



### English – Reading, Writing & Spelling

The main text for this term is **Street Child by Berlie Doherty**. A book about a young boy named Jim Jarvis who finds himself homeless on the streets of London during the Victorian era. We will use the book to develop reading skills as well as a stimulus for writing. Children will be writing diary entries, letters, character and setting descriptions, a non-chronological report, and a balanced argument. In the second half term, we will be studying poetry written by well-known Victorian poets and using a narrative poem version of a Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens as a stimulus for our writing.

On a Thursday and Friday, Mrs Saunders will focus on spelling, handwriting, grammar and reading skills. Spellings will be practised within the school day, but we encourage children to practise them at home also. Spellings will be posted on Seesaw so that you can help support with this.

### Maths

The units for the Autumn Term include place value, the four operations and fractions. Mrs Saunders will be focusing on geometry including position, movement, and properties of shape. There will be a daily arithmetic session in which children will practise and rehearse number facts and calculations. It is vitally important that children know all their times tables so that they can re-call them with speed and accuracy. We will of course work on this at school but any support that you can give at home would be greatly appreciated. 'Hit the Button' (Free if you type into google) is great for practising tables individually and 'TT Rockstars' is good for building speed and accuracy.

### Science

In the first half term, we will be completing a unit on **Evolution and Inheritance**. In this unit we will learn about the work of Mary Anning -fossil hunter, how animals have adapted to different habitats, how species evolve and the discoveries of Charles Darwin as well as how animals are interdependent – interpreting and drawing food chains and food webs.

In the second half term, we will be completing a unit on the human body and keeping healthy. There will be a focus on the circulatory system looking at the components and functions of the heart and blood. Children will learn about the importance of a balanced diet and the different food groups. We will investigate the effect of exercise on the human body and the importance of regular exercise. We will also discuss what drugs can be harmful to the human body with a focus on the effects of cigarettes and alcohol.

### Other Curriculum Subjects

Our topic for this term is **'Revolution' – The Victorians**

**In History**, we will be learning all about the causes and impact of The Industrial Revolution and how it changed society and the way that people lived. We will be comparing the lives of rich and poor people with a focus on what life was like for children during the Victorian era. We will be using different secondary sources to research the different jobs carried out by children, Victorian schools and workhouses. In addition to this, we will learn all about the life and work of pioneering nurse and heroine of the Crimean War -Mary Seacole.

**In Geography**, children will use atlases to locate countries that formed the British Empire during the Victorian era. They will learn all about the significance of the empire, how it worked and developed and the impact it had for the people of the UK as well as the occupied populations.

**RE:** This term we will be looking at the different denominations of Christianity with a focus on Quakers. We will be looking at the role of faith in the Victorian era and how this played a central part in the philanthropy and charity of the time. We will be looking at people such as Elizabeth Fry, John Cadbury, Henry Rowntree and the also William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army and how they all impacted and changed Victorian society for the better.

**PSHE:** We will begin with discussing rights of the child linked to the UN Rights of the child and how six of these articles will be the basis for our school rules. These will then help establish the rules and routines for the year ahead. We will also complete a unit using the 'Protective Behaviours' scheme which is built upon every year. This is so that children are clear about how to keep themselves safe and know what to do if they feel unsafe.

**PE:** For the Autumn term the Physical Education focuses will be: Cross Country, Football, Hockey and Basketball. PE will take place on Mondays and Thursdays.

**Art & Design:** Our focus for this term will be on print making and sketching nature. We will look at the beginnings of the arts and crafts movement and the role that William Morris had on Victorian interior design. We will then move onto to famous textile designers such as Orla Kiely and Cath Kidston and how they use the same principles as Morris. Children will be given the opportunity to use viewfinders to sketch sections from William Morris' work. They will then be able to sketch their own ideas using nature as the basis for their work. Children will be shown how to create different printing medium so that they can go onto create their own printed patterns.

**Design & Technology:** The Victorians was the time of The Industrial Revolution so we will be looking at the role of Isambard Kingdom Brunel and the advances on technology with a focus on structures and mechanisms.

**Computing:** This term children will start by learning about computer systems and networks; focusing on communication and collaboration. They will then move onto creating media with a focus on web page creation.

**Music:** We will start our music lessons with 'Step into the Musicals' looking at how the musical genre has changed over the decades. We will then move onto the Hip Hop genre and learn to sing The Fresh Prince of Bel Air.

## Homework

**Reading** – 5 times a week is the expectation. Please encourage children to keep a record of this in their reading diaries. Even though the children can read independently, it would be greatly beneficial if you could still read with your child, weekly, with lots of discussion around the meaning of new or unfamiliar vocabulary.

**Spelling** – Spellings will be set by Mrs Saunders on a Thursday (this will not be every week) all spellings will be shared on Seesaw (just in case they don't make it home!)

**Maths and English** – Mrs Daly will set homework on a Monday (one piece of Maths and one piece of English) the children will have the whole week to complete both pieces and we will mark together on a Monday. Hopefully this will help with the children becoming more independent ready for secondary school.

*If you do have any worries or concerns, please do speak to us. You can make an appointment via the school office or contact us on Seesaw. Many thanks.*

The Year 6 Team

*Mrs Daly, Mrs Saunders and Mrs Wines*

