



Radley CE Primary School & Foundation Stage Unit

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Wednesday 4th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you've all managed to have a break over the Christmas holidays and our best wishes from all of us at Radley Primary for a very Happy New Year!

As you may already know, 2023 marks the 150th Anniversary of what is now 'the Old School' building, as well as the opening of our new expansion (in the not-too-distant future).

There had been a Sunday school in Radley as part of the Church since 1807 and a school in Radley since around 1841, the School House and the adjoining chimney date from around then, but it is not known if the previous building was parallel to or at right angles to it.

The new school building, now known as the 'Old School' was opened on 13th January 1873. In 1892 it was then extended to its current configuration by creating additional space for the infant classroom, and the sliding doors, which remain in place today, were installed to separate the two classrooms.

To mark this occasion, on **Friday 13th January** we are planning to have a **whole school Victorian Day** where we will all dress as Victorians and learn about what life was like for the children who attended Radley Primary School in 1873. As the school was for 'the poor of the parish', therefore the children should dress as such!

What would a Victorian child wear to school?

Girls would wear a knee-length dress, usually in a dark colour. They also wore a white apron tied at the back to protect their dress, thick black stockings and black shoes or boots.

Boys wore a shirt, trousers and ankle boots, or shorts with long socks, with a jacket with a waistcoat or a jumper underneath.

Please don't feel it is necessary to buy a costume for this day.

During the day each class will create a display for our opening of the expanded school. This will be an event later in the year that is open to the whole Radley Primary School community, students past and present, and those in the village who are interested. We will also work with Radley History Club and the Abingdon Museum to enrich the children's learning with photographs, documents and artefacts.

As soon as I can confirm a date for our 'new school' opening, I will let you know!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Claire Thomas
Headteacher