

Year 6 Curriculum Letter - Autumn Half Term 2 - 2024

Our theme for the start of Autumn 2 is:

Vile Victorians

We will be concentrating on:

- Understanding what life was like in Victorian England
- Highlighting the differences between the social classes of society
- Learning about how Leicester and Great Britain changed during the Industrial Revolution

Our theme will last for: 8 weeks.



Design and Technology

We have a great opportunity for some practical Design and Technology with our D&T week. We are going to be creating a diorama of Victorian New Walk, complete with working lights and moving parts!

French

During our French lessons this half term, we are going to be developing our conversational French even further by discussing our favourite food and drink in our French topic called, "Manger et Bouger."

This half-term's 'No Outsider's in our School' book is... 'The Only Way is Badger' by Stella J. Jones and Csarmen Sladana.

We will be using this book to aid us in discussions all about freedom of speech, as well as helping us to consider our use of language.

Behaviour and Safety

We will be thinking about how our behaviour can affect others. Because Anti-Bullying week is this half term, we will be raising our awareness of types of bullying, what it is and how to stop it. To do so, we will be making posters to display around the school to help those younger than us. For Anti-Bullying week this year, we will also be looking at online bullying and the implications this can have.

Computing

We will be using our comprehension skills to look at an anthology of poems called, "Beneath the Screen." These poems will help to develop our knowledge of e-safety and how we can look after ourselves online.

P.E.

For the second half-term, we will focus on gymnastics. We will learn this exciting new discipline and refine our movement and balancing skills. These sessions will be mostly inside so please ensure your child has appropriate clothes and that jewellery is removed for P.E. sessions.

P.E. lessons take place on a Wednesday, however if your child could have their P.E. kit in school at all times, this would be useful.



English

In English, we will be continuing our novel study units, reading the book 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. As we read through the book, we will discover what life was like in Victorian Britain and our work in English will be based around the events and characters in the novel. During the unit, we will be exploring Jim's experiences as a street child in Victorian London through drama, discussions and debates whilst using the knowledge gained from Topic lessons to understand more about Victorian society. We will be focussing on our grammatical knowledge and applying this to help us write:

- Paragraphs about the past experiences in Jim's life
- Informative sentences and paragraphs about the Victorians
- A paragraph describing a Victorian building
- Chapter, character and theme summaries that use evidence from the text
- An information text all about Dr Barnardo

R.E.

In R.E., we will be learning about Buddhism. We are going to look at a general introduction to the Buddhist faith which will include: investigating the Buddhist way of life; looking at the Buddhist Prayer Wheel and the life of Buddha.

History

As historians, we will be investigating how children lived in the Victorian period. We will explore key events, such as the Industrial Revolution and the urbanisation of Leicester. We will also look at the British Empire and the impact that it has had on the world. Another exciting element to look forward to will be our trip to Beaumanor Hall where we will spend the day as Victorians!



Geography

During Geography lessons, we will investigate how the country changed during the Industrial Revolution and how transport links, including roads and railways, shaped the country. We will also be looking at trade today and the types of products imported and exported by the United Kingdom.

Music

Children will be continuing to learn how to play the steel pans. Having looked at scales and the basics of the playing the steel pans last half-term, we will build on this by developing our playing skills and learning some musical compositions.



Mathematics

In this half term, we will continue to focus on number as well as shape and measures.

- Generalising arithmetic — this unit will build on our calculation skills from earlier in the term and will focus on applying those skills to problem solving and word problems, such as those that we might see in our S.A.T. papers.
- Reasoning with measures — we will be exploring the area and volume of shapes and how to apply formulae to find these, as well as applying these skills to trickier problems.
- Exploring Shape — through this unit, we will be looking at 2D and 3D shapes, as well as how to calculate the area and perimeter of a range of compound shapes.

To help your child at home, you could spend time practising times tables and developing their mental calculation skills when doing things such as shopping.

Every Friday, we will be practising our arithmetic skills with an arithmetic paper. We will then recap questions on the paper to embed our key calculation knowledge.



Art

In our Art sessions, pupils will be learning about William Morris and Joseph Wright, looking in detail at their style of paintings. We will be refining our abilities to sketch and think about proportions. As a Victorian artist, we will examine how these artworks are different to modern artists. Watch out for some super art of our own in a Victorian style!



Science

As scientists, we will be looking at electricity and light. We will investigate how we see and how light travels. We will be completing a range of experiments that will illuminate new scientific knowledge. Furthermore, we will be investigating electricity and circuits, including looking at what components make up an electrical circuit and how changing these components can alter the circuit's effectiveness. Don't get left in the dark!



P.S.H.E.

For P.S.H.E. this half-term, we will be becoming entrepreneurs. We are going to discuss what an enterprise is and have a go at pitching our own business ideas.

Shared home learning:

Please encourage your child to read for 20 minutes, as a minimum, every day. This should be logged in their reading journal on a daily basis. Our vocabulary and spellings that we will be practising and looking at over the half-term will be shared via Seesaw over the coming weeks and these can be discussed, practised and looked at whilst at home. It is always great to ask your child the definitions of the words and see if they can put them into a sentence! Maths. and English homework will be set on a weekly basis. The answers for this will be shared with the children in class and raffle tickets and rewards may be given for these by the teachers. A topic project will be set in the coming weeks on Seesaw - this one can let your creativity take hold! If your child is having any issues accessing Seesaw, please speak to your child's class teacher as soon as possible. **Spellings will be assessed in class throughout the week based on the words that come up in English and Topic lessons.**

Important Dates:

w/c 28th October—Black History Week
Monday 4th November—Wonder Afternoon
w/c 4th November—Maths. Investigation Week
w/c 11th November—Anti-bullying Week

12th and 14th November—Parent's and Carer's Evening
Friday 15th November —Children in Need
w/c 18th November—D&T week
28th November—R.E. Day

29th November—INSET Day
Friday 20th December—School closes for the Christmas break