

Year 6 Curriculum Letter - Autumn 1 - 2019

Our theme for Autumn One 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:
5 weeks.

French

- What are your favourite subjects at school?
- Explaining why you like them
- Using the correct nouns and verbs

Philosophy for Children (P.4.C.)

We will be discussing:

- How do children around the world live?
- 'Poverty' - what does this mean?
- Is it ever OK to steal?



Behaviour and Safety

This half-term we will be looking at democracy and the rule of law. We will do this by looking at the RESPECT programme and discussing how democracy is important to our British Values.

Computing

Have you ever wanted to build your own game? Well, to build upon what the children learnt about coding in Year 5, we will be using Scratch to create an exciting story - this will be linked in with our topic by including our knowledge of the Victorians!

P.E.

This term P.E. will focus on flag football. We will learn this exciting new sport and refine our passing and catching skills. These sessions will be mostly outside (weather permitting) so please ensure your child has trainers and appropriate outdoor clothes.

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



English:

In English, we will be starting our first novel study unit, reading the book 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. As we read through the book, 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 using a range of skills to write pieces such as:

- diary entries which show how Jim reacts to the harrowing experiences he has
- newspaper articles about key events in the novel
- descriptions of the dark and dismal places Jim finds himself in
- chapter, character and theme summaries that use evidence from the text

R.E.

We will be looking at differing religious viewpoints on key issues. We will also be thinking about what different religions teach us.

History

As historians, we will be investigating how children lived in the Victorian period. We will explore key people, such as Doctor Barnardo, and vital events, such as the Industrial Revolution. Another exciting element to look forward to will be our Victorian Day where we will spend the day as Victorians!



Geography

During Geography lessons, we will be learning how to identify topographical features on maps. We will investigate how the country changed during the Industrial Revolution and how transport links, including roads and railways, shaped the country.

Music

Pupils will use the contemporary piece Connect It by Anna Meredith as a stimulus to create their body percussion piece. They will learn about canon and polymetre, as well as how the body works in a musical context and how imitation and repetition are fundamental to music.

Shared home learning:

Please spend 20 minutes, as a minimum, reading with your child everyday and asking questions about what they read to test their comprehension of the book. This half-term's homework is 'We are Nature Lovers!' and is due in on Thursday 10th October. Spellings are set every Friday and assessed the following Friday. Before new spellings are given out, we complete a pre-test to help us assess children's learning in that spelling pattern. It is very important that pupils learn their spellings as it helps them with their writing and it is also an area which is assessed at the end of the year.

Important Date

9th September—Victorian Day
10th September—Parent Meeting
19th September—6SG Family Assembly
10th October—6CU Family Assembly

Mathematics

This half term, we will begin by focusing on number skills in class sets. We will be focusing on consolidating our arithmetic skills and extending this knowledge to reasoning. This will be done through two-weekly units.



Our first units will be:

- Pattern sniffing - exploring sequences by looking at rules, missing terms and applying our knowledge to problems, as well as identifying factors, multiples and primes
- Investigating number systems - consolidating our understanding of the place value of numbers by reading, writing, ordering and comparing them; calculating with negative numbers; and rounding a range of numbers to different levels of accuracy
- Solving calculation problems - using written methods to add, subtract, multiply and divide; apply these methods to problems involving all four calculation methods; and use simple formulae when calculating

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

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 his artwork is 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!

