

Class 3

The Bliss Charity School



Term 1 2023



Welcome back!

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and managed to have lots of fun over the holidays! I am really looking forward to welcoming all the children to Year 3, as they make the important transition to Key Stage 2.

We start the year with our 'Rocking Through Time' topic where we will be answering the enquiry question would you rather live in the Stone age, Bronze age or Iron age?

Miss Mackle



Term 1 Topic: Rocking Through Time!

In our 'Rocking through time' topic, we will be travelling through prehistory, learning all about the Stone age, Bronze age and Iron age. The children will get a hands-on experience of this on our class trip to Flag Fen this month, an archaeological park with evidence of Bronze and Iron Age settlements.

In History we have lots of artefacts for the children to explore, we will learn just how long-ago prehistory really was and use archaeological evidence to make observations and deductions about early life and the development of trade and settlements.

In English we will be reading *The Stolen Spear* and learning about childhood in Skara Brae. The class will develop their writing skills through detailed character and scene description. Pupils will use a variety of drama conventions to develop a deeper understanding of the text and to support their writing.

In Science we will be studying Animals, focused on movement and nutrition. The children will develop their knowledge of muscles and skeletons and what nutrients we get from our food. We'll consider how this compares to prehistoric diets also!

In Art we will be exploring prehistoric art, discovering what can be used to make natural paints, identifying the features of prehistoric painting and being inspired to create authentic artworks of our own.

Other subjects ...

Maths: In Term 1, we will start by developing our place value skills and becoming secure in using numbers beyond 100. The children will then recap their understanding of the addition and subtraction calculation methods and begin to add and subtract 2 and 3 digit numbers with exchanges.

Design & Technology: To support our work in Science this term, our first D&T topic will focus on eating seasonally. Children will learn about what fruits and vegetables grow in different climates around the world begin to understand the benefits of eating foods that are seasonal in the UK. We will have the chance to explore and make some seasonal recipes later in the term and develop our knowledge of safe food handling and preparation.

Computing: In Term 1, pupils will be developing knowledge and understanding of technology, looking at digital and non-digital devices, with an initial focus on inputs, processes, and outputs, as well as introducing the concept of computers being connected in a network.

RE: In RE the children will be considering the question, 'what does it mean to be human?' We will review this through comparison of how different religions interpret this idea and explore the concept of having a soul.

PSHE: We will be learning about keeping ourselves safe both in person and online.

French: We begin learning French in year 3 and start off by learning greetings for different times of the day and understanding how to ask and answer questions about how we are feeling.

Helping your child at home ...

Spellings: At the beginning of term, the children will be assessed on all of the Year 2 common exception spellings that the National Curriculum recommends. After this initial assessment, we will begin to focus on spelling patterns using the fun 'Read, Write Inc.' spelling scheme. There will be a spelling test every week. Please see the 'Class 3 Spellings – Term 1' document for more information. Scores for this test will go home weekly.

Times Tables: The government have introduced an electronic times tables test for Year 4 children. For more details, visit <https://matr.org/blog/times-tables-test-parents-guide/>. To help children to prepare for this test, we begin to practice our times tables using an electronic system in year 3. There will be more information sent out soon, including log in details for children to practise at home.

Maths: In addition to practising times-tables, children will also be set homework on MyMaths, the online platform, to support what we are learning in class. This will be one activity per week. If you need a reminder of your log in details please get in touch.

Reading Records: In order to develop and improve their reading ability – and gain their reading certificates – the children need to be aiming to read 5 times a week. Please ensure the reading record is sent into school to be checked each week.

Other achievements: In-line with government guidelines, homework will only be sent home when we feel that it is meaningful and manageable – there will not be formal homework linked to topic but if children complete any independent research or discover anything that supports our topic this is welcome to be brought in and shared on Wednesday mornings as part of our class assembly. Likewise, for any other achievements out of school that they would like to share with the class.