Victorian Towns and Twisted Tales

Year 4

Autumn Term

Our learning this term

In English, we will become news reporters, investigating the criminal activities of a den of pickpockets from Dickens' Victorian England. We will also be developing our story-writing skills by exploring the dilemmas faced by servants within a manor house. In preparation for our Preston Manor visit we will write letters of application for a job as a domestic servant in a Victorian household.

In Science, we will focus on electricity, conduction and insulation, as well as the topic of magnetism, where we will put our knowledge into practice and create a magnetic Victorian toy. In DT we will be creating William Morris inspired Victorian boxes.

During computing lessons, we will be using different methods to publish our work. We will continue our study of William Morris during our art lessons by learning about tile printing techniques, sketching and working within his well-known style.

In PSHCE, we will learn about new beginnings and continuing with rights respecting schools.

During RE lessons we will be considering the Bible and why it is important for Christians. We will also be studying the story of Mary Jones, who founded the British Bible Society during Victorian times.

Our history and geography lessons will focus on what life and our local area was like in Victorian times.

PE and Games lessons will include dance, invasion games, and gymnastics.

To bring our learning journey to a fabulous finish, we will create a variety of traditional Victorian artefacts and cards for our Christmas Market, which all parents and carers will be welcome to attend.

Some of the questions we are hoping to answer this term are…

Who were the Victorians?
What was invented in Victorian times?

How did life differ for the rich and poor?

What was it like to be a child in Victorian times?

What were Victorian schools like?

What did Burgess Hill look like in Victorian times?

Who was William Morris?

This term we are hoping to enrich the learning with these fantastic opportunities, including:…

A workshop presented by the Rainbow Theatre Company about Victorian Children (around £5.00)

A visit to Preston Manor (around £15.00)

A visit by Queen Victoria herself (no cost)

A Victorian School Day (no cost)

A Victorian town trail around Burgess Hill (no cost)

A traditional Victorian Christmas market (no cost)

Things to do:

Research what life was like in Victorian England.

Collect pictures of Victorian toys, you could even try making one!

Reading:

The Vile Victorians (Horrible Histories)

Terry Deary's Victorian Tales

Chimney Child by Laurie Sheehan

Websites:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/victorian_britain/

http://www.nzsc.co.uk/pleasuregardens

http://www.channel4.com/learning/microsites/Q/qca/victorians/

Visiting:

Victorian and Albert Museum in London.

Charles Dickens Museum in London.

Take a trip on Volks Railway on Brighton Seafront.

Brighton Pier (built during Victorian times)