

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 new term 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.



Term 1 Topic: *Dungeons and Dragons*



The children in Class 2 are going to begin 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.

During our topic lessons, the children will be learning about the history, developments and changes in castles over the years. During this time, the children will explore castles from all around the world. They will then focus their learning on English history. The children will be given the opportunity to find out about the significance of William the Conqueror and how the Bayeux Tapestry illustrates a very important piece of history.

The children will also 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. They will also be designing shields for a knight to wear, paying particular importance to the colours and symbols used. During science lessons, the children will be investigating the properties of different materials. They will accomplish this by testing out a range of materials to create a drawbridge and clothing for a growing knight.

During computing lessons, the children will be creating their very own dragon movie! They will be using stop-go animation and the program Zu3d to enable their characters to move around the screen.

All of our literacy lessons will be linked to the topic. The children will begin with some drama and creative writing on dragons. Throughout the rest of the term, they will have the opportunity for creating instructional writing about training dragons, factual writing about becoming a knight and medieval story writing.

The topic will culminate in a medieval banquet on Wednesday 19th October 2022, where the children will be invited to dress up and take part in traditional medieval festivities. On this day the children will be asked to dress up in a medieval costume, for example a princess, knight or king. Please let us know if you need help finding a costume as we do have a few costumes in class that could be borrowed. We will also be inviting parents in on this day to watch a class assembly. More details on this will be given out closer to the time.

Although PE, music, PSHE, mathematics and RE will be taught separately to the topic lessons, links will obviously be made where appropriate. In addition to creating a movie, the children will also be learning about the uses of IT during their computing lessons.

In numeracy, the children will develop their understanding of place value. The children will use both pictorial representations and a range of physical resources to support them during lessons. They will learn to create, compare and order numbers in order to complete problem solving activities.

As there was in Year 1, there will continue to be a big focus on phonics this year. The children will continue to use the Read, Write Inc scheme and all children will take part in a daily 30 minute phonics and reading session. This will be in addition to guided reading sessions, which are designed to support the children with answering longer comprehension questions.

Helping your child at home ...

There are 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 record these reading sessions in your child's reading record. Children will receive awards if they read at least five times a week. The children will continue to have an extra Read, Write Inc reading book to read, which will be changed once a week.

In addition to reading, the children will also be given a list of five spelling words to learn every Friday. The spellings will be learnt throughout the week at school, but additional time learning these spellings at home will be beneficial to your child. The words will be tested the following Friday and results will be sent home.

The children will also take part in a times table quiz on the iPads every Friday. All of the children will start on their two times table. If your child receives a score of 10 or above for two weeks in a row, they will be presented with a certificate and moved onto the next times table.

Class 2 information ...

Please can I ask that your child brings in a named pair of wellies or outdoor shoes in a carrier bag. This is to stop their school shoes getting muddy during our outdoor classroom session on a Friday.

Every Tuesday and Thursday the children will need to wear their P.E kit to school. They will remain in their P.E throughout the day. Please see an email from the school dated 3.9.22 for more information regarding this.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to either email the school or come and see me at the end of the school day.

Mrs. Newton