



Autumn term 2023 (2nd half)

Owl class



## "Victorians"

Our History based topic about Victorians will really kick off next week when the children will dress up as Victorian children for our Victorian school day on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November**. The day will give the children an insight in to what school would have been like during the Victorian era. As the term progresses, the children will discover what it was like to grow up in Victorian times and find out about some Victorian social reformers, about the Industrial revolution and how this period in history, was such a great age of change and development. The children will be encouraged to ask key historical questions and to present relevant answers that can be supported with evidence. Our trip to the Weald and Downland museum on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November** will allow the children to dress up again and to take part in two workshops - one about Victorian household chores and the other about Victorian cooking. *Please do ask if you are unsure about what your child could wear!*

In English, our main genres will be diary writing and playscripts. We will read an abridged version of *Oliver Twist*, listen to a radio play version, and as our finale at the end of term, watch "Oliver!" the musical. The children will make use of information they have learned about life as a child, to write either personal diary entries or a playscript, once again making choices for themselves. We will read some biographical accounts of some important historical Victorian figures, and will also have spent some time finding out about Berlie Doherty, our author this half term. Two of her books "Blue John" and "Street Child" will form a key part of our work this half term. We will continue with our Guided Reading sessions each week, but we would really like the children to build up their personal reading so that they read at least five times a week, recording this in their Reading Log. By talking about what they have read with an adult at home, they will improve their inference and explanation skills, two of the focused reading skills. Retrieving information from the text, summarizing and making predictions are three other important reading skills.

Mathematics with Mrs Martin will continue to develop work with the four operations in calculations, in particular multiplication and division, and the emphasis is very much on developing greater understanding in order to make use of the mathematics in a wide range of situations. The children will make use of standard written methods, and the end goal is that they can make use of these methods confidently when solving problems. Working on times tables is very important as the knowledge of times tables creeps into so much of our Mathematics. Please make sure your children practice their times tables at home. In Mr Rogers' lessons, the children will be continue to learn about angles, but looking at angles within triangles, quadrilaterals and other polygons. The children will also learn to draw shapes accurately, as well as learning how 3D shapes are represented through nets. We will then move onto looking at Position and Direction where our focus will be on reading and plotting coordinates, lines of symmetry and reflection and translation of shapes.

Science, this half term, will focus on electricity tying well into the inventions and discoveries made during the Victorian era. The children will learn about circuits and the symbols of different components used in electrical circuits as well as how to accurately draw representations of these. They will also investigate how changes to components, voltages and resistance can affect the flow of electricity around circuits.

This half term, PE will continue to take place on Thursday and Friday afternoons with Mr Rogers. One of our sessions will continue to develop the invasion games skills learnt last term but through Netball. As the weather becomes colder, please do make sure that the children have jogging bottoms so that

they keep a little warmer! Our other session will be indoor and will focus on the target game Boccia, which is a fantastically fun, tactical and skilful inclusivity sport.

The theme for RE is Revelation in Islam. The children will learn about how the Qu'ran helps Muslims understand Allah and his guidance. In Music, we shall continue to look at Rock Music adding instrumental and improvisational parts to 'Livin' on a Prayer', before starting to look at Christmas singing and songs for our Nativity.

During our PSHE lessons, we will be looking at the theme 'Celebrating Difference' which fits in well this half term with Anti-bullying week, which takes place nationally, the week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> November. We look at differences - which very much builds on last term's topic, racism, bullying and comparing ourselves with others in the developing world.

In Art, the children will study the work of William Morris, a key Victorian arts and crafts designer and our work will then be shared with you, hopefully at the end of school on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December** as the finale to our Innovate week.

This half term, Mrs Dommett will teach Computing on a Wednesday afternoon, while Mrs Martin and Mr Rogers share their PPA. The theme is Computing Systems and Networks - Communication and Collaboration. This unit builds on the previous unit that Mrs Pendle taught the children before half term. In this unit the children will explore how data is transferred over the internet. They then look at how the internet facilitates online communication and collaboration; they complete shared projects online and evaluate different methods of communication. Finally, they learn how to communicate responsibly by considering what should and should not be shared on the internet. This sounds like a valuable topic.

With preparations afoot for Christmas and our productions on **Wednesday 13th December**, it is sure to be a very busy seven weeks!