



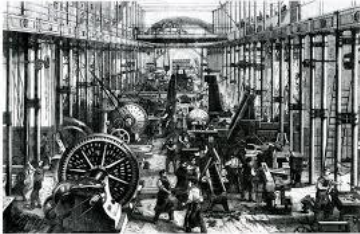
Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that you have all enjoyed a very relaxing and peaceful break over the summer and that the children are returning to school feeling refreshed and revitalised ready for the year ahead!



The topics that we will be looking at this term are as follows:

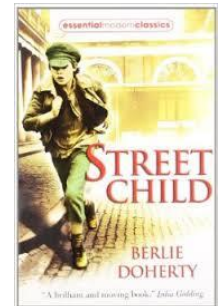
### History – 19<sup>th</sup> Century Industrial Britain.



In the first half term, the children will be learning about what Britain was like during the period known as the Industrial Revolution. They will be learning about the reign of Queen Victoria; how the industrial age changed the lives of working people; and the impact of reformers who worked to improve the lives of children at this time. We will use census information to research real people who lived during this period of time and will explore the some of the new inventions and developments which transformed our lives.

### Literacy

Linked to our History topic, this half term the children will be reading *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty. All of the work we do over the half term will link to this text which explores the life of a Victorian street child and how his life led to the birth of an organisation that is still in existence today! We will also read extracts from Queen Victoria's own diary in order to find out more about life in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. As the term progresses we will look at other historical novels, written by authors of the time for example C.S Lewis and Charles Dickens.



### Maths

The Maths curriculum for the autumn term in year 5 and 6 will focus on the area of Number: Beginning with developing a deep understanding of Place Value, decimal numbers and negative numbers; moving on to develop our use of calculations across the four operations before focusing on fractions. The children will work on increasing and reinforcing their fluency of basic skills, including number bonds and multiplication and division facts. There will also continue to be a focus on developing pupils' reasoning skills in order that they are able to engage in solving more open-ended mathematical problems.



### RE

We begin the term by looking at the topic of Loving, then move on to thinking about Life Choices and finally Expectations during the season of Advent. There will be a WOW day in October focusing on an aspect of Catholic Social Teaching, there will also be a world faiths week during the term in which the children will have a focus on Judaism.

### PE

Mr Karia will continue to work with each of the year 5 and 6 classes this year delivering lessons on a wide range of sports and activities to increase the fitness and skill level of the children. We would ask that the correct PE kit be worn for lessons and that this kit remains in school until the half term holidays. Please ensure that each item of kit is clearly labelled as we frequently have kit that is found with no means of identifying an owner!



### Science

We start the term studying electricity, learning about how electricity was discovered and how it affects our everyday lives. The children will learn about components and circuits and will work practically to solve problems and carry out investigations. We will then move on to micro-organisms focusing on how bacteria can be both harmful and helpful and how we have learnt to control it.

## Computing

The children will work on programming using programs such as Scratch to create games. They will use computers throughout the term to support their learning across the curriculum, including carrying out research online and using programs to present their ideas in a variety of ways. There will be input on e-safety during the first half term during which the children will explore some of the problems associated with sharing information and interacting with others online.

## Art

This term we will be carrying out a detailed study of the life and works of Lowry, focusing in particular on his images of industrial landscapes and producing work inspired by his very individual style!

## SCRATCH



### Homework

As usual, the children should be coming home with their reading record each day, along with their reading book. It is crucial that the children are reading regularly at home (reading books, newspapers or indeed anything that sparks their interest!) and that for some of the time, this involves them being heard by an adult. The year 5 and 6 children are able to access the junior library each morning during registration time, along with some lunchtimes.

There will be some changes to the homework that the children bring home this year, with the introduction of Knowledge Organisers for some of the subjects (History, Geography, Science and RE). These will contain key facts and information, for example dates, vocabulary, facts and events, that it is important for the children to learn. There will be more information sent out to parents on this matter in due course.



Later on in the term, the year 6 children will be starting a programme of revision to support their preparation for the end of key stage assessments. At this point, workbooks will be sent home for the children to use.

We hope that this newsletter gives you a good insight in to your child's learning this term. We look forward to seeing you at the Parent's Consultation Evening later on in the term however you would like to discuss any issues or concerns you have, please do not hesitate to contact us.



F. Muldoon, M. Blurton & K. Handley

Upper Key Stage 2 Team