

The Bliss Charity School

Issue: 13

Wednesday 20th April

Term 5



Hello everybody,

Welcome back to Term 5. I hope you all had a lovely Easter break and enjoyed the sunshine!

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to Mr. Carter for his relentless hard work over the past five years. It is hard to sum up in so few words all that he achieved but he will be much missed. From all of the us at Bliss, I would like to wish him the very best for the future. Although his are big shoes to fill, I am very pleased to be taking on the interim headship this term.

In other staffing news, I would like to issue a warm welcome to Mr. Ferrier who has been working with Bliss as a Rhino Sports Coach since September and is now joining us as a teaching assistant in Class 5 where he will be working alongside Mrs. Jenkinson. In addition, welcome back Miss. Rutter, who is returning after maternity leave to work in Class 4.

As you may be aware, government guidance on testing, close-contact and self-isolation for coronavirus changed at the end of last term:

Attendance at school is mandatory for all pupils. Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting. Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can return to school when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.

As a result of the changes, schools are no longer required to provide remote education for pupils with coronavirus.

With the restrictions of Covid now hopefully behind us, there are lots of things to look forward to in the coming term including Young Voices, lots of exciting new topics and Jubilee celebrations!

Miss Thompson

TERM 5 TOPICS

Stories	The Tiny Seed	Chocolate Explorers	Our Local Area	Rainforests	The Tudors	Victorian School

Easter Reading Challenge



Our Easter Reading Challenge comes to an end this week. To enter, the children need to return their completed sheet to their class teacher or the school office by Friday 22nd April.

All children completing the challenge will be awarded a certificate and will have their names entered into the draw to win Easter eggs donated by OneStop.

If you need another copy of the Challenge sheet, please visit the letters page of the school website (www.bliss.northants.sch.uk/index.php/parents/lethome)



Attendance

The Bliss Charity School is committed to helping every child make excellent progress and attain as highly as possible, as well as providing a rich and broad range of curricular and extra-curricular experiences for them to enjoy. High attendance (96% or above) is key to children being successful and benefitting fully from these opportunities, as well as helping them to make and sustain friendships. Of course, children get poorly and have to be off school, but sometimes they are able to come in. The NHS website 'Is my child too ill for school?' is a useful guide for when pupils can still attend school with minor illness.



Term Time Holidays

Absence for holidays during term time is not authorised at The Bliss Charity School and can result in a referral to the Educational Inclusion Partnership Team and the issue of a Penalty Notice. More than ever, it is very important that children attend school every day so that staff can help pupils make up the learning time that has been missed during the coronavirus pandemic. Missing school has a detrimental effect on a pupil's progress and attainment which cannot be afforded given the disruption to education over the past two years. Furthermore, unnecessary absence also affects the achievement of others as adult help has to be re-directed into helping pupils go over the work they missed when they return to school, instead of being used where it is most needed. Thank you for your support. For more information, please visit: www.bliss.northants.sch.uk/index.php/information/attendance.



Lateness

A total of 3,470 minutes (over 57 hours) have been lost to lateness at Bliss so far this academic year. Please ensure that your child arrives at school in good time, ready for the start of the day at 8:55 am. The very beginning of the day is just as important as the rest, as all classes practise key skills and consolidate previous learning as soon as the register is taken. Children who are regularly late may miss out on handwriting sessions or calculation practice which will affect the progress they make over the course of the year. Thank you for your support.

Support for the Ukraine: Northamptonshire Welcome Fund



"We're raising funds to support the resettlement of Ukrainian refugees and community groups and charities directly working with refugees." (Charity Registration No. 1094646)

This is a fundraising scheme which was originally created to raise funds to support the resettlement of Ukrainian refugees and community groups and charities directly working with refugees. "We have already raised a huge £23,107, however we need your help to make sure there is enough for everyone!"

If you would like to donate, please visit their Just Giving page:
<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/refugeewelcomefund>

DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal

The British Red Cross is part of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), which unites 15 member charities who are experts in humanitarian aid and specialists in different areas of disaster response. The DEC launches appeals during times of monumental suffering, which is the case in Ukraine right now. Please donate to this vital appeal and help the Red Cross reach families and communities in Ukraine and the border countries: <https://donate.redcross.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-crisis-appeal>

How will my donation help people in Ukraine? Your donation will be used to reach people in urgent need, including:

- Providing food, first aid, clean water, shelter support, warm clothing, hygiene parcels and medicines
- Supporting hospitals and healthcare facilities
- Supporting fire fighters and civil protection units
- Training people up in life-saving first aid
- Helping families stay in contact with each other
- Educating people on the risks of explosives
- Repairing vital infrastructure
- Helping to repair homes, healthcare centres, schools and community centres



Safeguarding

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children – both in and out of school – has a role to play in identifying concerns, sharing information and taking prompt action.

What is safeguarding?

- Protecting children from maltreatment.
- Preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development.
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.



At The Bliss Charity School we have a Safeguarding Team, with four trained Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs): Miss Thompson, Mrs. Caller, Mrs. Adey, and Mrs. Howard. If parents/carers have safeguarding concerns regarding any of our pupils (either while they're at school or in the wider community), they can disclose information to one of our DSLs directly or via any member of school staff. Out-of-hours and out-of-term contact should be via office@bliss.northants.sch.uk or head@bliss.northants.sch.uk. Alternatively, parents/carers can contact the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0300 126 1000 or the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000. All emergency concerns should go straight to 999. Fears about sharing information cannot be allowed to stand in the way of ensuring the welfare and safety of children. No-one should assume that someone else will pass on information which they think may be critical to keeping a child safe. For more information about safeguarding procedures at The Bliss Charity School, please visit: www.bliss.northants.sch.uk/index.php/information/safeguarding.

