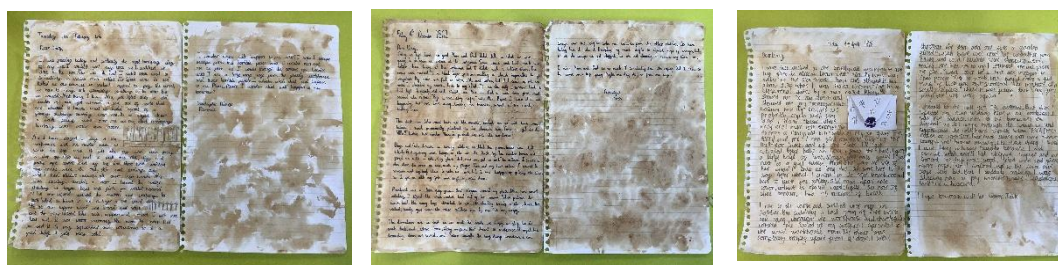


Autumn 2 – The Hive – “Victorians – Vile or Victorious?”

We began the half term by diving into our brand-new topic, guided by our big question: “Victorians – Vile or Victorious?” The children threw themselves into the learning with enthusiasm and curiosity, and it’s been a brilliant half term!

In English, we explored the novel *Street Child*, using it as a window into life during the Victorian era. The children compared the harsh realities of the workhouse with life today and even stepped into character as children living in those conditions. Their diary entries were truly phenomenal—full of emotion, detail and empathy.



Maths this half term has been all about multiplication and division. We have unpicked methods, strengthened our times tables knowledge and applied it all to increasingly complex problem-solving. The children have shown excellent resilience and determination as the challenges stepped up a notch!

In History, we investigated the weird, wonderful and occasionally whiffy world of Victorian inventions. From rubber tyres to the penny stamp—and yes, even the life-changing flushing toilet—we realised the Victorians were responsible for far more than gloomy workhouses and stern portraits!

In Science, we’ve been delving into the fascinating world of microorganisms — bacteria, viruses and fungi. The children learned how these tiny organisms can be both helpful and harmful, exploring how they spread and where they can be found. To bring their learning to life, the children even designed and created their own imaginative bacteria bugs, showing wonderful creativity and scientific understanding.

In D&T, we’ve been channelling our inner designers and practising our sewing skills as we created our very own lavender bags. From threading needles to mastering running stitches, the children showed fantastic perseverance. The

finished products looked (and smelled!) wonderful — perfect for gifting, decorating, or simply enjoying after all that hard work.



In P.E., we've been developing our aim, accuracy and quick reactions through dodgeball. The children have loved rising to the challenge each week, working on strategic thinking as well as teamwork. There's been plenty of fast feet, sharp throws and lots of laughter — all while building confidence and core skills.

We ended our topic in style with a fantastic trip to Beaumanor Hall for a Victorian Christmas Day. The children experienced lessons in a strict Victorian classroom, played parlour games, sang carols in the beautiful Great Hall, and even met Santa in his traditional green suit!



We've had a fantastic term filled with hard work, creativity and curiosity. From diving into Victorian life across our subjects to developing core skills in Maths, Science, D&T and P.E., the children have shown brilliant enthusiasm and resilience. Their progress has been outstanding, and we are incredibly proud of everything they've achieved. We wish all our families a restful and joyful Christmas break! 🎄