

Fox Victorian Day 19th May 2023

It was wonderful to see Fox Class dressed up and enjoying their Victorian Day this week. The children were given the opportunity to experience life in a Victorian school, play with traditional games and complete Victorian activities and crafts. The day was linked to the Fox's History unit of Victorian England, their Art topic of LS Lowry, their Victorian theatres for DT as well as the link to their class novel, 'Street Child', based on the boy whose plight inspired Dr Barnardo to found his famous children's homes. As you will see from the photo page all of the children looked great in their costumes and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Thank you to Mrs Healy for providing such a fun and insightful day.

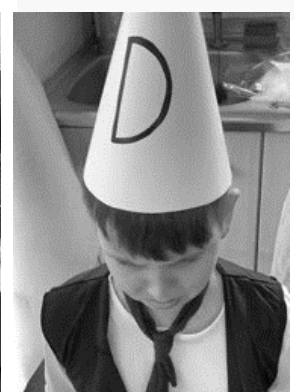
The Victorians is a great topic for our children to study as it forms a key part of our heritage as a school. The first school in Aston Rowant was actually established during the reign of George III in 1771 and 1784 by the squire of the village. Although it closed in 1787 it was restarted and is believed to have been the day-school mentioned in 1808 diocese records. At a church meeting in Easter 1813 it was decided that a school supported by the parish should be established as soon as a proper house could be procured.

By 1818, there was a lacemaking school, where girls were also taught to read. There was no provision for the boys. The Lacemaking School still existed in 1833, but by that time a day school had also been started. It was supported by Lady Lambert, and in 1833 it had 27 girls and 12 boys. The children began school when they were 6 years old, the boys leaving at 10 years of age and the girls at 13 years.



Our current school is Victorian and was built in 1844 as a National Mixed School on land given by Sir Henry Lambert, Lord of the Manor. If you look carefully you can see this date above the external hall door. Our current hall was the entire school. There were 50 children in 1853 and 60 from 1871 to 1894, including children from Crowell. All of the children were in one class and all of the children learnt the same curriculum. The Victorians didn't have many books, they would share and pass around the few (or even just one) that they had. The school was enlarged in 1891 and 90 children attended in 1903. In 1931 it was reorganized as a junior school for children under 11 years with the seniors being sent by bus to Chinnor.

In 1951 it became a voluntary controlled Church of England school and in 1955 was attended by 23 children. Voluntary controlled (VC) schools means that we are partly controlled by the Church of England and partly by the Local Authority. The LA funds the school, employs the staff and provides support services, and usually controls the admissions process. The church owns the land and buildings and appoints some of the governors.



GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

'Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him.' Colossians 2:7