

# Class 4

*The Bliss Charity School*



Term 1 2023

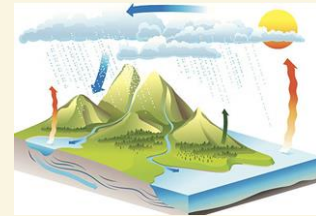


Welcome back! We hope you have had a fantastic summer and are now ready for an exciting year ahead. We are really looking forward to working with our new class and beginning lots of new learning this term.

Below you will find an overview of the topic for the term. We have also included some information about how you can help with your child's learning at home. If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail the Class 4 team.

*Mrs. Byrne, Mrs. Sharp and Mrs. East*

## *Wonderful Water*



Class 4 will be making a splash as we return to school and begin our Wonderful Water topic.

In English, we will be developing the children's reading comprehension skills through shared reading of our new novel *The Wind in the Willows*. This text will also be used as a stimulus to develop children's descriptive writing and deepen their grammatical knowledge and understanding of different sentence structures. Later in the term, we will move on to our first non-fiction piece of writing as pupils use their knowledge of the water cycle from foundation subjects to write their own explanation text for the water cycle.

As geographers, the children will be learning about the water cycle and investigating rivers, which will include identifying their physical features and describing different ways that rivers are used. Pupils will visit their local river to carry out their own fieldwork enquiry. They will also be developing their Ordnance Survey map skills as they learn to identify the location of rivers on a map and plan a route for their practical enquiry.

As scientists, children will be building on their knowledge of the water cycle as they learn about states of matter and understand how changes in state are linked to the movement of water on our Earth. Pupils will have lots of opportunities to develop their scientific enquiry skills as they learn to plan, set up and carry out different science investigations.

As artists, we will be focusing on still life and creating 3D effects. Children will develop their observational drawings using objects from our rivers and oceans.

In music this term, pupils will be developing their pitch, tempo and dynamics through a river themed singing unit.

# Other subjects ...

Maths – We will start by deepening the children's understanding of place value, which includes representing, comparing and ordering numbers to 10,000. Later in the term, we will learning to use more efficient calculation methods for addition and subtraction. Pupils will also be developing their reasoning and problem solving skills throughout the term.

Computing – Children will be building on their programming skills as they learn to write simple code using the Scratch programme.

PE – Class 4 will be focusing on the social cog from Real P.E. and learning to support and encourage others for excellent teamwork. Pupils will be developing their coordination and footwork skills and applying these during a variety of team games. Please make sure your child comes to school in their PE kit on Mondays and Thursdays.

PSHE – This term, PSHE lessons will focus on health and wellbeing, protection behaviours and online relationships.

RE – We will explore the origins of various religions, with a focus on the Sikh and Baha'i beliefs and practices.

## Helping your child at home ...

It's extremely important that your child continues to read regularly at home, even as they become a more independent reader. Reading to others, being read to and discussing books together is key to overall achievement in reading and wider success in school.

We will continue to run the reading reward system as before (at least five times a week at home). It is always great to hear about the books and stories pupils are enjoying out of the classroom as well as in school.

**Homework** - This will be handed out on a Friday and it will be due in by the following Wednesday. Pupils will have a learning log homework task every two weeks, which will focus on a different theme – normally this will relate to the topic being studied in class.

**Learning log tasks** – These are open ended and designed to give the children the opportunity to show their learning in a creative and individual way. A typical sequence for completing the learning log might be to research and take notes, plan the layout, deciding on what text and images to include, and then to present the research in best. Please can you emphasise the importance of neat presentation and careful editing at home.

**Times Tables** - There will continue to be a big focus this year on children learning their times tables and being able to recall these at speed. This will really improve their ability to problem solve in mathematics more widely. It is important that pupils continue to practise these at home regularly. Your child will be tested on their times tables every Friday and their score will come home.

**Spellings** – Children will bring home a termly spelling list (with 10 words allocated to each week). They will then be tested every fortnight on a mixture of 10 spellings from the previous 2 weeks.