

Base 2

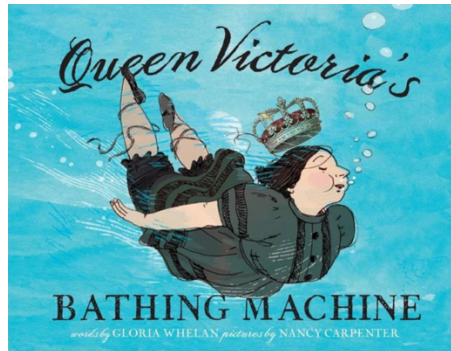
Autumn Newsletter

3rd September 2025

Whole school theme: Our Roots

Base 2 Focus: The Victorians

Class book: Queen Victoria's Bathing Machine



Welcome back to a new school year in Base 2! We hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful summer spent with family and friends. Mrs Culbert and I are excited to begin another fantastic year of learning and are looking forward to sharing your child's learning journey with you. We have lots of exciting activities and opportunities planned for the year ahead and cannot wait to get started.

This Autumn term, our whole-school theme is 'Our Roots'. We will be learning about the Victorians, focusing on Victorian schools and what life was like for children during this period. As our school celebrates its 150th anniversary this year, it provides a wonderful opportunity to explore our school's roots and discover how education has changed over time. Our class text, *Queen Victoria's Bathing Machine* by Gloria Whelan, will support our learning and introduce us to Queen Victoria and the era that bears her name. In Geography, we will develop our map-reading and observational skills while exploring the school grounds and local area. In Music, we will explore Victorian stories and ways through songs, inspired by *Oliver Twist*. While in Art and DT we will compare historical and modern school buildings and artefacts through drawing, designing and making. We have lots of exciting learning planned this term and look forward to sharing it with you. Please see the curriculum overview for further details about our learning in each subject.

Reading

Reading is a fundamental part of our learning and we encourage children to read regularly both at school and at home. Our classroom reading area contains a wide range of fiction, non-fiction and picture books for children to enjoy throughout the week. The children will always be welcome to enjoy a quiet moment reading an enjoyable book in the reading space. We also make use of the Schools Library Service, which provides us with new books every fortnight and allows us to request specific titles that children are interested in reading.

We ask that you support your child's reading at home by reading together regularly and recording this in their reading diary. If you would like any support or questions about reading at home, I am always happy to help, supporting you to find ways to make reading an enjoyable part of your child's routine.

We encourage you to read with your child every day and record this in their reading diary. Reading books will continue to be changed and sent home on Fridays.

Reading books will be sent home on Fridays and should be returned the following Friday so that they can be changed and enjoyed during the week ahead. Your support with reading at home makes a significant difference to your child's progress and confidence as a reader.

Each child will bring home:

- A 'Learn to Read' book – read during guided reading at school.
- A phonics-linked book – matched to your child's phonics level.
- A 'Love to Read' book – chosen by your child. These may be beyond their reading level and are designed to be shared and enjoyed together.

To encourage regular reading, children can earn special badges:

- 🏅 Bronze – 50 reads
- 🥈 Silver – 100 reads
- 🥇 Gold – 150 reads
- ⭐ Platinum - 200 reads
- ⭐ Over 250 reads – an extra special reward from Mrs Charlesworth!

There will be a reading ladder in the classroom which will be regularly updated with the number of the children's reads so they can see where there are up to on their reading journey to earn those special reading badges!

Base 2 Timetable

We will have daily phonics for Year 1s and daily spellings for Year 2s before we begin our daily English and Maths lessons. The majority of our afternoons will be dedicated to our Learning Journey covering science, history, geography, DT, art, music, RE and computing. There will be times where the learning will be linked. Our My Happy Mind programme will continue weekly to support the children's wellbeing. There will also be a focus on handwriting which will take place during our English lessons. In the morning on a Wednesday the children will have PE and must come to school dressed in the school's PE kit with trainers. Three times a week the Year 1 children will take part in guided reading groups, where the 'Learn to Read' book is practiced and comprehended with a member of staff. During this time the Year 2s will be taking part in reading comprehension lessons.

