

Courtney Primary - Topic Sheet- Why was life difficult for some Victorian children?

Term 1 - Year 5 - Mr Jones

What is this topic sheet for?

This sheet shows you the topics your child is covering this term and gives you ideas and ways you can help your child at home. The library is always a good starting point and the internet has many great sites. If you visit www.courtneyprimaryschool.co.uk and click on the 'Links' section, you will find useful websites listed there.

English



Throughout the year, there will be a large emphasis placed on punctuation and grammar, and, to start the year off, your child will be focusing on basic sentence structure and parts of speech (nouns, adjectives etc). Furthermore, they will be developing some key writing skills, which they can use to improve the descriptive qualities of their writing.

Our class text, which we shall read as a class, is called Cogheart, written by Peter Bunzl, This links nicely with our topic focus – Victorian childhood. We shall be reading this text and using it as a stimulus for our independent writing tasks. Hopefully, children will immerse themselves in the storyline and, as a result, be more engaged and motivated with their writing.

The main outcomes of our writing will be based around the use of vocabulary and how, as a writer, we can enhance imagery by using figurative language: similes, metaphors and personification.

Maths



Initially, Year 5 will be focusing on numbers and calculation. Your child will be developing their understanding of place value and the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) whilst consolidating their use of written methods to calculate.

Children find apply their mathematical skills to real life contexts extremely challenge. Therefore, we shall be doing a lot of work of word problems, and this will be reflected in the homework your child receives.

Throughout the year, there will be a large focus on times table facts, and children will have a weekly opportunity to gain their multiplication badges. I hope that you will encourage your child to practise these outside of school. I will also be helping the children understand how to use these known facts to work out more complex calculations.

History

'A place in history' is how we will begin our over-arching topic: The Victorians. We will look at chronology, finding out how long ago Queen Victoria reigned.

Through biographical texts in literacy, photographs, paintings, artefacts, newspaper extracts, etc. we will be learning about life in Victorian Britain. We will discuss the value and uses of primary and secondary evidence. There will also be a trip to visit Sevington Victorian school to experience what it was like to be a child then.

We then focus on contrasting different social classes and the treatment the children received.



French and Music

Our wonderful music teacher, Mrs Castle, will take the class for music, every Thursday

Within French, we shall be developing and consolidating the children's French vocabulary in regards to the days and months of the year as well as numbers. These sessions will be focusing on reading/speaking French.

Computing



At the start of the year, we like to ensure that our children are fully aware of the potential hazards that can arise from using the internet. Therefore, this term's focus will be on e-safety.

We shall be discussing the potential dangers; how these dangers occur and what we can do to ensure that we are using the internet in a safe and careful manner to avoid. If your child uses the internet, please ensure that you are monitoring their activity.



RE

During our RE lessons, children will be thinking about what inspires and guides them in their lives.

Also, we will be looking at how people with Christian faith were, and still are, guided by The Ten Commandments and create commandments for our Classroom.



Art

We are starting off the year with our drawing unit. Using a Victorian child as our stimulus, we shall focus on how artists use proportion techniques to create perfect portraits.

Sevington Victorian school

On Friday 23rd September, Sycamore will be going to Sevington Victorian school.

Children will be immersed into life for those who were able to go to school: lessons, play/ toys and treatment.

Another letter will be coming home prior to the trip.

PE



Every Thursday afternoon, the children will have a PE session with Mr Smith, our sports coach. He will cover a range of skills throughout the year.

I will also be taking the children for an addition PE session throughout the week. This will be on a Wednesday afternoon. The focus for this term is developing our social skills during games, this will come in the form of handball.

It would be much appreciated if you could ensure that your child can remove their own earrings and, if needed, have a hair bobble or clips to keep their hair away from their face. Furthermore, please try to ensure that your child has the correct kit and that they remember to bring it in.