

# Class 5

*The Bliss Charity School*



## Term 6



Dear families,

Welcome back to Term 6! We hope you had a lovely half-term break and enjoyed the Jubilee celebrations. This term promises to be busier than ever with fantastic new topic 'The Stone Age' and The Poetry Jam. It is really important amongst all of the exciting summer events that children keep up their reading and times tables practice so they are ready to hit the ground running in Year 6! As ever, thanks for your support – please make an appointment at the office if you would like to speak to any of us,

The Class 5 Team



## Term 6 Topic: *The Stone Age*



Our new topic centres around a fascinating period of ancient history: Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. Children's understanding of the Stone Age will be greatly enhanced by a book-study of *The Boy with the Bronze Axe* by Kathleen Fidler in guided reading. This book is based on events at the Neolithic settlement of Skara Brae. Once children have an understanding of Stone Age life, they will be writing their own Stone Age tale, thinking about the way story telling was used as a method of entertainment.

Through a range of enquiry methods, children will be learning about the changes that took place throughout this period in history as people progressed from hunter-gatherers to farmers. They will also be putting themselves in the shoes of early settlers, looking at local maps to identify where they would choose to settle and why.

Topic-based art and DT will include the study of cave paintings and the creation of their own primitive paintings using natural materials and creating simple mechanisms.

We will be finishing our topic with a Stone Age day in the outdoor classroom where children will be imagining what it was like to live without YouTube and gaming for entertainment - instead they will be returning to the ancient tradition of story-telling around a camp fire, sharing the stories they have written in their literacy lessons. They will also take part in making a to-scale model of Stone Henge using their mathematical skills.

## Other Subjects...

In literacy, children will be practising our poem for the Poetry Jam and doing some creative writing around 'The Highwayman' poem by Alfred Noyes. Children will then be writing Stone Age stories, thinking about what people many years ago would have spoken about whilst sat around a fire on the long nights. These will be rehearsed ready to be told to each other on our Stone Age Day. Finally, children will be working on their powers of persuasion through writing – children will be investigating the issues plastic as a product creates for our planet. They will be watching some short films and carrying out some reading to explore the problems plastic use poses for our planet. They will then be writing their own persuasive report about the issue.

In maths, we will be reviewing all 4 written calculation methods again as well as revisiting shape and data in order to consolidate learning. There will be lots of focus on children applying their methods successfully to solve word problems.

In science, children will be finishing their work on solids, liquids and gases and looking at the changes in humans as they move through their life cycle. In P.E., swimming will continue on Fridays as well as 'Chance to Shine' cricket lessons on Wednesdays. Children will be learning songs for their upcoming summer performance in music.

## Helping your child at home ...

Spellings will be tested on a Monday using a written test and a fun spelling bee – please see the spelling list on the Class 5 page of the website. Over-learning is the best way to learn these.

Times tables will be tested on a Friday morning – children are doing brilliantly with their speed and accuracy. Please keep practicing! These are important for so many different areas of maths.

Reading journals are to be handed in on Monday mornings; these should be filled in with any reading undertaken at home - this should be at least 5 times per week and children should now be pushing the amount of reading they are doing (at least 20 minutes per day). Please listen to your child read aloud regularly, whatever their reading ability, as this helps with reading fluency and allows you to check their reading comprehension with some basic questions e.g. What has happened so far? What do you think will happen next? Why do you think he/she behaved like that? It is also a great idea to read to your child still – this allows them to access texts above their reading ability and share the love of a good story with someone else.

Maths and literacy homework will continue to be set on alternate weeks to learning logs. Homework is always due in by Wednesday at the latest.

## Class 5 information ...

Every Wednesday – 'Chance to Shine' cricket. Children will need to bring their kit with them as well as a hat and a refillable drinks bottle.

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Poetry Jam – We would love to see as many entries from Class 5 as possible!