Base 2 – 26/27 Timetable

Day	8.40 - 8.55	8.55- 9.30	9.30 – 10:30	10:30 – 10:45	10.45- 12:00	12.00 - 1.00	1.00- 1:30	1.30 – 3.15	2:30- 3:00	3.00 – 3:30
Monday	Registration and morning activities	Phonics (Y1) Spellings (Y2)	English	Playtime	Arithmetic	Maths	Lunchtime	My Happy Mind + Science (In individual year groups)	(Y1) Reading Groups	Assembly
Tuesday		Phonics (Y1) Spellings (Y2)	English		Arithmetic	Maths		Learning Journey	(Y1) Reading Groups	Assembly
Wednesday		Phonics (Y1) Spellings (Y2)	PE		PE			English	Maths	Assembly
Thursday		Phonics (Y1) Spellings (Y2)	English		Arithmetic	Maths		Learning Journey		Assembly
Friday		Book Change Phonics (Y1) Spellings (Y2)	Spelling Test English		Arithmetic	Maths		Learning Journey	(Y1) Reading Groups	Story Time

Homework

Each child will receive a green homework journal (which is for the year) to record and present their amazing homework and a list of exciting tasks linked to our learning. Children can choose which activities they would like to complete, giving them the opportunity to follow their interests and showcase their talents. We ask that all children complete at least four tasks during the term, although they are welcome to complete as many as they wish. Each task is worth a different number of points depending on its level of challenge, with additional points awarded for

exceptional effort, creativity and presentation. At the end of the term, all points will be totalled and prizes awarded to the children who have earned the most points. We look forward to celebrating lots of imaginative and high-quality homework throughout the term!

As well as this, you will be asked to:

- Year 1s and Year 2s play on Numbots daily (this can be done at school if it is not available at home)
- Year 2s to play on TTRS daily (this can be done at school if it is not available at home)
- Practise spellings daily (spellings will be given out on a Friday and tested the following Friday)
- Read daily and record in your reading record. (Aiming to achieve those special badges!)

(Logins will be stuck into reading dairies)

Punctuality and attendance

As usual, the school gates are open at 8:40am and all children must be in school by 8:55am. When the children come in, they will place their reading diaries in the basket to be checked and will have morning tasks to begin their learning. Phonics and spellings will begin at 9:00am to maximise their learning time. Being late can make children feel behind and unprepared for the day and cause unnecessary worry. When a child arrives late, the office staff have to pause their duties to help settle and register the child and ensure a hot dinner is ordered (if one is being taken). Lateness stops the rest of the class from learning and interrupts the lesson and input which has already begun.

It is vital that your child attends school as much as they possibly can; the aim is for every child to have full attendance (100%) to benefit fully from their time in school and to make the best possible progress with learning. Every lesson matters.

Uniform

All children must come to school in correct school uniform, including school shoes, socks and PE kit and if wearing hair accessories, they must be appropriate for school. The details of this can be found on the school website: www.wrenburyschool.org.uk/our-parents/uniform.html

Please ensure that your child brings appropriate extra clothing as required e.g.: coat, hat, gloves - they may even need suncream if the sun continues to shine through September.

(If where possible, please name in your child's items of clothing, particularly school and PE jumpers; this helps us to return misplaced items and ensure the children go home with their correct belongings. Thank you.)

Snacks and drinks

We are very passionate about supporting children to make healthy lifestyle choices and we believe healthy brains work best. We are therefore asking you to send a healthy snack – **no sweets or chocolate**. If sweets or chocolate are brought to school, the children will be asked to put them back in their bags and will be offered a piece of fruit.



Please ensure the children have a water bottle in school filled with **water**. Water is a healthier choice and better for the children's teeth but also when drinks are spilt, it can attract insects in the classroom.

Class Charity

This year our class charity is Nantwich Buddies. It supports local people through befriending, social groups, and practical help. The charity continues to make a positive difference to many households in our community. We hope to hold a fundraising event this year to help support their important work.

Key Dates

8th September – Ks1 Meeting 16:45pm
9th October – Online Safety Parent Meeting 9:00am.
21st October – Harvest
16th October – Base 2 Theme Day
21st-22nd October – Parents' Evening
23rd October – Base 2 Blist Hill Trip
2nd November – Inset Day
16th November – School photos
9th December 13:30 - Nativity
10th December 5:30pm – Nativity
11th December – Christmas Fair
15th December - EYFS/KS1 Christmas Theatre Trip

Open door

My door is always open, and I am always very happy to help should you have any concerns, wish to share information that is relevant to your child's well-being or require additional information regarding your child and their learning or progress. Your child's wellbeing is extremely important to us, and we want to be able to support your child in any way that we are able to. I will be at the door every morning, or you can arrange a time to meet with me at a time that is convenient for the both of us.

I look forward to a fun filled, exciting year of learning!

Best wishes,

Miss Winward