

Class 6

The Bliss Charity School



Term 1



Dear families,

I hope you all had a lovely summer and you are feeling rested and ready for the busy term ahead. Mrs. Simpson and I are looking forward to working with you and your child this year. Year 6 is a very important time for children to develop not only their academic skills but their metacognitive ones as well, perhaps the most important of which is independence, ready for their transition to secondary school. On Thursday 14th September at 5:30pm, we will be holding a curriculum evening to share with you your child's curriculum for the year ahead, sharing our expectations of work and behaviour in school and in terms of homework and suggesting ways you can support your child to get the most out of Year 6.

Miss Thompson



Term 1 Topic: *Healthy body, healthy mind*



Our over-arching theme for this term is science based – the children will be learning all about their respiratory and circulatory systems, how they work, the processes involved and the importance of having a healthy lifestyle to maintain these systems. They will start by sharing their own ideas about their bodies and then researching the different systems, creating and labelling their own diagrams. The pupils will also be learning about activities that can have a negative effect on these systems such as smoking, failing to exercise and eating a poor diet.

In design and technology, the children will be finding out ways they can support a healthy body. They will be learning about the importance of good nutrition and they will be finding out more about the different food groups, understanding the weighting of these in a balanced diet. They will be learning to be food label savvy, reading nutritional information on packets to help them make informed decisions about what they are eating. They will then be using this knowledge to design a healthy breakfast, which they will produce for other children in the school.

In art, the children will be studying the work of Georgia O'Keeffe who painted large-scale flowers to encourage people to see the beauty in everyday objects. They will then be using different media and techniques to create O'Keeffe-style large-scale studies of fruit and vegetables to encourage people to see their beauty too!

Literacy and numeracy

In literacy, we will be focusing a lot on grammar, punctuation and spelling this year but will be doing so in interesting contexts. Our first writing topic is based around a piece of visual literacy, which will provide the children with an exciting foundation for developing their writing skills. They will be using different lengths of sentences to create different effects for their reader, using dramatic vocabulary and working with each other to edit and improve their work. We will be following this up by creating some food-related poetry to fit in with our topic.

In maths, Year 6 is all about consolidating previous knowledge and building on this so that the children can apply their mathematical skills to a range of different problems. We will start by recapping place value and the four methods of calculating, extending these to work with larger numbers and decimals.

Other subjects ...

In R.E. the children will be studying 'Milestones and Meaning' – they will be reflecting on milestones in their own lives and then reflecting on those of others as they learn about the importance of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah for Jewish boys and girls, Confirmation for Catholics and Amrit for Sikhs.

P.E. this term is football – this will take place outside in all but torrential rain. Please ensure your child has suitable trainers/boots for playing on the green (these will get muddy) and warm kit as the weather gets colder. They will be developing their ball control skills as well as their collaborative and tactical skills. Children will also be participating in gym during PPA time.

The children will be using their computing skills across the curriculum.

Helping your child at home ...

Homework will always be **given on a Friday**. On every other Friday, children will be given a learning log topic – they will be expected to produce a double-page project on the given topic. We will always discuss ideas in class first and the children will be given suggestions for what should be included – we will then share the learning logs as a class once they have been marked. These are a great opportunity for children to develop their writing techniques and targets and engage their metacognitive skills and attitudes – best efforts will always be rewarded with a suitable token.

On the other Friday, the children will be given a piece of homework to practise their SPaG skills (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) and a piece of homework to develop their mathematical skills.

All homework is **due in by Wednesday** at the latest. Children will be expected to complete homework during a subsequent lunch break if it is not handed in. Children should be encouraged to complete homework as independently as possible – we really want them to come and talk to us if they are having any difficulties so we can give them further support.

Children should be reading for at least 20 minutes every day. This should be recorded by them in their reading record. Mrs. Simpson will take in reading records every **Tuesday** and loves to comment on children's reading. If children have read five times or more at home during the week, they will move around our reading challenge board and achieve rewards along the way!

'Sentence of the Week' will be tested every **Monday** – each week this will include key words the children will be tested on in their SATs so please encourage them to practise!

On alternate **Fridays**, children will have times table tests (please keep practising times tables as these too are vital for Year 6 maths success) and arithmetic tests which we will then go through together.

Children in Mr. Carter's maths group will receive weekly maths homework – this will usually be set on a Friday and due in by the following Friday. The children in this group will also practise their times tables weekly (usually on a Friday).

Class 6 information ...

- Thursday 7th September – Class 6 to *Tesco* at Mereway for a nutritional breakfast activity.
- Thursday 14th September, 5:30pm – Class 6 curriculum meeting
- On Wednesdays, Miss Thompson will be spending the day out of the classroom fulfilling her Deputy Head and SENCo responsibilities. On this day, Mrs. Byrne will be teaching French, maths and literacy in the morning; and Mrs. Simpson will be supervising P.E. and teaching R.E. and art in the afternoon.
- Fridays afternoon is PPA time – Mrs. Simpson will be leading P4C and PHSE sessions (all aimed at developing children's wellbeing and sense of community – this will also cover the 'Protective Behaviours' programme). The children will also be participating in gym during this time.