

YEAR 6 NEWSLETTER!

English

In English, our lessons have been based around the theme of 'Child Labour' in the Victorian era and we have loved finding out about some of the horrific and shocking jobs which children were forced to do. We studied extracts from 'Oliver Twist' and 'The Water Babies' which inspired our own diary entries and descriptive writing. We have particularly developed our skills in persuasive writing and have written formal letters to Lord Melbourne (a Victorian Prime Minister) convincing him to abolish child labour. During this unit, we learnt about different persuasive techniques such as derogatory language, flattery, emotive language and rhetorical questions. We have also explored a wider range of conjunctions and punctuation to enhance our writing, and have continued to expand our vocabulary. In grammar, we have looked at different types of sentences; the rules of direct and reported speech; the simple, progressive and perfect tenses and the correct use of apostrophes for possession and contractions.

Reading

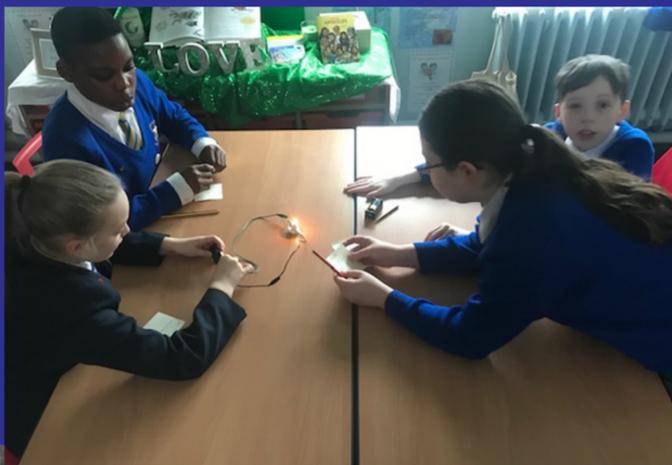
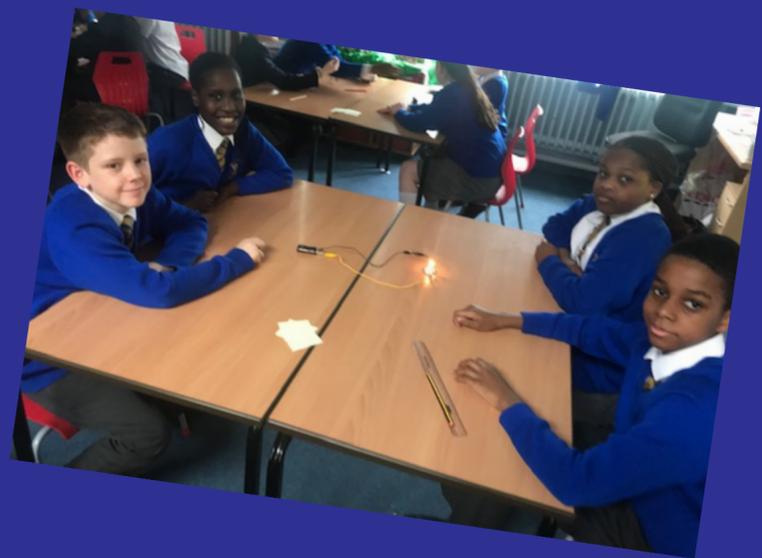
In Reading lessons, we have continued to read our class text: Nevermoor. We have used this text as well as our group reading books to develop our skills in summarising what we have read; making inferences supported by relevant evidence and describing the effect of language and vocabulary. We have also read some Victorian poetry, including 'The Night of the Gargoyles', which we had great fun exploring through drama.

Maths

In Maths lessons, we have developed our understanding of percentages, including finding percentages of shapes, numbers and quantities; converting fractions and decimals to percentages and solving problems involving percentages. In addition to this, we have practised our measuring skills using a range of scales and equipment. We have learnt how to convert units of measures in length, mass and capacity as well as how to use conversion rates and graphs to convert from metric to imperial. We have also explored area, perimeter and volume, learning formulae for areas of rectangles, triangles and parallelograms. Currently, we are exploring different types of angles within shapes.

Science

In Science lessons, we completed our unit on The Heart and Keeping Healthy. To end the topic, we wrote letters to Teresa May to persuade her to increase the amount of PE taught in all primary schools in the UK to 3 hours a week, giving reasons and evidence why she should consider our views on this issue. We really hope that we get a response from her! In addition to this, we began our new science topic: Circuits. We have learnt about the symbols of key components and how circuits work. Also, we have had fun doing practical investigations to create our own circuits and explore the effect of adding multiple components. We are currently learning how to write effective scientific reports to present our findings.



Topic

Our topic this half term has been the Victorians and we have loved learning about this period in our history. We have explored The Industrial Revolution, looking at the changes that occurred during this time and how it has impacted the world today. We created artwork using watercolours, to represent the changing landscape over the course of this era and we have used evidence sources to learn about Victorian schools and how education changed during Queen Victoria's reign. We were lucky enough to be able to take part in a Victorian lesson in a Victorian classroom during our recent trip to The Black Country Museum. We had such an exciting day visiting genuine period buildings including houses, shops and a chapel. We even went inside a mine to learn about the coal-mining industry.



RE

In RE we have learned more about the Christmas story looking at the different accounts of Jesus' birth from the Gospels. We have written narratives from the perspective of the magi, describing how Jesus' birth changed their lives forever. We have now started our new RE topic: Prayers in the Lives of the Followers of Christ where we are learning about the importance of prayer. During this unit, we have been studying the words and the origins of different traditional Catholic prayers and we have even made up a sacred dance in groups to one of them set to music.

PE

In PE this half term, we have improved our fitness and stamina through participating in a range of physical activities. Firstly, we have absolutely loved taking part in yoga lessons, where we have learnt new and challenging yoga positions; this has helped our flexibility, our balance and has strengthened our muscles. We have also found some of the exercises very relaxing and calming! Outside, we have particularly developed our skills in hockey and have enjoyed playing competitive games against each other.



Extra bits!

School Disco

The school council organised our school Valentine's themed disco which was a huge success. They planned and led the event, raising lots of money for the school fund and our charities. Well done to our wonderful council!



Some of us also went to the 'Love Your Bike' event at St John Fisher School this week. During this workshop, we practised our cycling skills and learnt how to take good care of our bikes. It was great fun!



Sacred Heart's Got Talent

'A number of us from Year 6 successfully auditioned for 'Sacred Heart's Got Talent' where we had the chance to showcase our brilliant singing, dancing and comedy skills in front of an audience! Some of us also hosted the event (we were very funny!) and a couple of us even did the powerpoint and music.