Rhino Sports Academy Multi-sports Clubs

Rhino Sports Academy are running a range of clubs at The Bliss Charity School. Please visit the Rhino Sports Academy website to sign-up for these extra-curricular clubs (<https://rhinosportsacademy.co.uk/bliss-charity/>).

Times	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 am - 8:45 am	Year R/1/2/3/4/5/6 Dance Club	Year 1/2/3/4/5/6 Dramatics Club	Year 2/3/4/5/6 Gymnastics Club	Year 1/2/3/4/5/6 Basketball Club	Year 3/4/5/6 Football Club
3:20 pm - 4:05 pm	Year 3/4/5/6 Dodgeball Club	Year R/1/2/3 Multi-Sports Club	Year 3/4/5/6 Seasonal Sports Club	Year R/1/2 Football Club	

Is your child stuck with what to read?

Here are a couple of websites which might help them to decide on their next book...

- <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/our-recommendations/100-best-books/>
- <https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>



E-Safety: YouTube Parent Allowlisting

YouTube have introduced a new service called Parent Allowlisting which can be used on mobile devices where a parent can approve a video/channel from the main YouTube app into their child's YouTube Kids account. If you wish to find out more, here is a link to a short video explaining how it works:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eVYsgC7-6ZM&list=WL&index=17>



E-Safety: Setting up Devices for Children

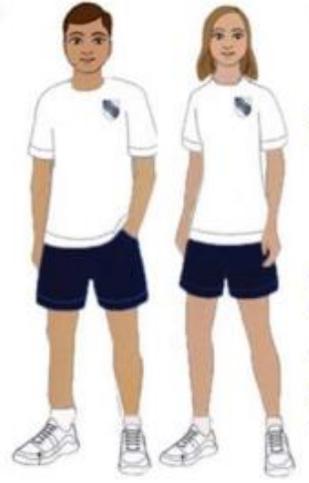
Internet Matters have a huge range of advice and guidance, which includes simple guides to set up devices including tablets, phones, gaming devices and much more for kids so you can be sure they are safe online. Their checklist can be found here: <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/e-safety-checklist-getting-your-kids-tech-devices-set-up-safe/>

The infographic is titled 'Set Up Safe' in a green circle. The main heading is 'Helping parents keep their children safe online.' with the 'internet matters.org' logo. The text says: 'We've designed a simple checklist to give you peace of mind regarding your child's safety on the internet. Set your children's device up before you give it to them so you know they're safe online as soon as they start playing.' Below this is an illustration of a family (mother, father, and child) looking at a tablet. The bottom section is titled 'Get started' and has two steps: 1. 'Set parental controls on your broadband to prevent your children seeing things they shouldn't' with a smartphone icon and a green checkmark. 2. 'For smart phones check parental controls are also set up on the mobile network' with a smartphone icon and a green checkmark. At the bottom, there is a navigation bar showing 'Page 1 / 1' and zoom controls.

Uniform

Now it is getting warmer, pupils may wish to come to school in summer uniform – please see the highlighted sections on the uniform infographics below. Please ensure that your child comes to school in accordance with the uniform expectations below. Hair accessories for school should be simple and the correct PE kit (including footwear) should be in school on PE days (please refer to Class Newsletters for PE day information). Thank you for your support.

<p>Top:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Royal blue, crew-neck jumper with the school logo. or Royal blue fleece with the school logo. or Royal blue cardigan with the school logo. <p>Shirt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School logoed polo shirt: white or royal blue (preferred item). or White shirt or white polo shirt (permitted item). <p>Bottom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black or grey trousers. or Black or grey knee-length skirt. or Black or grey pinafore dress. or Black or grey smart shorts. or In the summer, blue and white checked summer dress. 		<p>Hair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long hair (shoulder length or longer) should be tied back with simple accessories. No extreme haircuts.* <p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Book bag with the school logo (preferred item). Ruck-sack or draw-string bag for other items (e.g. PE kit). Warm, waterproof coat for cold/wet weather. Cap, or summer hat, for sunnier weather (outdoor use only).
<p>Footwear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean, flat, black shoes with no visible branding. Black or grey tights. Black, grey or white socks. Trainers to change into at break/lunchtime (optional). 		<p>* 'Extreme' haircuts are those considered by the school to be significantly different so as to cause distraction to others; and not in keeping with the school's smart ethos. These may include: tram-lines, or designs cut/shaved into the hair; or brightly-coloured dyed hair (this is not an exhaustive list).</p>

<p>Top:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> White, logoed PE t-shirt (preferred item). or Plain, white t-shirt (permitted item). Logoed, house-coloured t-shirts for PE are also available (preferred items): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fire (red) - Water (blue) - Earth (green) - Air (yellow) <p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor PE: A plain, blue or black sweatshirt or tracksuit top and jogging bottoms can be worn for outdoor PE in cold weather. Logoed tracksuits are available from the school's uniform supplier (optional). A cap and sun protection lotion for sunnier weather. 		<p>Hair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long hair (shoulder length) must be tied back with simple accessories. <p>Jewellery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No jewellery – including earrings – should be worn for PE. Pupils should be able to remove their earrings for this lesson or not wear earrings on PE days.* <p>Bottom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plain, blue or black shorts. Black, blue or white socks. <p>Footwear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean, trainers or plimsolls. Football boots can be worn on the grass.
<p>* Where an item of jewellery cannot be removed then it is the teacher's responsibility to try to establish a safe situation to enable participation. Where safe participation cannot be assured, the pupil cannot take part in that element of the lesson.</p>		