

Chawson 1st School

Spring Term 2 Topic Letter

Year 1

ENGLISH

What? We will use the story of "The Chimney Sweep" to know how to use the conjunction 'and'. We will learn how to write interesting sentences using and to join and extend our sentences.

Why? We will write extended sentences in :- letters and facts about life in the past.

Help at home by:

- Reading lots of books and looking for the conjunction 'and'.
- Using a range of vocabulary in speech and discussing alternative words.



Our topic this half term is:

Life in the Past



MATHS

What? We will be finding and representing addition and subtraction number facts of numbers to 11-16.

Why? We will use our knowledge of addition and subtraction numbers of numbers 11-16 to help us solve number problems.

WOW! We will be able to use all this information to work out equations faster and help us with future maths.

Help at home by:

- Keep practising your Big Maths Learn-its to help rapid recall.
- Practice addition and number facts of numbers 11-16.



Cross Curricular

What? We will learn about life in the Victorian schools; the rules, the punishment, the lessons and more and also learn about what jobs children had to do

Why? To be able to understand how things have changed from the Victorian times to present day.

WOW! We will have Victorian Day at school and get to dress up in Victorian costumes.

Reading Books:

Reading books will be changed on a **Monday** and **Thursday**. Remember to read EVERY day to be entered into the draw to win that £5 book voucher!

The children will choose a home reading book of their choice to bring home on a Friday. The children can change it weekly.

Important information:

Trip to the Black Country Museum— Friday 7th March (see parent pay for information)

Victorian school day—We will be spending the day dressed as Victorian children (costumes provided by school) and learning about school life in Victorian times.

World Book day— Thursday 6th March—see separate letter

Red Nose Day— Friday 21st March— see separate letter

Topic fact sheet– Life in the past

What was it like being a child in Victorian times?

Life wasn't the same for all children during the Victorian times.

The kind of life a child had depended on their family.

Children from rich families	Children from working class families
• Were well fed and wore nice clothes.	• Ate poor food.
• Didn't have to go to work.	• Had to go to work for long hours.
• Had nice toys to play with.	• Didn't have any luxuries.
• Went on holiday.	• Lived in damp and dirty conditions.
• Had pets like ponies.	• Many children died from diseases.

What jobs did children have?

If you were a child from a poor family, you worked and worked to earn money for your family. Children would work as chimney sweeps, work in factories, sell things on the street and work down in the coal mines. The jobs were very dangerous at times and they would work very long hours.



What were Victorian schools like?

There could be up to 80 children in a class and the teachers were very strict. Children sat on hard wooden benches and were mostly taught by reading and copying things down and chanting. Classrooms looked very different to how they do now!



Key vocabulary

Chimney sweep– children were often better at this job because they were smaller. They would be sent up chimneys to brush soot away.

Victorian time– this is the time when Queen Victoria ruled Britain.

Working class– people who worked in dangerous conditions and weren't paid very much.