



Victorian Christmas Day

AT BEAUMANOR HALL

Beaumanor offers a superb combination of a Victorian Christmas day, whilst contributing to the history curriculum as part of a local area of study. The focus is on a Victorian child's Christmas, delivered via empathetic and experiential learning beyond the classroom.



Core activities:

Arrival and welcome

Victorian History of Beaumanor Hall

Christmas during Victorian times

The children will discuss Christmas traditions, play parlour games and have a story read to them.

Victorian Christmas Crafts

Each child will make a traditional Victorian dove tree decoration.

Victorian Schoolroom

The children will have an opportunity to experience a Victorian lesson with the teacher in character. They will create a traditional Christmas greetings card.

Carols in the Hall

A short carol concert will take place in the main Hall. The children will have an opportunity to experience the grandeur of the staircase and stained glass window while singing some favourite Christmas carols.

Seeing Santa - this is a surprise activity!

The children will call for and see Santa from a distance then meet him face to face in the grotto. It will be more fun if you do not tell the children about this beforehand!

Visit to Santa's Grotto

The children will meet Santa and receive a small gift.

Finish and depart



If you bring a large group, the children should be separated into single class sizes and they will do the activities in rotation.

We will lead and provide song sheets for the carol singing. However, if you would like to lead this session yourselves, please let us know. We have a piano for your use.

Coming to Beaumanor in Victorian Costume

It will make your day more enjoyable if you, your leaders and your children come to Beaumanor in costume, with a period packed lunch. It will enable the children to get a much better feel for the period and will highlight some of the things you will undoubtedly have been telling them about Victorian life and manners.

1) Costume

The day will be very loosely set around the 1850s-1860s, which is around the time that the Hall was completed. Your group can be children of the estate workers and servants, allowed to come to the Hall as a special treat at Christmas time. If possible, the children should not wear watches or jewellery:

For schools with 36 – 72 visiting pupils, please split your group into 2.

For schools with 73 – 108 visiting pupils, please split your group into 3. There will be a half-hour lunch break when your staff will be required to supervise the children.



Girls

Long sleeved, high necked blouses and dresses or calf/ankle length skirts

A pinafore and mob cap, a shawl (optional)

Tights and outdoor shoes

Hair in plaits, bunches or ringlets, pinned up or neatly brushed

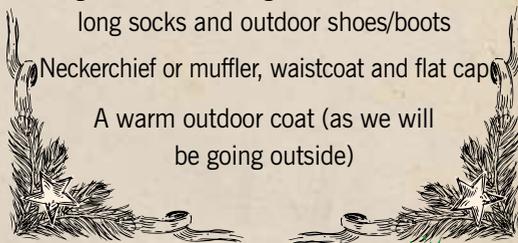
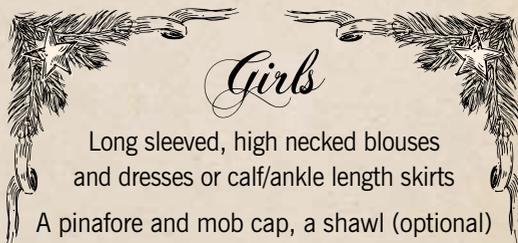
A warm outdoor coat (as we will be going outside)

Boys

Long sleeved shirt, long trousers or breeches, long socks and outdoor shoes/boots

Neckerchief or muffler, waistcoat and flat cap

A warm outdoor coat (as we will be going outside)



2) Packed Lunch

The packed lunches should reflect the fact that plastic bags and lunch boxes had not been invented, there were almost no fast foods and most food was plain, simple and local. Some suggestions:



The food

Cheese sandwiches and/or bread and jam

Cooked ham, boiled eggs and pickle

Gingerbread biscuits, sugar mice, apples and pears

Ginger beer or old-fashioned 'flat' lemonade in a glass bottle (if safe)

The containers

Wrapped in greaseproof paper and tied up in a plain tea towel or piece of sheet

Carried in a cloth satchel or wickerwork basket.

More information

For more information or to book a visit please call **01509 890119** or email **beaumanor.hall@leics.gov.uk**

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