

# Class 5

*The Bliss Charity School*



## Autumn 1 2023



Dear parents/carers,

It has been lovely to welcome children back to school this week and they have already begun to show me their enthusiasm as learners. We have lots of exciting things planned for the term ahead and Mrs. Kostiuhenko, Mrs. East, Mrs. Griffiths and I are looking forward working with you and your child this year.

Year 5 is a really important time for children to develop not only their academic skills but their metacognitive ones as well, perhaps the most important of which are independence and resilience. We will share our expectations of class work, homework and behaviour during the forthcoming Class 5 curriculum meeting next week. If after reading the information you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch. I'm looking forward to getting to know you all,

Mrs. Watson

### Term 1: *The Great Outdoors*

Our theme for this term is The Great Outdoors – children will start by learning all about their local environment both from a geographical and historical perspective. We will make connections throughout different subjects, thus helping children to build upon their prior learning and develop key skills. We will be spending as much time as possible outside over the course of this term – please ensure children come to school with clothing and shoes to match the weather so this is a pleasurable experience for them!

**English:** During our Autumn English work we will use The Balaclava Boys story as a model text to understand the structure of a dilemma story. We will then learn to write our own dilemma stories using a range of writerly tools. Later in the term we will be looking at poetry based around outdoor themes to develop our understanding and use of figurative language.

**Maths:** As mathematicians, we will be developing our knowledge of place value, calculation and fractions using concrete apparatus, pictorial drawings and written methods to aid our understanding and accuracy.

**Reading:** As readers, we will continue to develop our inference, prediction, and summarising skills through analysing a range of texts such as The Firework Maker's Daughter.



**Geography:** As geographers we will be looking at our locality and understanding the area in terms of human and physical features. We will be observing signs of weathering and understanding the reasons for this. By way of comparison, we will ask 'What is life like in the Alps?'

**History:** As historians, we will be exploring the history of our local area and learning about Ancient Mayan civilisation and making comparisons to the Anglo Saxons. We will learn the key events of these eras and our locality.

**Science:** As scientists, we will be learning about materials and their properties. We will analyse different materials and develop our enquiry skills to understand the process of how materials can change their state of matter from a solid, liquid or gas including mixtures and separation.

**RE:** We will explore the question 'Why do people have to stand up for what they believe in? We will explore this by looking at the Christian, Muslim and Sikh religions.

**PSHE:** We will start the year building on our previous learning around protective behaviours. This teaches children the importance of safety awareness and builds the children's confidence and resilience by exploring our right to feel safe. We will focus upon privacy and security in online safety as well as developing our understanding of living in the wider world.

## Class 5 Homework Information ...

Homework will be set on a Thursday and due in the following Tuesday. This will cover a range of subjects and will mirror the areas of learning that the children have been covering in class. Children should be encouraged to complete homework as independently as possible – please encourage them to come and talk to us if they are having any difficulties so we can give them further support at school.

If children do nothing else, they should read, read, read! Children should be reading for at least 20 minutes every day. This should be recorded by children themselves in their lovely new reading record. If these are lost, a new one will need to be purchased from the office. We will take in reading records every Monday to record reading frequency. If children have read five times or more at home during the week, they will achieve rewards along the way!

Spellings will be tested on a Monday – more details about this will be sent home separately.

## Class 5 information ...

Class 5's PE days are Thursday (outdoor) and Friday (indoor). Children should wear their P.E. kits to school on these days.