

# The Bliss Charity School

Issue: 7

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018



## Term 3



Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and enjoyed spending time with family friends over the festive period.

Transport (Class R), Paddington Travels the UK (Class 1), Space (Class 2), Ice Worlds (Class 3), Anglo-Saxons (Class 4), Ancient Greece (Class 5) and Exploration (Class 6) are our new topics and lots of exciting learning has been planned around these themes for Term 3!

Mr. Carter



## Dates for your diary ...

This is a list of events scheduled for Term 3. 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.

January - February			
4 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Transport Workshops for classes R/1/2 Kingswood meeting (5:30 – 6:00)	24 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Basketball Festival at Campion
5 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Class 4 begin their weekly swimming programme (every Friday afternoon)	25 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	SSP Athletics Competition at Daventry Leisure Centre
8 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Term 3 class newsletters going home	26 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Celebration assembly for classes 3/4/5/6
11 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	SSP Basketball Competition at The Duston School Governors' Resources Committee Meeting	28 <sup>th</sup> Jan. - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb.	Class 6 Residential to Kingswood <u>Depart:</u> Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> January at 11:00 am <u>Return:</u> Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February at 4:00 – 5:00 pm
12 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Celebration assembly for classes R/1/2 Class 3 <i>Bikeability</i> (Level 1)	29 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Planetarium in school for Class 2 Full Governing Body Meeting
15 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Class 4 and Class 6 topic Workshops	30 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	Class 5 trip to Birmingham Museum
16 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	NTSSF Basketball Competition at Weston Favell	2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb.	Celebration assembly for classes R/1/2
18 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	SSP Basketball Competition at The Duston School	5 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Intra-School Sport Competitions at Danes Camp Parents' Evening (3.30 – 8.00 pm)
22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan.	Governors' Curriculum Committee Meeting	6 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Safer Internet Day 2018 Parents' Evening (3.30 – 6.00 pm) <i>Young Voices</i> performance at The O2
23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan.	Irish Dancing Workshop for Class 1	8 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	<i>Friends of Bliss</i> film night after school
		9 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Last day of Term 3 (school re-opens on <b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018</b> )

Please be aware that these dates are subject to change and other activities will be added into the diary. 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 days/weeks 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.

# Big Maths

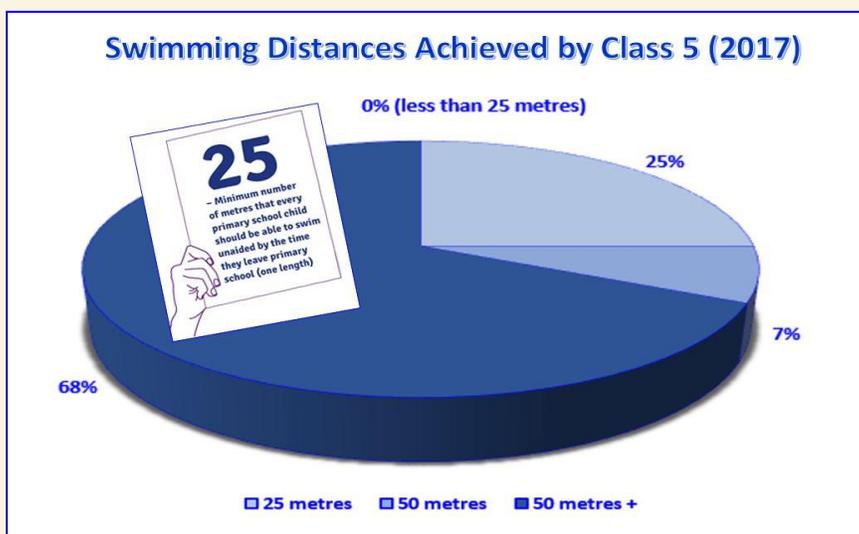
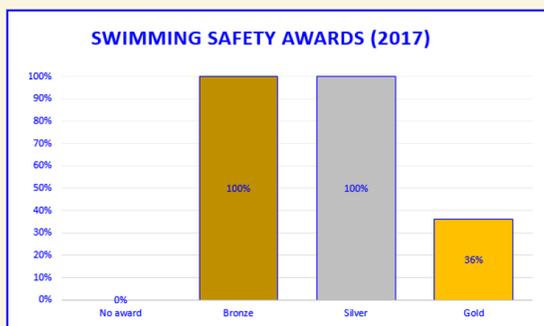
On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, every class at The Bliss Charity School took part in a 'Big Maths' morning. The task involved helping Santa organise his Christmas present deliveries to the correct locations in the fewest number of stops ... only his mission was made much harder by the presence of a lost child who needed returning home and a naughty elf who couldn't be left alone with the gifts! The focus of this festive-themed event was on the development of counting, logic, reasoning and collaborative skills. It was great to see the whole-school – from Class R up to Class 6 – access this challenge on different levels. It was a super end to a great term! Thanks to Mrs. Newton for devising and organising the event.



# Swimming

Class 5 have just finished their swimming programme at The Bliss Charity School. Since Easter, this class have completed two twelve-week blocks of curriculum swimming – this is in-line with *The Amateur Swimming Association's (ASA)* recommended number of hours of pool time per primary-aged pupil. By the time children leave primary education, it is expected that they will be able to swim 25 metres unaided. Nationally, only 52% of children reach this expectation. However, at Bliss all the children in Class 5 achieved their 25 metres certificate and 75% swam 50 metres or more!

