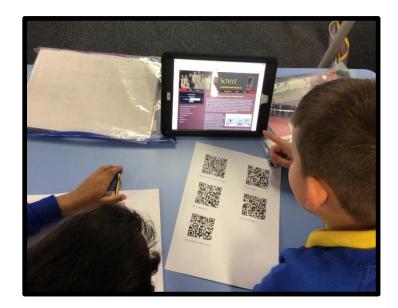
Year 2 Seals - Enquiry based learning - Autumn 2025.

How have North East schools changed since the Victorian times?

Beginning of the process

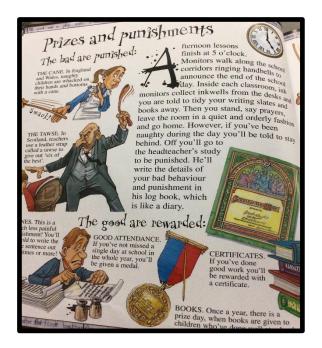
At the beginning of the process, we remembered all of the facts we had found out about Victorian schools from our History lessons. Then we used various books and the IPads to do our own research in small groups. We learned how to scan QR codes to go to relevant websites and videos. We watched videos and researched school lessons, buildings, school day and jobs such as the headteacher and teachers in both Victorian and Modern schools.





We used books such as 'You wouldn't want to be a Victorian Schoolchild' to gather knowledge of what schools were like in the Victorian period. We worked in groups to read sections of the text and made notes in our whiteboard books.





Using the Ipads and library books, we looked at the lessons, buildings, jobs and punishments. After that, we looked at the similarities and differences between then and now. Lots of things were the same but some things were very different such as the punishments in lessons. We wrote down what we found out in our whiteboard books and English books.

Beamish Visit

We went on a trip to Beamish Museum to experience first-hand what the school was like for children in Victorian times. We sat at the small, wooden desks and used the slates to write with. The Victorian teacher showed us what lessons were like and we asked lots of questions about the objects that we could see in the classroom such as the rocking horse and the abacus. We also found out about the types of lessons that the children would learn and the punishments they would have been given. The Victorian teacher showed us the punishment log book as well.











We asked about why the pictures weren't very colourful and why there was a grid on the desk. The teacher explained that the grid was used for counting and we compared it to our 100 squares at school.









We also found out about the typical pit village cottages where some of the children would have lived in the past and we were surprised by how life was so different. They had a toilet outside and no bathroom indoors!













Presenting our research/Examples of end products

We became the authors of non-fiction books and presented our research in booklets. We read our books to other children during ERIC time to practise our speaking and listening skills linked with our Skills Builder and Voice 21 objectives. We also shared our findings with our Y1 friends in an oracy session this half term.

