

# Year Five Summer 2 – “The Great Exhibition”



We are very excited about this topic! Here are some of the main areas we will be studying:

The main focus of this topic will be **history**, looking specifically at the impact of the work of Charles Darwin in the world of science and religion. We will be studying his work, the importance of his voyages and his animal studies. We will also consider the work of female scientists

of the age such as Mary Anning. The Victorian era was a significant turning point in our history and culture. We will be looking at some of the revolutions from this period including:

- The theory of evolution
- The invention of electricity and the telephone
- The impact of industry on both the rich and the poor
- Key figures in the world of art during the time period.



To help put it into context for the children, we will use our locality to see the impact the Victorian era had on Great Dunmow.

We will also study what life was like for children in Victorian times by having a Victorian school day, re-enacting what it would be like for Victorian children and how boys and girls were treated differently. **As this is an immersive experience, we would appreciate it if the children could have a Victorian child's costume for that day and also to wear when we do our Victorian Dunmow walk - a white shirt and shorts or skirt are perfect - please do not go to great expense and if you need help with this, please just ask!**

We will be looking, of course, at Queen Victoria's family and where her reign fits into a chronological timeline. We will also carry out historical research and use this to write biographies of key historical figures of the time.



**English** - To aid the children's understanding of the divide between rich and poor, our creative English work this term will focus on the book **Street Child** by Berlie Doherty. This novel is a very popular choice for KS2 classes. Loosely based on a true story, Street Child is the inspirational tale of a poor Victorian boy fighting for survival on the grim streets of Victorian London. The novel is full of suspense and is a gripping read that we hope will captivate Year 5. Being set in the Victorian times, we will learn about Victorian society and compare it to modern day society. We will write diary entries from the perspective of Victorian children to fully immerse ourselves in their experience.

**Maths** – This half term, we will be looking at position and direction which will involve using coordinates so a game of 'Battleships' would really help in preparation. We shall also cover converting units: grams to kilograms, cm to m, millilitres and litres so any cooking and looking at packaging with these types of measures would be fantastic!

**Science** – The children will be learning about evolution and inheritance, and the impact that Charles Darwin's research had in this area. They will be learning about inheritance and adaptations of a species

over time to ensure survival. This also links to our RE where the children will look at the Creation story and link it to evolution.

**Art** - The children will be using tile printing techniques pioneered by William Morris to create affordable wall furnishings and fabrics for the Victorian middle classes.

We will finish the topic by allowing the children a chance to showcase their learning, in the style of Prince Albert and his Great Exhibition!

<b>Dates to remember:</b>	
Monday 6th June	Back to school
Week beginning/6th June	Assessment week
Tuesday 14th June	Hook day - Victorian costumes please!
Tuesday 21st June	Day walking in 'Victorian' Dunmow - Victorian costumes please!
Thursday 30th June	Visit to HRS (to be confirmed)
Friday 1st July & Monday 4th July	Inset Days
Wednesday 6th July	Sports Day
Thursday 14th July	Open Evening
Thursday 21st July	Break up for the summer holidays