



# Class 5 Lent 1 Newsletter

Welcome back, Class Five! I hope you had a wonderful, well-deserved break and are ready for all the exciting learning experiences that are planned for this half term! We have some exciting trips planned to Jodrell Bank and Young Voices!

## English

This half term as writers, we will be using Space and Arctic explorers as the theme of our writing. We will be focusing on:



### 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.

## 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

Branch Two – Galilee to Jerusalem. In this unit we Use developing specialist vocabulary to show how the Ten Commandments help human beings live good and happy lives, making links with Jesus' teaching. Explain how virtue teaching, the Ten Commandments and Jesus' teaching help people live a good life. Know that prayers can be petitions or meditative, making links with Catholic prayers, for example, the Rosary and Our Father. Explain the significance of Moses and Elijah at the Transfiguration.



## 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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?

## Space

Our Science topic this half term is all about Space. We will be looking at the different planets. First, we will look at how we know the Sun, Earth and Moon are spherical. We will then look at the planets and features in our Solar System. After that, we will look at how the planets move in relation to the sun and finally, we will look at the different moon phases.

## 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. Homework will be set on a Friday and will need to be completed by the following Friday.
- 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.
- Sumdog – I regularly post competitions, challenges and work based on what we have been learning in class.
- 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**