



We Are Not Amused



*Start Term 1
September 2018*

*End Term 1
December 2018*

Values, PSHE & RE Topics

Our **PSHE** this term will be linked to the core values: Friendship, Thankfulness and Generosity.

RE will be taught by Mrs Cooper on Fridays. This term the children will be studying Islam.

PE lessons will be on Tuesday mornings and focussing on invasion games.

Science: For the first part of the term we will be learning about plants and life cycles looking at sexual and asexual reproduction in plants and mammals. After half-term the focus will be on evolution including Charles Darwin.

Art and DT: Children will be learning about and making collages using different materials in Art. The focus for DT will be on food and food packaging linking to our topic.

More about our topic: We Are Not Amused

Our topic this term is, of course, The Victorians. Until our Queen's diamond jubilee in 2012, Queen Victoria was the longest reigning monarch being on the throne for an impressive 63 years! The Victorian Era was a time when many things changed both for children and adults. We will learn what life was like to be a Victorian child and the important changes of the time, including the Industrial Revolution, advances in medicine and improvements in the law to benefit children.

Maths The main focus for our Maths lessons will be: Place Value, Addition and Subtraction and Multiplication and Division.

Home School Topic This term to support the children's topic learning it would be great for them to research some Victorian inventions and produce a poster, diagram, factsheet or even make a model of the invention with instructions on how it works.

English

Our English learning will be closely linked to our topic this term. We begin the new term learning about one of the most famous writers of the era, Charles Dickens, and then using our English skills to write his biography.

A Victorian topic would not be complete if we didn't study at least one of the author's books. Swallows class can look forward to studying "Oliver Twist" and "A Christmas Carol", the latter setting the scene for the holiday season.

After the initial study of Dickens, we will be writing a balanced argument about working in a workhouse and later in the term we will even write a formal letter to Queen Victoria herself!

Weekly spellings sent home will either be 'common exception' words (words that are frequently used but that don't necessarily follow common spelling rules) or spellings that need further practice.

Reading for pleasure and enjoyment will continue to lie at the heart of our English curriculum.

Please continue to support and encourage your child to read at home as this is so very important in building both their pleasure in reading as well as their stamina and fluency.

Please make sure the children have their reading books at school every day. The children will bring home two books: their reading book and one chosen by them from the library.

Reading records will be checked every **Thursday**.

