



# Woodthorne Primary and Nursery School

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## Year 6 Autumn Term Newsletter 2019

Welcome to Year 6 and the Autumn Term! The children have returned to school and settled in very well to the new year, showing their willingness to work hard. We hope they continue to show such positivity and enthusiasm for this hard year ahead. This newsletter will outline the areas which the children will be covering during the Autumn Term.

### English

The children will cover many different genres of writing and texts during our English sessions each day. We will start the year with a focus on adventure stories where we use 'Alice in Wonderland' as a stimulus for descriptive writing. We then integrate our Creative Curriculum topic to produce a range of non-fiction writing, including persuasive arguments regarding working conditions in Victorian times and explanations of steam engine trains. We then move onto exploring biographies and autobiographies from a range of people. This is all before ending the term sharing a class novel of 'Oliver Twist', exploring the work of Charles Dickens and comparing screen and book versions. The children will continue to participate in weekly guided reading sessions and there will be a focus on grammar and punctuation to raise standards in their writing and build up the vital skills they require for SATS.

### Mathematics

Our focus for number work during the term will be with positive and negative numbers, understanding decimals and place value. It will be essential all children know their times tables as this will be the basis for much of the work we complete. Calculations will focus on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers and decimals. We will develop our knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes by describing their properties using a range of vocabulary. Data work will develop skills reading line graphs and pie charts as well as constructing our own. We will continue to convert between different units of measure. Pupils will be encouraged to use a calculator to work through their calculations and their answers. Fractions, decimals and percentages are explored during the term, connections between the three and how they can be used. Underpinning all of these skills is problem solving and the application of these skills in everyday life (all key to prepare the children for their SATS).

### Creative Curriculum

Our creative curriculum topic this term is 'The Industrial Revolution', with a focus on the Victorian era. We will look closely at different aspects of what it was like to live at this time. We will look at how different events of the century changed everyday life for men, women and children and how this compares to modern day British life. We will also be visiting Blists Hill this term to support our learning. During the second half of the term, we will look at our locality in Victorian times and make comparisons to today. Towards Christmas, we will celebrate with a 'Victorian Christmas' exploring the art work of William Morris, designing and printing material using his designs to create a Christmas stocking.

## Science

The first of our science topics is 'Light'. Children will learn how light travels, how we can see and apply their knowledge to carry out investigations. We will also be looking at how shadows are formed and create a shadow puppet theatre. The second topic of the term will be 'Electricity', in which the children will review their knowledge of circuits, diagnose problems and use and apply their knowledge to build a circuit for a specific purpose.

## RE

During RE this term, the children will look at religions in our local community, exploring their diversity. Pupils will think about the West Midlands and the borough of Wolverhampton. They will compare the religious artefacts found in a Hindu mandir and a Christian church and how these are used in religious worship.

## PE

The children will take part in a variety of PE activities during the term. They have PE on a Wednesday, which will be outdoors. For the first half term, children will be participating in swimming lessons on Tuesday afternoons. It is essential all children bring their swimming kit on this day. In November, this will be replaced by indoor PE on a Monday. Please ensure PE kits are brought to school on a Monday and taken home on a Friday.

## Homework

It is really important your children continue to read each day. They are responsible for their reading record and completing it when they finish a book. It is also essential children read a variety of texts –fiction and non-fiction.

All children will receive three pieces of homework each week.

### 1. English – Reading Comprehension

This will be given out on a Monday and will need to be returned the following Monday when we will mark it in class.

### 2. Mathematics

This will be given out on a Wednesday and will need to be returned the following Wednesday when we will mark it in class.

### 3. Project

This term, the children will be working towards a project which links to our Creative Curriculum topic of the life of Victorians. By the end of the project, the children will have created a book for Year 1 pupils, supporting their learning on Victorian toys. Each week, the children will be set a task which will contribute to their final product. Though we will not expect this to be handed in weekly, we will expect to see the finished piece, containing all the required elements, at the end of term.

Should you have any questions or concerns, or require further advice on how you can support your child at home, please feel free to come and speak to us – preferably at the end of the day as mornings can be quite busy.

Miss Eardly and Miss Laird

