

**Meriden C of E Primary School**  
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**Headteacher: Mrs Lucy Anderton**

23 October 2018

Dear Parents & Carers,

**Happy Birthday to us!**

On Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November we will be **175 years old!**

Although there were previously separate boys' and girls' schools in the village, as the village population grew the current accommodation was found to be inadequate and more teaching space was required. With about 60 boys attending by the late 1830s, a new building sponsored in part by the Church of England's National Society opened in November 1843 on the Main Road. It had two classrooms, one for boys, the other for girls and infants. The Digby Family provided this at a cost of £520 and Meriden Church of England School was born!



To celebrate this, during that week, we are planning some exciting lessons and activities around that era including a village walk up to the Old School House.

On **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November** we would invite all children (and adults) to come dressed as Victorians for the day! There will also be a special **birthday party lunch** that day along with a birthday cake provided by our school cook, Mrs Sahoo. All Ks1 children are currently entitled to a free lunch as part of the Universal Infant Free School Meals Scheme, but for that day only we are offering the birthday lunch free to all pupils, including KS2 children!

On the next page there are some ideas for clothes and costumes – please don't buy especially as costumes are easy to put together – even rolled up school trousers and a white shirt will do!

We are really looking forward to celebrating together, and hope you all are too!

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Anderton  
Headteacher



### Victorian Boy

Dark trousers, a dark coloured waistcoat and a white or cream shirt. Fasten on a bow tie or tie an adult tie into a bow around the neck. Make a paper top hat. School shoes on the feet would be fine

### Victorian Girl

A long, dark-coloured dress or skirt with a long sleeved blouse. Add a shawl around the shoulders and a head scarf. If you can't get a long dark dress/skirt for a child, get a knee-length adult one and tighten the waist with a belt. Plimsolls or ballet pumps on the feet would be ideal.

### Chimney Sweep

Ruggedly cut the bottoms off some old brown or grey trousers, which they can wear with plimsolls. Add a scruffy white shirt. Put some dirt or brown/black face paint on their face and hands to make it look like they've been up a chimney. Accessorise with a flat cap and, of course, with a 'sweeping brush' (a static duster would be perfect).

