



MIDHURST C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr M Barnes

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Dear parents/guardians,

Welcome back to a new term and a Happy New Year to you all. Many thanks to everyone who bought and prepared party food for the last day of the autumn term - we had more than enough and the children really enjoyed the day.

This term, our topic is 'The Victorians' and below is a brief outline of the work we will cover:

- **History:** Victorians, with an emphasis on the contrast between 'rich' and 'poor' and the lives of Victorian children.
- **Geography:** Contrasting the 'Empire' with modern day Europe; mapping skills based on railways.
- **Science:** 'Solids, Liquids and Gases' and changes of state.
- **Design Technology:** Designing and making a wooden toy.
- **Art:** A range of art activities based on the work of William Morris. Media will include paint, printing ink, sketching pencils and textiles.
- **Information & Communication Technology:** Spreadsheets (Microsoft Excel) and controlling 'screen turtles' by giving commands.
- **Music:** Appreciation and performance of songs made popular during the Victorian period.
- **Religious Education:** Looking at the beliefs of famous Victorians e.g. William Booth, Dr Barnado. How belief can influence actions.
- **Physical Education:** Gymnastics, Dance and Games.

In addition, the children will continue with their daily maths and literacy lessons. We will also continue with regular Guided Reading sessions in class and opportunities to practice reading skills by reading regularly to an adult. Your support at home is vital in improving your child's reading skills. Please listen to your child read at home regularly and make a note of it in the red log book. I have also encouraged the children to make a note in the log book when they read independently at home.

Homework

Thank you to all of you who supported your child with homework last term. In Year 5 we expect the children to complete the following homework tasks:

- Read regularly to an adult at home.
- Learn their lists of spellings (tests are every Monday)
- Learn their x tables (tests are every Tuesday)
- An additional task, set weekly by the class teacher.

This term, the children will be completing a 'Personal Project' (more details to follow soon). Some of the set homework tasks will be based on this personal project, and whilst some time is spent working on them in class, the emphasis is for children to complete much of the work at home. I will collect in pieces of work each week and the children will be given a 'Personal Project' homework log so that I can keep track of their progress with the project. I will send a more detailed letter about the Personal Projects once I have spoken to the children about them.

The class will continue to have 2 P.E. lessons per week:

Monday (Gymnastics or Dance)

Wednesday (Games with Brighton & Hove Albion coaches)

These days are occasionally swapped, so please ensure that your child has a named P.E. kit in school each day. Please remember, earrings need to be removed or covered with tape for P.E. lessons.

I look forward to seeing you at Parents Evening later in the term. If you need to contact me before then, I am available before school (8.40-8.50am) Tuesdays - Fridays, or after school (3.30-3.40pm) any day but Tuesdays.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P Aldren