



## YEAR 6 BLOG

### November-December 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope that you had a good half term holiday. Our learning question for the Autumn Term is: '**How accurately is the Victorian era depicted through literature?**' and this question will continue to be the starting point for many different subjects this half term.

#### English

Linked to our topic, in English, the children will be writing biographies, historical narratives, a persuasive letter and ghost stories, all linked to our class books, *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty and *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens.

For an additional task, why not write a poem that features a ghost in the workhouse or an adventure story about an element of the Victorian era (it could be based in the mines, a mill/factory, the workhouse or a manor house).

#### Maths

This half term children will continue to develop their understanding of the four operations, including long division and long multiplication, fractions, decimals and percentages, geometry, algebra and ratio, whilst also developing their problem solving skills. They will also sit a 'mock' set of SATs tests.

For an additional task, why not devise a selection of worded or reasoning problems for other children in Year 6 to complete.

#### History, Geography & Science

This term, Year 6 are reading 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty which tells the story of a young boy experiencing the hardships of living in Victorian times. This book will give the children an insight into the living and working conditions of the era as well as providing an exciting stimulus for their writing across a range of genres. The children will gain a sound understanding of this topic by researching key facts, events and significant individuals who have helped shape history. In geography, they will be learning about the rise and fall of the British Empire and economic activity including trade links. In science, the pupils will be looking at evolution and inheritance and will gain an understanding that living things produce offspring of the same kind but with some variation. In addition, they will also be comparing electricity from the past and present and researching how the use of electricity has changed since its invention.



For an extension to our learning at school for **history**, why not research an element from the Victorian era and write a comparison to today, for example, it could be modes of transport or how we celebrate birthdays or Christmas, hobbies and pastimes, etc; in **geography**, children could create a trade map of what and where produce was imported from in the Victorian era compared to today or imagine they are in the Victorian era and living in one of the countries in the Empire. What was life like living abroad? Write a diary entry to explain about the climate, food, school, transport, homelife, etc or create a piece of artwork depicting life in one of the countries of the Empire; in science, why not research Charles Darwin - how is his life significant to evolution and

inheritance? Could you create a piece of artwork depicting the evolution of ape to man or maybe why not invent a new method of creating electricity? How can we keep generating 'clean' electricity in our ever-changing world?

### Computing

In computing, Year 6 will be learning how to create their own app. They will also develop their research skills using different search engines and combine data from different sources to create presentations and slide shows. To extend their learning from our topic, children could write a description of a new app that they could create which could help other children in Year 6 develop their understanding about Victorian life.

### PE

This year, the professional sports company, 'Starsports', will teach PE. The two units for the autumn term are Games and Dance. Please remember that children should wear their PE kit to school on their PE days (**ELM**: Monday & Wednesday; **OAK**: Tuesday & Thursday) and earrings should be removed. To extend their learning at home, why not devise a new game or dance that you could teach to the rest of your class?

### PSHE and RE

In PSHE, we will be learning about 'Working Together' and 'Managing Risk'. In RE we will be discussing Christian and Humanist values and debating moral concepts such as fairness and honesty. Is it always fair to be honest? Write a discussion text on the question.

### Art and DT

During the term, Year 6 will be looking at paintings from the Pre-Raphaelite period, as well as studying the work of William Morris and Claude Monet. In DT, the children will be designing and creating a traditional puppet theatre. What themes might have been used for a puppet theatre in the Victorian era? Why not create your own script for a puppet theatre?

### Music

In music, Year 6 have been learning songs from the Music Halls. Why did people attend the Music Halls and what was the benefit? Why not research this question, then write your own Music Hall song.

### French

In our French lessons, we will continue to extend our vocabulary and develop our understanding of French grammar, looking in particular at the rules for writing adjectives. Can you write a poem in French?

### Homework

English (written, spelling and grammar) and Maths homework is set weekly on a **Friday** and is due in on the following **Thursday**. Children will be set spelling and times tables homework on a Friday and they will be tested the following Friday. Spelling and times tables are a huge part of the New Curriculum so please help your child/children practise these **daily**. Two maths tasks will be uploaded each Friday to MyMaths all other tasks will be on Purple Mash. Children will be expected to complete all tasks in preparation for an increased amount of homework at secondary school next year. Children should also read to an adult every day and this needs to be written **daily** in their reading record with meaningful comments. Please ask your child questions as they read to you to

improve their comprehension. Books will continue to be uploaded to Bug Club, along with grammar activities. All activities (including spelling words) will be uploaded to either Purple Mash, My Maths, TT Rock Stars or Bug Club. If you can't access any of these, please let us know.

As we are currently unable to talk to parents at the classroom door, if you have any questions or queries about your child's learning or anything that you need to inform us about, please email us using the class emails which will be checked daily.

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Thank you

Mrs Atkinson and Mrs Bishop