

Class 1

The Bliss Charity School



Term 1



Dear parents/carers,

Welcome to Class 1! I hope you have all had a fantastic summer and are feeling refreshed and ready to start the new term. We have been so excited to start this new year with you and I know we are all going to work together to make our learning fun and memorable. Below you will find an overview of the topic for this term. We have also included some key information and dates for your diary. Please do not hesitate to come and talk to us if you have any questions.

Miss Churms and Mrs. Duckmanton



Term 1 Topic: *Scarecrows, Skeletons & Me*



In this topic, the children will be exploring parts of their bodies, senses, feelings and how we grow and change. Here is a brief overview of the subjects we will be covering in the topic:

English: The children will develop their literacy skills through topic-related stories, including *The Scarecrow's Hat*, *The Scarecrow's Wedding* and *Funnybones*. The children will be using the 'Read, Write Inc.' scheme to support their learning of phonics and reading. They will also continue to develop their handwriting skills using the 'Kinetic Letters' programme.

Maths: The children will focus on their understanding of place value and number. This will include developing their sorting and counting skills. They will then be ordering numbers, writing numbers and beginning to add and subtract. The children's mathematical learning will link to everyday experiences with outdoor learning and to the topic by measuring, using their bodies and cooking.

Science: During science lessons, the children will be labelling the outside parts of the body (scarecrow parts), they will then learn about the bones inside their bodies (skeletons) and how they grow, feel and use their senses. The children will also be using their senses to explore the world around them, with a particular focus on autumn and harvest.

History: This will focus on looking at how the children have changed from when they were babies. The children will also learn to compare past and present farming equipment.

Art: The children will learn about the artist Andy Warhol and they will be creating their own pictures inspired by the artist, using paint and pastels. They will be applying collage techniques for a class scarecrow and will experiment with printing. The children will also create some skeleton art using cotton buds.

DT: After creating full-size scarecrows and designing hats, the children will be making moving skeletons. The children will also be cooking wedding cakes and making healthy milkshakes.

Music: The children will be learning songs and playing musical instruments linked to scarecrows and skeletons. They will also follow the *Charanga* programme 'Hey you'.

Other subjects ...

RE: We will be learning about the Christian church and celebrations that take place in a church. As part of this topic, we hope to be able to visit Nether Heyford Church – date to be confirmed.

PE: We will be following a programme called 'Real PE' which teaches different core skills throughout the year. This term, we will focus on coordination and static balance.

PSHE: After establishing class rules, the children will focus on protective behaviours and hygiene.

Computing: The children will be learning basic ICT skills within all curriculum areas. They will look at how to control a touchpad, switch on and shutdown a laptop correctly, open different applications using windows and create and save files.

Helping your child at home ...

Reading: All the children will be given two reading books to take home. One will be a Read Write Inc Book Bag book, linked to the phonics they are learning at school. The other, will be a coloured banded book that your child has chosen. Please encourage your child to share their books at home and remind them to change their banded reading book when they need a new one. To start off with, adults will be changing their Read Write Inc. book once a week. Please write in your child's reading record every time they read. We will check the record weekly and keep a record of how many times each child has read. You can also write down any other books they may read at home too. If they read 5 times in a week they will move up the 'bookworm' (displayed in the classroom). When they reach the top of the bookworm (10 weeks), they will be awarded with a sticker in the back of their reading records during celebration assembly.

Maths: A weekly maths homework task will be set through 'My Maths' (an online mathematics programme) on a Friday and is due the following Friday. A separate letter will be sent home with information on how to access this (<https://www.mymaths.co.uk/>).

Phonics: A weekly phonics sheet will be sent home on a Thursday focusing on sounds we have looked at that week. This is due back into school on the following Thursday. Phonics homework will start after you have received a separate booklet with information regarding phonics expectations, how to support your child, and the phonics screening in June 2021.

Class 1 information ...

'Welly Wednesday': Every Wednesday afternoon, we will be using the outdoor classroom. Please bring in a pair of wellies that can be kept in school for this purpose, by Wednesday 8th September. You may also send waterproof trousers or an old pair of trousers/leggings for them to change into if preferred, but this is not essential.

PE: The children will be doing PE on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please make sure your child has a full indoor and outdoor PE kit in school at all times.

Other:

- Please could the children bring in a photo (this could be a photocopy) of themselves as a baby for a 'Guess Who' game on Monday 18th October (the last week of term). You may bring these in earlier if you wish. Please bear in mind that the children will be handling these photos. We will return these at the end of Term 1.
- We will be sending out more information regarding the Year 1 curriculum.
- I will be emailing home a separate booklet with information on how to support your child with phonics, what the expectations are and some key details for the June 2022 phonics screening check. Weekly phonics homework will start after this.