



St John Fisher RC Primary School

Year 5 Knowledge Organiser – Spring One - History

What we will be learning

I know:

Week 1- Queen Victoria ruled the United Kingdom for 63 years. During her reign there were many new inventions.

Week 2 - During the Victorian period, Britain changed from a mainly agricultural society into a society based on larger scale manufacturing in mills and factories. We call this industrialisation.

Week 3 - Large numbers of people moved to the cities to find work.

Poor children did not go to school but were sent to work and the jobs were often very dangerous e.g. Down the mines and chimney sweeps.

Week 4 - There were not enough houses and jobs for all the people.

Poor families often lived together in one room of a house and paid rent.

Week 5 - Overcrowding, lack of medical knowledge and poor quality water supplies all helped spread disease.

Poor families, either too sick to work or unable to find work were sent to the workhouse.

Week 6 - We know from primary and secondary sources that conditions in the workhouse were harsh. Not all people in Victorian Society were poor, there was the lower, middle and upper classes.

Key Facts to Remember

- Queen Victoria ruled the United Kingdom in the Victorian era.
- The Victorian era was a period marked by numerous inventions and the transformation from an agricultural society to an industrial one.
- Industrialisation led to mass migration to cities, overcrowded living conditions, dangerous child labour and harsh workhouses for the poor.
- Despite widespread poverty and disease, Victorian society was divided into lower, middle and upper class.
- Much evidence remains about life in a Victorian Workhouse.

Key Vocabulary and Glossary

Queen Victoria	Queen Victoria is associated with Britain's great age of industrial expansion, economic progress and especially, empire.
Victorian Era	A period marked by numerous inventions and the transformation from an agricultural society to an industrial one.
Industrialisation	The Industrial Revolution was a time of speedy industrialisation and advances in technology. It led to significant changes in the way people lived and worked.
Child Labour	The employment of children in an industry or business, especially when illegal.
Poverty	the state of being extremely poor.
Victorian Workhouse	A large institution that provided shelter and employment for people who were too poor to support themselves

Key Knowledge:

Poor children often had to go to work to earn money for their families. As a result, many could not go to school. It was customary for children from low-income families to be sent off to work as young as the age of four or five.