As well as exceeding the national standards for stroke acquisition and distances, our swimming programme goes beyond the National Curriculum in terms of water safety too. At Bliss, the children work towards bronze, silver and gold water safety awards:



Congratulations to all the children on their progress and attainment over the twenty-four week course. Well done also to Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. East (our ASA Level 2 swimming teachers) for devising such a successful programme, and to Mrs. Watt and Mr. Cundill for their excellent assistance. Class 4 will begin their weekly sessions in the pool on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

<b>Bronze Award</b>
Demonstrate a reach rescue to 1 metre away, lying on tummy then change to become the casualty.
Demonstrate an understanding of pool rules and answer 3 questions correctly from the water safety code.
Float on back (any position) for 5 seconds.
<b>Silver Award</b>
Swim 3 metres, tread water for 30 seconds and swim back to poolside.
Star float on front, rotate onto back in a float position, no feet on floor.
Tread water 30 seconds and retrieve a buoyancy aid and kick to side with buoyancy aid.
Demonstrate an action for getting help - at least 5 metres away from poolside.
Jump in, submerge, turn to face wall and swim to side and climb out with clothes on.
Swim 25 metres with clothes on and safe exit.
<b>Gold Award</b>
Throw buoyancy aid 10 metres to casualty, encourage partner to kick back to poolside.
Using a buoyancy aid hold the help position for 2 minutes (on back)
Swim 25 metres in clothing and then be able to take off outer clothing in the water (not touching or holding on to the side) then tread water for 30 seconds. Swim to side and climb out.

# Rising Stars Sports Camps

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

The camps will run from 9:30 – 4:00 on the Monday, Wednesday and Friday of the holiday, covering a different sport on each of the days:

- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February – Football
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Athletics
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Tag-Rugby



# 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 along with your payment.

## Respect



Our school rules are based on respect ...

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

The focus for Term 3 will be on the second aspect of this motto: ‘respect our school.’ Assemblies and some class work will be linked to this theme.



## Staff News



We are very pleased to be welcoming Mrs. Randall back from maternity leave this term. Mrs. Randall is returning part-time to teach groups of children in English and mathematics in KS2.

We are also very pleased to welcome Miss Press onto our teaching assistant team. Miss Press will be working in Class R alongside Mrs. Caller and Mrs. McNair. Mr. West will also be joining us from the University of Northampton from 11<sup>th</sup> January until 16<sup>th</sup> March on placement in Class 1.

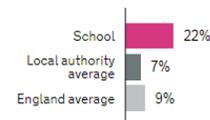
## School Performance

Towards the end of Term 2, the *Department for Education* published the Key Stage 2 Performance Tables. In 2017 our Year 6 pupils performed really well. The number of children who attained the expected standard in reading and writing and mathematics was above both the local and national score. More children at The Bliss Charity School attained the higher standard too. The amount of progress made by the pupils between Year 2 and Year 6 was really good too. Our results showed that the children maintained their high levels of attainment from the end of KS1 through KS2. Please visit [www.gov.uk/school-performance-tables](http://www.gov.uk/school-performance-tables) for a more detailed breakdown of the school's 2017 results and for comparisons with other school's locally and nationally.

### Pupils meeting expected standard in reading, writing and maths



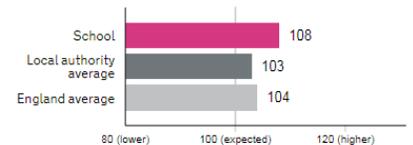
### Pupils achieving at a higher standard in reading, writing and maths



### Average score in reading



### Average score in maths



### Progress score in reading, writing and maths



# Metacognition

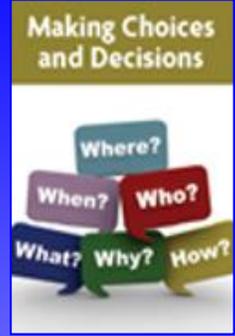
The Bliss Charity School's metacognition programme is a fantastic way of developing children's ability to learn. Whilst the pupils can achieve all ten skills and all ten attitudes at any time, we focus on one skill and one attitude per month as a whole-school. Last month we looked at having a *curious*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

Curiosity and Creativity – To illustrate the importance of being curious and being creative we read *On a Beam of Light* by Jennifer Berne, which tells the story of Albert Einstein.

Through the book we learnt about Albert's life as a child and into adulthood, about his personality and character and how his curiosity and creativity led to so many remarkable achievements. We agreed ...

Curiosity is ...	Creativity is ...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being enthusiastic and taking an interest.</li> <li>• Questioning what you think you know.</li> <li>• Being an active (rather than a passive) learner.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bringing something new into being.</li> <li>• Acting on imaginative ideas.</li> <li>• Approaching things in different or original ways.</li> </ul>

Our whole-school skill for January is *making choices and decisions* and our attitude is *resilience*.



For access, please go around to the main school office and sign in.

## Access to the school buildings

Following a recent safeguarding review with our third party advisers, we would like to remind parents/carers that all access to the school building should be through the main office. It is very important that we are aware of who is in the school building at all times. All visitors are required to sign in and out.

For access, please go around to the main school office and sign in.

# Safeguarding

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children – both in and out of school – has a role to play in identifying concerns, sharing information and taking prompt action.

### What is safeguarding?

- Protecting children from maltreatment.
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development.
- Ensuring children are cared for and grow up in safety.
- Taking action to enable children to have the best outcomes.



At The Bliss Charity School we have a Safeguarding Team, with six trained Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs): Mr. Carter, Miss Thompson, Mrs. Caller, Mrs. Adey, Mrs. Howard and Mrs. Simpson.

If parents/carers have safeguarding concerns regarding any of our pupils (either while they're at school or in the wider community) they can disclose information to one of our DSLs directly or via any member of our staff.

Alternatively, parents/carers can contact the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0300 126 1000 or the NSPCC on 0800 800 5000. All emergency concerns should go straight to 999.

Fears about sharing information cannot be allowed to stand in the way of ensuring the welfare and safety of children.

No-one should assume that someone else will pass on information which they think may be critical to keeping a child safe.