

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. As you will now be aware, there have been several changes at school to keep everyone safe and to ensure that your child has a fantastic year full of enriching experiences.

Mrs. Newton



Term 1 Topic: *Dungeons and Dragons*



The children in Class 2 are beginning 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 of castles and the developments and changes in castles over the years. They will learn 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 as well as 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 different materials to create a drawbridge and clothing for a growing knight.

During computing lessons, the children will be designing and then creating their very own animated dragon! They will be using stop-go animation and the program Zu3d to enable their dragon to move.

Our literacy lessons will be linked to the topic. The children will begin with some drama and creative writing on dragons. They will also have the opportunity for creating instructional writing about training dragons, factual writing about becoming a knight, as well as medieval story writing. The children will be linking a lot of their literacy lessons to the fantastic books 'Tell Me a Dragon and 'Who Will Sing My Puff-a-Bye'.

The topic will culminate in a medieval banquet on Thursday 22nd October 2020, 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.

Other subjects ...

Although PE, music, PSHE, numeracy and RE will be taught separately to the topic lessons, links will obviously be made where appropriate.

Adaptations have been made to both PE and music to allow it to be taught in accordance with government guidance.

In numeracy, the children will develop their use of all four operations and their understanding of place value. They will learn to compare and order numbers, and to complete missing number sentences. They will practise all of these skills daily during our morning tasks before registration too.

As you will already be aware, the Phonics Screening Test had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak. This screening has now been rescheduled to take place later in the autumn. Therefore, there will be a focus on phonics this term and some additional resources may be sent home if we feel that your child requires extra support.

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.

In addition to reading, the children will also be given a list of individual spellings every Monday to practise at home. The spellings will be tested the following Monday.

The children will also take part in a times table quiz on the iPads every Monday. 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 ...

Next week, I will be sharing a presentation with you that will explain all of our classroom routines and show you the structure of the Year 2 timetable.

Please remind your child to bring in a named pair of wellies or outdoor shoes in a carrier bag to stop their school shoes getting muddy during our outdoor classroom session on a Wednesday.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me via email.

Mrs. Newton