

SPRING TERM 2020 YEAR 2

THE VICTORIANS



Dear Parents,

Welcome back. We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Thank you all again for the very generous Christmas gifts and cards.

English/History

Our topic for the term is The Victorians. We will be focusing on life for children during Victorian times., During our topic lessons we will be writing letters, information texts, poems, comparisons and stories. Our trip to Reading Museum, to experience life in a Victorian schoolroom, will provide an additional stimulus for writing. After half term we will also be learning about Florence Nightingale. You can find a copy of our English plan and History knowledge organiser on the class webpage which give more information about what the children will be learning.

In all writing, we will be continuing to focus on using full stops and capital letters correctly in every sentence, as well as remembering capital letters for proper nouns and question marks at the end of questions. We will be expecting the children to present their work consistently neatly and to continue to focus on their handwriting.

Reading

The children will continue to participate in guided reading sessions each week. As the term goes on there will be an increased focus on the children reading independently and answering questions about what they have read.

Phonics/spelling

The children will continue to have discrete spelling and phonics sessions in class. We are still focussing on common exception words and would really appreciate it if you could help your child practise spelling these words at home, particularly when they are completing homework tasks.

Maths

In Maths we will still be using apparatus to learn in a practical way. We will, however, be encouraging the children to show their working out using pictorial representations, drawing sticks of tens and dots for ones, for example, or drawing arrays to work out multiplications.

The objectives we will be covering this term involve multiplication and division facts and calculations, solving problems involving $\times$ and $\div$, recognising and writing fractions and identifying 2D and 3D shapes. For more detail please see the maths plan on the website.

The following maths objectives will be covered during our **ICT** lessons

- Interpret and construct simple pictograms, tally charts, block diagrams and simple tables.
- Ask answer simple questions by counting the number of objects in each category and sorting the categories by quantity.
- Ask and answer questions about totalling and comparing categorical data

ICT

In ICT we will be learning about email. We will be finding the @ symbol on the keyboard, recognising an email address, contributing to a class email, opening and replying to an email as a class. As part of our topic work we will also be navigating websites to find out about the Victorians.

Science

In the first half of the term our science topic is 'Animals including humans'. We will find out about animals and their offspring and we will learn about how different animals, including humans, grow and change. The children will find out all about the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food, air) and understand the different ways in which we can be healthy and will take part in a carousel of different physical activities, thinking about the effects of exercise on their bodies.

In the second half of the term our science work will involve learning about plants. We will be finding out how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants. We will also find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy. We aim to use the local environment to observe how different plants grow. The children will also be introduced to the requirements of plants for germination, growth and survival, as well as to the processes of reproduction and growth in plants. We will be planting some seeds and bulbs of our own and the children will observe and record the growth of their plants as they change over time from a seed or bulb. We will also be setting up a comparative test to show that plants need light and water to stay healthy.

Music

We will be listening to and comparing the works of Victorian composers including Edward Elgar, Gustav Holst and Ralph Vaughan Williams.

Art

In our art lessons we will be looking at the work of Victorian designer/artist, William Morris, recreating his designs and creating our own work inspired by his.

P.E

Our P.E lessons will be on Wednesdays and Thursdays but please make sure your child has their P.E kit in school all week, just in case! PE sessions may take place outside so your child will require dark coloured tracksuit bottoms/leggings and plimsolls or trainers.

If you are able to spare any time, we are always very grateful for any parent help in the classroom so please do let us know. Finally, if you would like to discuss anything concerning your child please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see us.

The Class 2 Team