

In The Hive, our topic this term has been 'Victorians: Vile or Victorious' and it's safe to say all our pupils could now argue both sides based on their gained **understanding** of this era. We have explored what life was like for both poor and rich Victorian children and put ourselves in their shoes when writing diary entries. To enhance learning, the children in the Hive gained a real-life experience of what it would have been like in a Victorian classroom when visiting Beaumanor Hall for their 'Victorian Christmas Day'. Pupils were also fortunate enough to experience what life was like as a maid – something they are very glad children do not have to do in the present day!

As part of our topic, our key text has been 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. This has allowed us to follow the events of an influential Victorian boy, names 'Jim Jarvis', whose situation inspired Dr Barnardo to found his famous children's homes.

Within Maths, the children have been demonstrating **aspirational** attitudes when exploring methods and strategies within our multiplication and division unit. We have learnt to identify multiples and factors of given numbers and select the most efficient strategies for our calculations. We are also very **proud** of the progress made in our Rock Statues in TTRS!

We have been expanding our French vocabulary with Mrs Grimes, where we have been learning how to say classroom objects, animals, how to share our feelings and everyday greetings. Lots of **motivation** and **resilience** has been applied.

Pupils have flourished within their guitar lessons, where Mr Rigugiato has taught the children how to play 'Three little birds' and 'Cool joe'. They were then able to share their learning with parents and other members of the school in a class performance – we are very **proud** of them all!

In Science we have been learning how to classify living things according to their characteristics. The children hunted for living things on the playground and classified them into groups such as vertebrates and invertebrates, mammals and birds. Following on from this we have focused our learning on the smallest of living things – microorganisms - and the children have been learning about useful and harmful microorganisms and investigating handwashing by setting up a mould experiment.

Our pupils haven been very **creative** during our Design and Technology unit, where they were tasked with researching, designing, and making a Victorian toy. It was quite a challenge as market research had to be carried out, prototypes made and responses to the brief made before producing the final piece.

In RE we had a special visit from Mrs Simpson who taught us all about Hinduism and in particular the festival of Diwali. The children enjoyed learning about the festival and made their own Rangoli designs. For the rest of the term we have been focusing on Christianity, in particular learning about why Christians believe Jesus is the messiah, which has involved recapping the story of the birth of Jesus and considering the 'real meaning' of Christmas. In PSHE we have been learning about child poverty, linking this to the writing of Dickens in the Victorian era as well as thinking about poverty today and the role of charities.

