# School Days

## Time words and phrases

The **past** describes a time before the present. The words 'last' and 'ago' are often used to explain when something happened in the past.

The **present** describes the time now.

The **future** describes a time that hasn't happened yet. The word 'next' is often used to describe when something will happen in the future.

past	present	future
yesterday	now	tomorrow
days ago	today	next week
weeks ago		next year
last month		
a long time ago		

### Victorian era

The Victorian era was the time from 1837 to 1901 when Queen Victoria was the monarch of the United Kingdom.

#### Queen Victoria

Queen Victoria was loved by her people. She ruled the United Kingdom and the people in other countries who were part of the British Empire.



#### Rich people

Rich Victorian people lived in large houses and were looked after by servants. Rich children had beautiful clothes and many toys. They went to boarding school or were taught at home.



#### Industrial Revolution

Victoria became queen during the start of the Industrial Revolution. At this time, new machines were invented and factories were built. The Industrial Revolution made the United Kingdom a very powerful and rich country.



### Poor people

Poor Victorian people lived in small houses and worked in factories, coal mines and mills. Poor children wore rags and had little food to eat. Many went to work instead of going to school.



#### **New inventions**

Electric light bulbs, telephones, motor cars, bicycles, postage stamps and Christmas cards were all invented during the Victorian era.



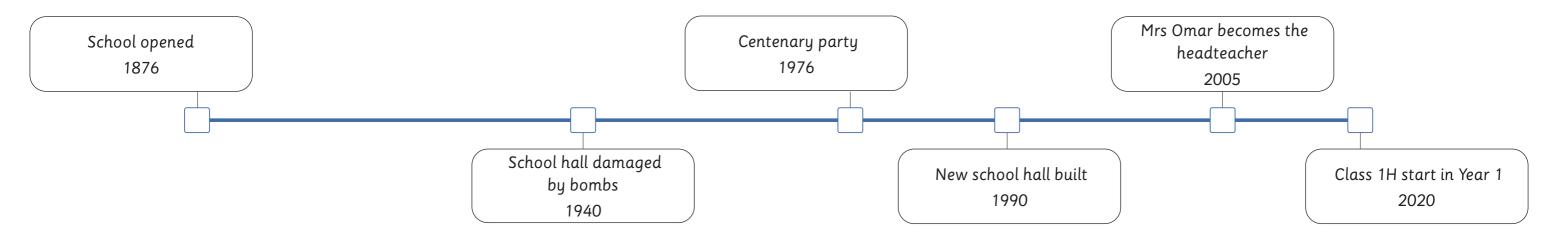
#### Leisure time

Seaside holidays, visiting museums and art galleries and spending time in public parks became popular in the Victorian era.



### **Timelines**

A timeline shows information in chronological order. This timeline shows important events in the history of a school. The opening of the school is on the left-hand side because it happened first. The present day is on the right-hand side because it shows the most recent events.



#### A king or queen who rules a monarch

# punishment

# given to someone who has broken

### Following and enforcing rules

# arithmetic

Adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing.

#### cane

A long piece of wood or bamboo that was used to punish children in the Victorian era.

#### centenary

The 100 year anniversary of a place or event.

**chronological** The order in which events happened.

#### dunce's cap

on the front, which was worn by children in the Victorian era as a punishment.

#### invention

Something new that has never been made before.

kingdom.

An unpleasant experience or task

### a rule.

#### strict

exactly.

## Samuel Wilderspin

Samuel Wilderspin was a teacher who is known as the founder of infant education. He had enjoyed learning at home and looked forward to going to school. When he started school he didn't like the strict teachers or the boring lessons. He believed that children should enjoy school and be happy. He invented the school playground so children could play outside.

Samuel Wilderspin (1791-1866)

# lessons included needlework for

#### Classrooms

Lessons

Some classrooms held up to 70 or 80 children. Boys and girls sat separately. Children sat in rows and faced the front. The teacher used a blackboard and wrote with chalk. Children wrote on slates with slate pencils.

Victorian schools

Reading, writing and arithmetic

were the most important lessons

were called the three Rs. They

in Victorian schools alongside

girls and woodwork for boys.

religious education. Other



#### **Teachers**

Most teachers were very strict in Victorian times. They expected children to behave well and be clean and tidy. They punished children who mishehaved or didn't work hard enough.



### **Punishments**

There were many punishments in Victorian classrooms. Teachers hit children with a cane if they misbehaved or made them wear a dunce's hat if they hadn't worked hard enough.

