

Year 5 Lent 1 Newsletter

Welcome back, Year Five! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and a well-deserved break and are ready for all of the exciting learning experiences that are planned for this half term!

English

This half term as writers, we will be using *Street Child* and *Oliver Twist* as our book focuses.



Diary

Our book focus for this half term is *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty. We will focus on the main character, Jim, and his experience of becoming an orphan and living in the workhouse. We will explore what the workhouses were like for children during this era and use hot seating to enable us to get in role as Jim and write a diary entry retelling the events and the challenges he had to overcome during the Victorian Era. We will focus on using lots of emotive language, adverbials of time and descriptive language.

Non-chronological report

As education was made compulsory for all children during the Victoria era, we will focus our writing around Victorian schools and the way in which children behaved and the types of punishments they faced for their insolence! We will be focusing on using devices to structure our writing (sub-headings and bullet points), modal verbs, parenthesis, relative clauses and causal conjunctions.

Biography

As Queen Victoria reigned during the Victorian period and was a significant figure during this time, we will research her and her life and write a biography focusing on the relevant features: using third person pronouns, passive voice, repetition, adverbials and structural devices to organise the text.

Poetry

We will use the *Spider and the Fly* clip from *Alice in Wonderland* to create poetry. We will focus on poetic devices such as: figurative language, imagery, repetition and rhyme.

Maths

In Maths, this half term we will be embedding White Rose Maths. As mathematicians, we will be focusing on:

- Multiplication and Division
- Fractions (adding, subtracting and multiplying)
- Decimals and percentages

We will be exploring the relationships between fractions, decimals and percentages. We will add and subtract fractions and understand and apply a range of mathematical terminology, such as improper fractions and proper fractions. We will also learn how to add and subtract mixed number fractions and fractions with unlike denominators. We will use our multiplication knowledge to multiply fractions. As mathematicians, we will also be focusing on our mathematical vocabulary and our reasoning skills.

R.E

Our focus for RE this half term will be Mission. The experience of community is an essential and enjoyable part of life for people of every age and faith. The cycle of a year and the span of a lifetime contain occasions for regular celebrations as well as unexpected surprises, when people want to celebrate with family, friends and communities. The Church's celebrations are community occasions. On Sundays, the parish family gathers together. It is a time to remember how much there is to celebrate; a time to say thank you; a time to know that God's love is offered and made visible here and now in Jesus and in people. Sacraments are more formal special moments: signs of 'God-with-us', who journeys with his people; signs of strength and blessing for life. The whole liturgical life of the Church revolves around the Eucharistic sacrifice and the Sacraments. We will focus on the seven Sacraments in the Church: Baptism, Confirmation (or Chrismation), Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders and Matrimony.



Come and See

History

Please Sir, Can I Have Some More?

Our topic this term will focus on the Revolution in the Victorian era.

Throughout this topic, we will have a keen history focus looking at great minds and ingenious inventors, who created so many things we take for granted today: the electric light bulb, the telephone and even the first flushing loo!

Here is an outline of our learning for this half term:

In **week one, as historians**, we will be researching what happened during the Victorian era. We will place events and periods on a timeline, using key periods as reference points. Researching the culture, leisure activities and way of life of people from the past will also be a key focus.

In **week two, as historians**, we will be finding out about super-strict schools by travelling back in time to a Victorian classroom and how teaching and learning has changed over the years. Make sure you're on your best behaviour though as punishments are unquestionably terrible!

Then, in **week three, as historians**, we will look at how Queen Victoria had a profound effect on the culture and life of the nineteenth century. By the end of Victoria's reign, the British Empire extended over about one-fifth of the earth's surface and almost a quarter of the world's population at least theoretically owed allegiance to the 'queen empress'.

In **week four, as historians**, we will look at which famous inventions came from Victorian Britain. We will look at which inventions we still used today and how some of these inventions have changed and evolved to meet the demands of the 21st Century. How many Victorian inventions do you know of?

In **week five, as historians**, we will learn about the workhouses during the Victorian Era and how safe it was to work during this period.

In **week six, as historians**, we will learn about the Industrial Revolution and how it changed Britain.

Next half term, **as geographers**, we will be looking at mountains. Have you ever climbed a mountain before?

Science

How different will you be when you're 70?

This half term, our topic is animals including humans. As part of this unit, we will be looking at the different stages of development, looking at how babies grow and develop, the importance of staying fit and healthy and looking after our bodies, changes that occur during puberty and the relationship between expectancy and gestational periods.

Guided Reading

Our Guided Reading text for this half term is *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty. As readers, we will be reading this text as a class and answering a range of different questions relating to this text. We will be paying particular attention to retrieval questions and considering the authors choice to support our understanding of the text.

When his mother dies, Jim Jarvis is left all alone in London. He is sent to the workhouse but quickly escapes, choosing a hard life on the streets of the city over the confines of the workhouse walls. Struggling to survive, Jim finally finds some friends...only to be snatched away and made to work for the remorselessly cruel Grimy Nick, constantly guarded by his vicious dog, Snipe. Will Jim ever manage to be free?



How can you help?

Weekly Homework

- Maths and English homework will be set weekly on Century. Homework will be set on a Friday and will need to be completed by the following Friday. If you have any trouble accessing Century or would prefer a paper copy, please come and see me and I can arrange this for you.
- Every week your child will receive spellings. The spelling test will take place on a Friday morning. Please practise these spellings with your child at home!
- Spelling Shed – please ensure your child is accessing this regularly at home, there are certificates and rewards for children who access this! If your child has misplaced their login, please let me know.
- TT Rockstars – please ensure your child is accessing this regularly at home too, it is extremely important that they regularly practice and apply their multiplication and division knowledge.
- Remember to read every night with your child and sign their diary too!

Thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions about your child's learning or progress, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Miss Beach