

# **Gorseybrigg Primary School and Nursery**

# **Curriculum Matters**



**Term**            **Autumn 2**  
**Year Group**    **5**  
**Teacher**       **Mrs R MacLeod**

Please note that not all subject areas will necessarily be taught each term and we cannot write down everything we teach!

## **Topic**

### **Victorian Children**

This term we will be exploring the Victorian period through the lives of children with particular emphasis on:

- Working children including factory workers, mine workers, domestic servants and chimney sweeps.
- Workhouses and Dr Barnardo's work with street children
- Education and the differences between Victorian and modern schools
- Public health and sanitation

Children will experience a Victorian school day and learn more about Victorian health through a talk from a local expert on historical medicine.

## **Literacy**

We will read and write diaries, recounts and newspaper reports; using our knowledge of the lives and experiences of working children.

Our class book is 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty and we will use this to study how a writer portrays different characters.

Our class writing skills target is perfect punctuation!

## **Numeracy**

We will be following the National Curriculum for Year 5.

The topics for this term are:

- Formal written methods and informal mental methods for multiplication and division
- Factors, multiples, prime numbers and square numbers
- Decimals
- Fractions

We will deepen our understanding of these topics with lessons on reasoning and explaining.

## **Art and ICT**

In art we will examine work by the Victorian artist William Morris and create our own designs for wallpaper and textiles. We will be looking at the popular Victorian technique of silhouette cutting and will make our own Victorian peg dolls.

In ICT we will create presentations including pictures, text, animations, hyperlinks and embedded sound. We will evaluate the design and layout of multimedia resources.

## **Science**

In science we will continue with the topic of Forces. Following on from work on gravity, friction and air resistance, we will look at water resistance and study the life and discoveries of Isaac Newton.

Later in the term, we will make and use levers, pulleys and gears to help us understand how balanced and unbalanced forces can be used. This will include a project on moving toys.

## **PE and GAMES**

Gymnastic sessions will include work on apparatus.

In Games we will be improving basketball and hockey skills and playing small sided games.

# Helping at Home

## English

Some children will still benefit from reading aloud to an adult. Very fluent readers should be encouraged to read regularly. Please support our Book Bingo project and encourage children to talk about the books they are reading – children who read for pleasure have a huge educational advantage.

Novels with a Victorian setting that your children might enjoy reading on their own or sharing with an adult include the Hetty Feather series (Jacqueline Wilson) and Tom's Midnight Garden (Phillippa Pearce). I will be encouraging children to read another book by our featured author, Berlie Doherty. The Starbustler is great for less confident readers and Spellhorn for those wanting a challenge.

## Maths

All children in Year 5 should be able to recall both times tables and division tables at speed and out of order. This is now an urgent target. We will have a weekly speed test for practice.

Drawing your children's attention to fractions and decimal numbers in real life would be great: you could use money, measurement, cooking or trips to the supermarket. Web based maths games can be found at:

[www.coolmath-games.com](http://www.coolmath-games.com) & [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize)

Any visits, books or artifacts about Victorians that the children can access will enhance their learning, especially when writing. You could visit the coal-mining museum in Wakefield if you would like a themed day out!