

Our topic this half-term is called **What was it like in Victorian Britain?** Which is linked to our Novel, 'Street Child'. This half term we start a new History unit 'The Slave Trade in Lancaster'. This half terms stand-alone subjects are: Science, PE, RE and French.



As **writers**, we will focus on sentence construction this half term. We will revisit writing sentences with subordinate clauses, adverbial and preposition starters and continue to learn about using sentences with relative clauses. We will also focus on how we can use certain conjunctions in our writing to join our ideas together. Over the half term, we will be applying the sentence skills we have been learning to plan and write a report about the Victorian era and a character description about Jim Jarvis from our novel, Street Child.

As **readers**, we will be using Rocket Retriever to find information to answer questions about the texts we read. We will be developing our Dark Decoder strategies to find out the meanings of new words, so that we can use them in our writing. We will also use Summarise and Sequence Shadow to explain what we have read. We will continue to find the meanings of new words as well as focusing on the skill of inferring to find out more about how characters feel and think. For our novel, we will be reading **Street Child**.



Our **class novel** is:



In **English** we will be reading:



In **Guided Reading** we will be reading:



As **mathematicians**, we will be furthering our understanding of time and timetables by reading and interpreting timetables in a range of different contexts. We will also be looking at negative numbers and using them in different contexts. We will revisit the learning we have done on mental methods for addition and subtraction, as well as learning how to use a written method for numbers with more than 4 digits. We will then be revising our learning on multiples and factors, as well as exploring prime numbers and using the grid method. We will also be looking at measures, exploring how to convert measures for length, mass and capacity, as well as using all four operations to solve problems involving measure.

As **historians**, we will be exploring the Slave Trade in Lancaster. We will be investigating what life would have been like on board a slave ship, as well as using a variety of sources to explore the role Lancaster played in the Transatlantic Slave Trade. We will be learning about a variety of merchants, their involvement in the trade and how the city today has been influenced by their wealth and power.



As **sports people**, we will be learning to swim breaststroke, front crawl and back crawl effectively. We will also learn how to perform self-rescue in different water-based situations. In gymnastics, we will be learning about counter-balances and counter-tension in order to develop a sequence with a partner. Please remember, swimming kits will be needed every Friday. Please see School Spider for PE days as a number of classes are having coaches in this half term.

As **scientists**, we will be exploring materials, their properties and how we can change them. We will be investigating the changes that we can make to materials and whether or not they are reversible or irreversible.



As **linguists** with Mrs Boswell, we will be focusing on how to tell the time in French. We will learn to: tell the time to o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to; count in fives to at least thirty; understand and use the terms **avant** and **après**; and how to read and answer questions about a TV schedule.

As **theologists** with Mrs Taylor, we will be exploring the questions 'What do we mean by a miracle?' and 'Why is it difficult to sometimes do the right thing?' Both questions are related to the religion -Christianity. Through the work we will be looking at the Lord's prayer and investigating some of the miracles Jesus performed.



Home Reading and Homework:

Reading targets are checked every **Thursday**. Children will be expected to complete at least one reading quiz a week (80+%) to achieve their reading target. Remember, plenty of reading please with an adult so support can be provided with unfamiliar vocabulary and checking for understanding. You might find our reading videos useful which are on our website: <http://www.mossgate.lancs.sch.uk/page/home-reading-homework/26819>

Spellings are handed out every **Thursday** and tested weekly on the following **Thursday**.

Thank you for your continued support. The Beech Class Team.