



Year 6 – Autumn Term 2

Wow, we have now completed our first half term in year 6 and we are heading into another exciting half term. Much of our curriculum this half term will be led by our theme of 'The Industrial Revolution and the British Empire' with a focus of how Chorley has changed during this time. Please remember to look at the latest news on <https://gillibrand.lancs.sch.uk/> and follow us on twitter at @GPSELM for weekly updates of what we get up to in Year 6!

Important Dates:

Tuesday 31st October – Schools Sports Partnership Intra Competition

Wednesday 8th November – Parent's Evening

Thursday 9th November – World Science Investigation Day

Friday 10th November – INSET Day (School closed)

Monday 13th November – Anti-Bullying Week

Wednesday 15th November – Y5&Y6 Class Assembly for parents (2.30pm)

Friday 17th November – Friendship Friday & Children In Need Day

Wednesday 22nd November – Electricity Workshop

Thursday 23rd November – Geography Field Trip

Friday 24th November – Geography Field Trip

Friday 1st December – Own Clothes Day for Christmas Shop Gifts

Friday 8th December – Christmas Shop

Wednesday 13th December – KS2 Christmas Carol Concert @ All Saints Church

Wednesday 13th December – Rock Steady Concert (2pm)

Friday 15th December – Christmas Jumper and Lunch Day

Wednesday 20th December – KS2 Christmas Party

Thursday 21st December – Prefect Treat Afternoon

Friday 22nd December – Non Uniform Day

English

Linked to our history topic of Victorian's and the British Empire, we will be studying a range of writing types linked to this topic. Over the half term we will be writing biographies on the author Charles Dickens; studying the poetry of Edgar Allan Poe with a focus on 'The Raven' and leading up to Christmas we will start to study the classic tale 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens.

During our English unit, our grammar focus will be: exciting sentences, question tags, using semi-colons to mark the boundaries between independent clauses and our use of synonyms in writing.

Reading

Our whole class reading text this term is Street Child Berlie Doherty. During our study of this text, we will be discussing our thoughts, feelings and opinions of the characters and plot. In our comprehension focus we will be exploring a range of inference and explanation questions where the children will have to explain their answer in detail and use evidence from the text to back up their thoughts.

French

In French, we will complete our topic on 'My home' and explore the phonetics of the French language. Closer to Christmas we will explore Christmas in France and related vocabulary.

Art

Using the topic of Victorians and the British Empire as our inspiration, we will be studying the work of LS Lowry and the industrial revolution. The pupils will be creating their own urban landscape artwork using the art skills of drawing with 1- and 2-point perspectives for building; Lowry's matchstick style for people and the medium of acrylic paints to capture the mood in colour and texture. We look forward to sharing these finished pieces with you.

Maths

We will begin the half term developing our understanding of calculations. Our main focuses will include written multiplication and division strategies. The pupil's will develop their skills of multiplying numbers by 1 digit and move on to multiplying numbers by 2 digits (long multiplication). Moving on to short division – dividing any number by a number up to any 2-digit number. The key to this learning is their knowledge of times tables and division facts. Please support your child by getting them to play on TT Rockstars as often as possible.

<https://play.ttrockstars.com> or download the App.

Computing

This half-term we are going to focus upon using Microsoft Excel to create a spreadsheet for collecting their own Year 6 data. After becoming familiar with the format of a spreadsheet, the pupils will be taught simple formulas, collecting data and formatting graphs.

PSHE

With the topic valuing difference, our year 6 pupils will build on their understanding of difference. This will delve into our own differences, looking at differences within our communities and how differences were once not tolerated. Pupils will study issues such as: respect, racism, discrimination, diversity and try to develop their own self-esteem and confidence.

Music

This half term will be lead by our specialist music teacher Mrs Jones. During lessons, we will develop our singing skills through exploring Christmas Carols and accompany these with tuned and untuned instruments. These will be performed at our Christmas Carol Concert at All Saint's Church in December.

PE

This half-term P.E will take place on Tuesdays and Fridays will focus on two different elements: Creative games and dance. In PE, we will be developing our ball skills in various ways e.g. dribbling, bouncing, kicking and linking these together with co-ordination, control and fluency to create their own game and rules. During dance sessions, children will be using their skills of movement and coordination to put together a sequence of movements and dance.

History

In our exciting Victorian's and the British Empire topic we will be answering the question:

Was the British Empire under the Victorian's something 'great'?

With this topic, pupils will be learning about the British Empire and which countries this included. They will be using their previous learning to compare the British Empire with the Roman Empire. We will then go on to explore how the British Empire became so big and how people in Britain and the colonies were affected and changed by the empire.

At the end of the topic, pupils will debate on whether the British Empire was 'great'.

Science

In science, we will begin our new topic on electricity building upon our Year 4 knowledge and understanding. We have an excited electricity day to support our understanding of circuits whilst developing our enquiry skills.

RE

We will explore the meaning of the journey of life through Hinduism with a specific focus on samsa, karma and moksha and how these linked. We will describe and explain the four ashramas (stages of life) in the life of a Hindu.

Geography

In our exciting Victorian's and the British Empire topic we will be answering the question:

What was the land use like in the Victorian era and how is it different today?

Linked to history the pupils will be studying how Chorley changed during the Victorian Era and how the industrial revolution affected Chorley. We will be also studying maps and learning OS symbols and topographical features such as contour lines and elevation.