

# Class 1

The Bliss Charity School



## Term 1



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Class 1! We hope you have all had a fantastic summer and are feeling refreshed and ready to start the new term. Below you will find an overview of the topic for this term. We have also included some key information and dates for your diary.

If you have any questions, please feel free to pop in and see one of the Class 1 team.



## Term 1 Topic: *Scarecrows, Skeletons & Me*



In this topic the children will be exploring parts of their bodies, senses, feelings and how we grow and change. Here is a brief overview of the subjects we will be covering in the topic:

**Literacy:** The children will develop their literacy skills through topic-related stories, including *The Scarecrow's Hat*, *Scarecrow's Wedding*, *Funnybones*, *Dem Bones* and *Once there were Giants*. The children will be using the 'Read, Write Inc.' scheme to support their learning of phonics and reading. They will also continue to develop their writing skills using the 'Kinetic Letters' programme.

**Maths:** The children will be developing their sorting and counting skills. They will then be ordering numbers, writing numbers and beginning to add and subtract. The children's mathematical learning will link to everyday experiences and to the topic by measuring, using their bodies and cooking.

**Science:** During science lessons the children will be labelling the outside parts of the body (scarecrow parts), they will then learn about the bones inside their bodies (skeletons) and how they grow, feel and use their senses. The children will also be using their senses to explore the world around them, with a particular focus on autumn and harvest.

**History:** This will focus on looking at how the children have changed from when they were babies. The children will also learn about the history of the scarecrow.

**Art:** The children will learn about the artist Arcimboldo and they will be creating their own interpretations including fruit and vegetable art, printing, collage and painting. The children will be exploring patterns for a scarecrow's shirt. They will also look at portraits and have a go at drawing their own self-portrait. The children will then create some skeleton art using cotton buds.

**DT:** On the first day back the children made full-size scarecrows. And, later on in the topic, the children will be making a moving skeleton. The children will also be cooking wedding cakes and other seasonal dishes.

**Music:** The children will be learning songs and playing musical instruments linked to scarecrows and skeletons. They will also follow the *Charanga* programme 'Hey you'.

## Other subjects ...

RE: We will be learning about the Christian church and celebrations that take place in a church. As part of this topic we will be visiting Nether Heyford Church - date to be confirmed.

PE: During lessons the children will be doing games outside on a Monday and gymnastics on a Thursday.

PSHE/P4C: The children will focus on settling in to their new class, establishing class rules and a focus on establishing the metacognition skills and attitudes.

Computing: The children will be learning basic ICT skills within all curriculum areas. In particular, they will be using the I-pads to take photos and recording sounds to create soundscapes.

## Helping your child at home ...

Reading: All the children will be given a reading book to take home. Please encourage your child to share their book at home and change their reading book when they need a new one. Please write in your child's reading journal every time they read. At the end of the week we will keep a record of how many times each child has read. If they read 5 times in a week they will move up the 'bookworm' (displayed in the classroom). When they have reached the top of the bookworm (10 weeks) they will be awarded a certificate in assembly.

Phonics: All children will be given a homework book to practise phonics and handwriting skills. Every Monday the children will be given an informal phonics test where they will be asked to have a go at spelling words using the phonics that they have been learning.

Other: Sometimes we may send maths or topic-related activities home too; these will be stuck in the back of homework books. Please make sure your child's reading book and homework book are kept in their book bag at all times.

## Class 1 information ...

'Welly Wednesday': Please can you make sure that your child has a pair of wellies, waterproof coat and hats, gloves etc. for wearing in the 'outdoor classroom' every Wednesday. You may also send waterproof trousers or an old pair of trousers/leggings for them to change into if preferred.

PE: Please ensure your child has a PE kit in school at all times (including warm trousers, jumper, outside trainers or plimsolls) as we will be going outside for PE this term.

Parent Share: We would like to invite you to our Class 1 'parent share' on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 2.45pm. This will be an opportunity for the children to present some of things they have been learning about and it will also be a chance for you to look at your child's books.

Other:

- Please could the children bring in a photo (this could be a photocopy) of themselves as a baby for our 'Guess Who' wall. We will return these at the end of Term 1, but if possible we would like to be able to blu-tac them to the wall.
- We will be holding a parent meeting on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September from 3.15 - 3.45pm to explain about the Year 1 curriculum in more detail.
- There will also be a phonics information evening on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 5.30 – 6.00pm. It is very important that all parents attend this meeting.

Please do not hesitate to come and talk to us if you have any questions.

*Mrs. Davies, Miss Denny and Mrs. Mercer*