

YEAR 5

The Victorians and 'Sewn Together'

Driving questions: How could we prove that Queen Victoria's reign positively impacted the nation? How can we design, market and create appealing Christmas decorations?

The Victorians

We are excited to start the term by looking at the Victorian era, which will link to our trip to the Black Country Museum at the beginning of the term. The children will find out about Queen Victoria, the impact of the Industrial Revolution on the lives of people living at that time. We are looking forward to finding out about the impact that the Victorians have had on our lives today, including: transport; factories and work; schooling; and the life of a child. Find out more about the Victorians at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/ks2-the-victorians/z48bnrd>

Literacy

Our writing focus this term will be metaphor poetry. Metaphors are a fantastic way of using language to convey an image. The children will innovate the text to create their own metaphor poem. Towards Christmas, we will enjoy the picture book *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg and will complete a range of reading and writing activities based on this book.

To support your child's reading, please continue to listen to your child read aloud, asking them questions to develop their comprehension skills.

BBC Bitesize Crystal Explorers is an excellent game to practise spelling and grammar. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zbm8scw>

Maths

This term, we will continue to develop the important number skills required to solve problems efficiently in a range of other maths concepts. We will continue to practise addition and subtraction of more significant numbers and then focus on multiplication and division, moving on to fractions later in the term. Times tables and mental arithmetic strategies will also be a clear focus.

At home: Please continue to practise times tables using the Times Table Rock Stars website and games that will provide fluency practise. We would highly recommend BBC bitesize Guardians; Defenders of Mathematica. <https://trockstars.com/>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zn2y7nb>
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>
<https://www.timestables.co.uk/games/>

Physical Education

PE lessons will be on Mondays and Fridays this term, however, please ensure that your child has a PE kit in school every day, including joggers and a sweatshirt now that it is colder. For your child's safety, earrings must be removed before any PE lesson, and hair must be tied up.

This term, children will enjoy weekly netball sessions and learn skills and tactics for attacking, defending, and ball control. We also have the Youth Activators who will be with Year 5 weekly on Monday mornings to build their PE and multi-skills.

Science

The children will look at forces linked to the transport of the Victorians. This will include friction, thrust and gravity. They will conduct some simple and exciting experiments.

Art and design

This term will have a big focus on skills for sewing. The children will be making their own Christmas decorations, considering the fabric, style and weight as well as ways of pinning and stitching the items together. In addition, they will create a mini project to market their products. We have provided an opportunity to practise sewing at home over the holiday to develop their skills and confidence.

Additional useful websites:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/multiplication-and-division>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

REMINDERS AND DATES

Monday 3rd November – Start of Term 2

Tuesday 4th November- Parents' Evening

Wednesday 5th November - Trip to the Black Country Living Museum

Thursday 6th November - Parents' Evening

Friday 21st November – PTFA Disco

Friday 28th November – INSET day

Tuesday 9th December- Christmas Carols at the Local Church

Friday 19th December – Last Day of Term 2, whole school finishes at 1.30pm

Monday 5th January - INSET

Tuesday 6th January – Term 3 Starts

This term, we will be focusing on metaphor poetry and learning:

Taking one idea for a walk

Glass eyes glare
in the morning sun
across city lawns,
watching traffic snarl
on the High Street,
and neat flower beds
where tulips bloom
and old folks sit,
feeding pigeons.

Glass eyes stare
at shop windows,
at cats sneaking
a peek into dustbins,
at dogs fast asleep
in back yards,
at the distant hills
and clouds flowering
the so blue sky.

Glass eyes gaze
at the weary maze
of the city at dusk;
peering down
at the blossom
of streetlights.

Glass eyes
shut tight,
as nights
steals day
light.