

# Acorn Class Curriculum Newsletter: Spring 1

## Thomas Barnado – I hope you'll be...charitable

### Theme Overview

Our Dimensions curriculum has a history-based theme, telling the inspirational story of Thomas Barnardo. He is remembered for providing education and homes for poor children in Victorian times and for founding the charity Barnados. There are themes of creativity, courage, commitment and community. We will use different sources of information to find out about the past, including IT. There are links with music (as we will learn a song about Barnado) and PHSE, as we consider his legacy.

### Maths Links

Alive in 5! Number, Mass and Capacity (Reception)

Addition and Subtraction within 20 (Y1)

Multiplication and Division (Y2)

The children also have maths fluency lessons.

### Literacy Links

Our class book for this half term is The Gruffalo (Julia Donaldson). The unit theme is: Stories with recurring literary language. The children will use this book as an inspiration to create and describe their own monster.

### Reading

It is so important to share a story or listen to your child read every day for at least 5 - 10 minutes. Reading books will be changed weekly or more frequently if necessary. Your child should read their book more than once if it's short, as this will develop fluency and word recognition. Please do chat and enjoy the book together as they read, as well as asking questions, to make sure that they understand it. Some children will begin Accelerated Reader as they move through Acorn, and their log in details will be stuck into the inside front cover of their reading record. A Year 2 child on much longer books can begin to read a few pages of their book alone, whilst parents still monitor them closely.

## PE

Our PE days are Monday and Friday. Children should come to school wearing their P.E. kit.

## Science

We continue to offer nature explorers each Wednesday. Children are looking at seasonal change and learning about animals and their habitats in the local environment.

## Design and Technology

Our design task will be to make a room for a foster child in a shoebox, linking to our Barnados topic.

## Active Learning

Our role play is currently a charity shop. The children are enjoying dressing as Victorians and buying items each day, whilst learning all about charity.

We continue to offer busy fingers activities as the children arrive each morning, and continuous provision, which includes outdoor learning.