity and tolerance are the norm. We are excited to be working again with some old friends (The ELF School in Romania, Stiftelesen Onums Friskola in Sweden and LEAP in the UK), as well as new European partners in Italy, Bulgaria and Germany.

'Children as Philosophers' is a Key Action 2 project and staff from our school will work with colleagues from other countries to innovate and modernise practice through the acquisition of new teaching methodologies and pedagogical approaches. The results of the project will be disseminated and shared across - and outside of - the partnership and a training package will be created based on the key principles of philosophy with children. Watch this space ...



Respect

Our school rules are based on respect ...

Respect – yourself, others, our school, our community and our world.

The focus for Term 2 will be on the second aspect of this motto: 'respect others.' Assemblies and some class work will be linked to this theme.



After-school Clubs

With the dark evenings drawing in, our after-school tag-rugby club (Wednesdays) and our after-school football club (Thursdays) will soon break for the winter. With lots of children attending both of these clubs, there is no possibility of holding them indoors. We will run both of these clubs for as long as possible and let you know when the last sessions will be as soon as possible. The dark evenings will not affect other after-school clubs scheduled for this term – athletics club on a Monday and the KS1 sports club on a Tuesday will move inside because numbers at these clubs can be accommodated safely indoors.



The Friends of Bliss

The Friends of Bliss have a number of events planned for 2017-2018 – see below. The Friends play a vital role in enriching the pupils' school experience by providing extra funds to be spent in the classrooms and on the playground. If you would like to help out in any way, please contact friendsofbliss@hotmail.co.uk.

2017-2018	
Friday 10 th November	Quiz and Fizz!
Thursday 16 th November	Cake Sale
Friday 24 th November	'Bring a bottle' mufti day
Friday 1 st December	Blissmas!
Thursday 7 th December	Christmas Discos
Thursday 8 th February	Film Night
Thursday 1 st March	Cake Sale
Friday 23 rd March	Sports Relief Discos
Thursday 26 th April	Cake Sale
Thursday 24 th May	Film Night
Wednesday 18 th July	Leavers' Prom

Friends of Bliss presents

Quiz & Fizz!

Nether Heyford Village Hall

Win a Booze Hamper Raffle Prizes Best Team Name wins a prize

Glass of Prosecco on Arrival* Retro Sweetie Jar Game

£5 per person

7.30 Friday 10th November

Bring your own drinks & nibbles

email friendsofbliss@hotmail.co.uk or call 07710 772491 for your tickets

Teams of up to 8.

*beer and soft drinks available too

Metacognition

The Bliss Charity School's metacognition programme is a fantastic way of developing children's ability to learn. Whilst the pupils can achieve all ten skills and all ten attitudes at any time, we focus on one skill and one attitude per month as a whole-school. Last month we looked at *empathetic* attitudes and *collaboration* skills.

Empathetic – As a school we read the story *Last Stop on Market Street* by Michael De La Pena to explore how being empathetic can benefit us as individuals and as learners, as well as having a positive impact on those around us. We agreed that empathy is about putting yourself in someone else's shoes and seeing things from their side by ...

- viewing situations from others' perspectives;
- appreciating opposite ways of thinking;
- trying to understand ideas and opinions that are different from our own.

Collaboration – In a whole-school assembly we looked at how humans and animals work together in teams and how collaborating effectively means we often ...

- achieve something we cannot do alone;
- complete something more quickly;
- negotiate and compromise with others;
- support those who are finding things difficult.

Our whole-school skill for November is *communication* and our attitude is being *open-minded*.

Communicating



Open minded



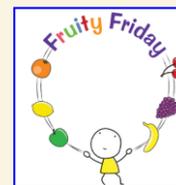
Healthy Body Day

On Wednesday 8th November, we will be having a whole-school focus on healthy eating. Year 6 will be sharing their knowledge of nutrition and the importance of making the right choices with a special assembly, then children will take part in activities about healthy eating throughout the day. *Tesco* are providing all children with a free healthy snack at break time and all children will have the opportunity to make their own healthy fruit and yogurt pot. There will also be healthy lunch box taster sessions. We hope that as many of you as possible will join us after school (3:15 – 4:15) with your children to come and try ideas for healthy lunchboxes; see our wonderful 'Snack Attack' in operation; and learn more from the Year 6 experts!



Fruity Friday!

As part of our 'Make the right choice' healthy eating project, we are pleased to announce that all Key Stage 2 children will soon receive a free piece of fruit at break time every Friday! This will mean that all pupils at The Bliss Charity will be well on their way to eating their 5-a-day!



Rising Stars Sports Camps

After a series of successful sports camps last week, *Rising Stars Sports* will be running more holiday sessions at Bliss during the Christmas break. There are 16 places available on each day – these will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

This Christmas holiday sports camps (9:30 – 4:00) will cover the following:

- Thursday 21st December – Athletics/Gymnastics & Movement
- Friday 22nd December – Football/Games

Rising Stars Sports

The camps cost £18 per child, per day, with an option of an early drop-off (from 8:30) for an additional £2 per child, per day. If you would like your child to attend, please complete the *Rising Stars Sports* form (sent as a separate attachment) and return it to the school office by 1st December 2017 along with your payment.