

School Days

Class: Chestnut

Term: Summer 2026

Driver Subject: History



This project teaches children about their own school and locality, both today and in the past. They compare schooling in the Victorian era to their experiences today.



English

The Friendship bench

The Great Fire of London

Grace Darling

Maths

Year 2 will be focusing on Fractions, Measurement –Time, Statistics and Geometry-Position and direction

Year 1 will be focusing on Number-Multiplication and division, Fractions, Geometry-Position and direction, Place value (within 100), Measurement-Money and Time

Science and investigations

Plant parts

This project teaches children about wild and garden plants by exploring the local environment. They identify and describe the basic parts of plants and observe how they change over time.

Animal Parts

This project teaches children about animals, including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals and invertebrates. They identify and describe their common structures, diets, and how animals should be cared for.

Religious Education

Why do Christians pray to God and worship him? This unit focuses on the Christian concepts of 'prayer /worship'.

How do some Muslims show Allah is compassionate and Merciful?

This unit focuses on Muslim concepts of 'Allah, compassion and mercy'. It is important to read the guide to these so that teaching, questioning and assessment reflect them.

Art and Design

Street View

This project teaches children about artwork depicting streets and buildings and focuses on the work of the American pop artist, James Rizzi. They create a 3-D mural based on Rizzi's work.

D&T

Chop, Slice and Mash

This project teaches children about sources of food and the preparatory skills of peeling, tearing, slicing, chopping, mashing and grating. They use this knowledge and techniques to design and make a supermarket sandwich according to specific design criteria.

Computing

Music

Tanczomy Labada (2)

Singing games & Polish Songs

Programming A – Robot algorithms

Learners will use given commands in different orders to investigate how the order affects the outcome. They will also learn about design in programming. They will develop artwork and test it for use in a program. They will design algorithms and then test those algorithms as programs and debug them.

Programming B - programming quizzes

Learners begin to understand that sequences of commands have an outcome and make predictions based on their learning. They use and modify designs to create their own quiz questions in Scratch Jr and realise these designs in Scratch Jr using blocks of code. Finally, learners evaluate their work and make improvements to their programming projects.

This unit is based around a welcoming Polish circle game with increasingly tricky actions, which will help to develop children’s sense of beat and encourage cooperative play. As well as learning to sing confidently in another language, children will learn to play singing games, play an accompaniment, and invent a 4-beat body percussion pattern. Additionally, they will learn about traditional dances of Poland and plan and rehearse a performance for younger children.

Geography (or this could be History)**Our wonderful world**

This essential skills and knowledge project teaches children about physical and human features, maps, cardinal compass points, and positional and directional language. They learn about the equator, hemispheres and continents and are introduced to the countries, capital cities and settlements of the United Kingdom. The children carry out simple fieldwork to find out about local physical and human features

PSHE

Growing in Our World explores the human cycle and how our families are special and unique.

Is it safe to eat or drink? This topic allows students to identify what items may be safe or unsafe to eat or drink.

Hoax Calling looks at the risks of making a hoax call to the emergency services and how our actions can affect others.

PE and Games**Hit Catch Run Unit**

Able to hit balls with hand or bat. Track and retrieve a rolling ball. Throw and catch a variety of balls and objects.

Develop sending and receiving skills to benefit fielding as a team. Distinguish between the roles of batters and fielders. Introduce the concept of simple tactics.

What will you choose to do?



These activities are for you to do at home with an adult. You can do all of them or choose the ones that you find most interesting.

Activities

1. Put these time words and phrases in order, then write a sentence using each of them.

- a long time ago
- in the future
- last week
- today
- last year
- tomorrow
- yesterday

2. A timeline is a line that has important events on it in chronological order. Complete a timeline of your life. Think about the important things that have happened and when, such as being born, starting school and moving year groups.
3. Children go to school for teaching and learning. It is a special place for children for lots of different reasons. Write a list poem entitled 'My school is a special place' to explain why school is a special place for you. Use a capital letter at the start of each sentence and a full stop at the end.
4. Draw a plan of your school from memory and label the different areas, such as the hall, library and classrooms. Then choose one of these areas and circle it on your plan. Write a few sentences to explain what the area is used for and why the area is important to you.
5. It is important to care for each other and look after objects and equipment when we are in school. Think of an important message or action for how everyone should behave in school. For example, it is important to use kind and polite words with each other. Design a poster to display in school to encourage and remind children about your important action or message.
6. The Victorian era was the time from 1837 to 1901 when Queen Victoria was the monarch of the United Kingdom. Use books and the internet to answer these questions about Queen Victoria.

Early life

- When was Queen Victoria born?
- What hobbies did she have?

Becoming queen

- When did Princess Victoria become queen?
- When did she get married and who did she marry?
- How many children did Queen Victoria have?

Queen Victoria's reign

- For how many years did Queen Victoria reign?
- When did she die and where was she buried?
- Who was the following monarch?

7. Look at and compare the images showing rich and poor Victorian families. Record your observations by writing a few sentences about each picture. Then talk with an adult about how these pictures compare to family life today.



Rich Victorian family



Poor Victorian families

8. Use a range of sources to answer the questions about Victorian schools.
- What were classrooms like in Victorian schools? How do they compare to your classroom?
 - What were Victorian teachers like and how did they behave?
 - What did children learn in Victorian schools?
 - How were children punished in Victorian schools?

9. Read this information about Samuel Wilderspin. Then, answer the questions.

Samuel Wilderspin was a teacher, who is known as the founder of infant education. He had enjoyed learning at home and looked forward to going to school. When he started school, he didn't like the strict teachers or the boring lessons. He believed that children should enjoy school and be happy. He invented the school playground, so that children could play outside.

Samuel Wilderspin had four important rules about teaching children:

- Children should be given good food to eat at school.
- Teachers should explain everything properly so that children could learn.
- Children should not be given too much work to do or be given work that they could not understand.
- Children should be allowed to play and sing as well as learn reading, writing and maths.