

# 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.

To kick start our topic, the children were split into four imaginary countries. They designed shields for their knights to wear, paying particular attention to the colours and symbols. The children also created helmets and willow bow and arrows, competing against each other in the outdoor classroom.

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 use their imagination to draw their own dragons. 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 PE, computing, numeracy and RE will be taught separately to the topic lessons, links will obviously be made where appropriate. In PE, the children will practice 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 start off by concentrating on addition and subtraction. They will begin by working with single digit numbers, before moving on tens numbers and two digit numbers. Later in the term, the children will be looking at simple methods to multiply and divide.

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.

During computing lessons, the children will be covering the unit 'We are detectives' which will involve 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 reading record. 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 learn 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 times tables 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.

A piece of *My Maths* homework will also be set online every Monday. If you have any questions regarding homework, then please come in and see me or send in a note with your child.

## Class 2 information ...

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to a welcome meeting straight after school on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September in order to share information about the coming year, discuss classroom routines 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.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me. This can be done by either coming to see me or by sending a note in with your child.

*Mrs. Newton*