

YEAR 6 BLOG – Autumn Term 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our learning question for the autumn term is: **'How accurately is the Victorian era depicted through literature?'** and this question will continue to be the starting point for many different subjects this term.



English

In English, the children will be writing narratives, non-chronological reports, poems and persuasive letters all linked to the books, *The Journey*, *On the Origin of Species* and *Moth*. Linked to our learning question, the class will also read *Street Child* and *A Christmas Carol*.

Challenges: * Write an adventure story about a child who runs away from the workhouse.
* Write a poem about Victorian Christmas.

Maths

In Maths, children will be developing their understanding of place value, the four operations, including long division and long multiplication, fractions, decimals and percentages whilst also developing their problem-solving skills. They will also sit a 'mock' set of SATs tests.

Challenges: * Devise a selection of worded or reasoning problems for other Year 6 children to complete.
* Devise a quiz, where each answer is a letter that spells out a 3D shape.

History and Geography

This term, Year 6 are reading 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty which tells the story of a young boy experiencing the hardships of living in Victorian times. This book will give the children an insight into the living and working conditions of the era. The children will gain a sound understanding of the Victorian era by researching key facts, events, significant individuals and inventions that have helped shape history. In Geography they will be learning about the United Kingdom, capital cities, physical features of the UK and how power is generated.

Challenges: * Write a comparison of what Christmas was like in the Victorian era to the traditions we have today.
* Create a trade map of where produce was imported from in the Victorian era.

Science

In Science, we will be looking at electricity: who invented it, Victorian electrical inventions and electrical circuits and comparing how the use of electricity has changed since its invention. Following this, we will study evolution and inheritance, linking in with a book we will read in English called *On the Origin of Species* by Charles Darwin.



Challenges: * Write about an electrical invention from the Victorian era and how it has changed today.
* Create a piece of artwork depicting electrical appliances 'old and new'.

Computing

In Computing, children will be learning about safe online communication: how to use search engines, recognising web crawlers and effective ways of communicating over the internet. They will also use a computer to create and manipulate three-dimensional (3D) digital objects and compare working digitally with 2D and 3D graphics.

Challenges: * Use Minecraft to create a 3D puppet theatre.

PE

Elm and **Oak** PE lessons are every **Thursday**. Earrings should be removed for P.E. so please remove them before your child comes to school, provide them with tape, or ensure they can remove them on their own. They will not be able to take part in PE with earrings in, nor can we provide tape due to allergies. This includes studded earrings. Please also ensure your child has a refillable water bottle and suitable shoes – trainers as one lesson each week will take place outside.

- Challenges: *
- Make up your own dance routine taking inspiration from another country.*
 - * *Begin jogging or taking part in daily yoga sessions. Try it for a month and see how it affects your wellbeing and concentration in school!*

Art and Design and Design Technology

This half term, we will be focusing on Art and Design and studying the work of William Morris. Children will learn about his design techniques for textiles and create their own fabric and wallpaper print. The second half of the term we term, we focus on DT and learning about puppet theatres. Children will have the opportunity to design and create their own puppets. We will also try our hand at decoupage.



- Challenges: *
- When you are out and about, can you identify any other art that is similar to William Morris. What exactly was similar or different?*
 - * *Write a short play that could be used for our puppet theatre?*

Music

Our Music unit is World Unite and Journeys. Children will have opportunities to listen to a variety of music and create their own themed pieces using a variety of percussion instruments, glockenspiels and their voice using different rhythms and rhythmic patterns. Children will also be learning to sing in 3-part harmony and naturally we will spend time preparing for Christmas.

- Challenges: *
- Why did people attend the Music Halls and what was the benefit? Why not research this question, then write your own Music Hall song.*
 - * *Create a dance track using a variety of different rhythms.*

Personal Social Health and Economic (PSHE) Education and Religious Education (RE)

In PSHE our topic are called Being me in my world and Celebrating Difference. We will be focusing on our rights and responsibilities, goals and fears and how democracy and having a voice benefits school. In RE we will be discussing Christian and Humanist values and debating moral concepts such as fairness and honesty.

- Challenges: *
- Write a journal and each day, make sure you think about rights and responsibilities, goals and fears and discuss your thoughts and feelings. It may help you de-stress and relax before going to sleep.*
 - * *Write your own bible passage that could be used in church to deliver a message to the followers of that religion. What will the moral of the story be?*

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

In our French lessons, we will continue to extend our vocabulary and develop our understanding of French grammar, looking in particular at the rules for writing adjectives.

- Challenges: *
- How much can you write in French? Can you write a conversation between two people and get someone in your family to role play it with you?*
 - * *Design a poster to display the rules of how to use adjectives in French? What are the similarities and differences to English?*

Homework

English (spelling and written/grammar) and Maths homework is set weekly on a **Friday** and is due in on the following **Thursday morning**. Children will be times tables homework on a Friday that they should also complete regularly. Times tables are a huge part of speed and fluency in Maths lessons so please encourage your child to complete these.

Children should also try to read to an adult every day and this needs to be written **daily** in their reading record with meaningful comments. Please ask your child questions as they read to you to improve their comprehension. Books will continue to be uploaded to Bug Club if you would prefer this method of reading. Please speak to your child's class teacher.

All activities are accessible via your child's Wonde account. If you cannot access any of these, please email: ict@bonnygateprimary.co.uk

If you have any queries, the preferred form of communication is still by class email.

elmyear6@bonnygateprimary.co.uk – Mrs Zalfani
oakyear6@bonnygateprimary.co.uk – Miss Brewster

With best wishes,

Mrs Zalfani and Miss Brewster