6. CAN YOU FIND: WEIGHING SCALES?

The railway changed the way we communicate. People can now send parcels and letters by post right across the country.

These scales outside the old Parcel Office were used to weigh luggage, letters and parcels carried by rail because the railway charged by weight.

Whose job was it to weigh things before they were put on the train do you think?

a) STATION PORTER  b) SIGNALMAN  c) STATION CARTER

Interesting fact: The railway was a ‘common carrier’ which meant this railway line had to accept anything it was given to carry from sacks of potatoes to hampers of pigeons to bath tubs!

TRUE OR FALSE?

1. The Old Railway Line had horse drawn carriages?

2. Horses are faster than steam engines?

3. The signalman operates the levers in the signal box to make sure the trains move safely?

4. The first Victorian holidaymakers visited the seaside by train?

5. The railway was a common carrier and had to accept anything it was given to carry?

6. This railway once transported a bath tub?

7. A Signalman would transport passengers’ trunks on a trolley?

DRAW A PICTURE OF YOUR FAVOURITE STATION OBJECT HERE

What produce is the farmer sending on this telegram?

a) TURNIPS  b) POTATOES  c) CATTLE
How did the Railway change people’s lives in Victorian Pickering? Follow this station trail to find out!

From the main entrance turn left on Platform 1 to begin this trail.

1. CAN YOU FIND.... THE OLD RAILWAY TRACK?

This part of the original railway line was designed by George Stephenson in 1836. This was the first railway to cross the North York Moors to Whitby!

Now people no longer have to take a slow and dangerous journey across the moors on foot or by horse and cart.

Interesting fact: Before steam trains were invented carriages were pulled along the track all the way to Grosmont by horses!

Now: Have a close look at the old track. This type of iron rail is called ‘Fish Belly’.

Why do you think it is called Fish Belly?

2. CAN YOU FIND.... SIGNAL BOX?

The railway changed people’s lives by providing jobs. Have a peek through the window of the signal box.

The red levers are used to move signals along the railway. The signals tell the drivers how to move along the railway safely.

Whose job would it be to operate the levers in the signal box? The clue is in the name.

Circle the correct answer:

RAILWAY PORTER
GUARD
SIGNALMAN

3. NOW, CAN YOU FIND: RAILWAY PORTER’S TROLLEY?

Victorian holidaymakers packed their clothes in large heavy trunks.

Whose job was it to collect their trunks and put them on the train? Have a guess!

a) SIGNALMAN   b) RAILWAY PORTER   c) GUARD

4. NEXT CAN YOU FIND: BARRELS?

Local farmers can now transport produce by rail. These wooden barrels would be used to transport liquids or goods that needed to be pickled in vinegar for example pickled eggs or pilchards!

Which one of the following would these barrels have transported?

a) HAY  b) LIVESTOCK (SHEEP)  c) PICKLED BEETROOT

Now cross the bridge back over the track to Platform One.

Before the railway arrived, farmers had to send their produce to market by horse and cart. Produce such as milk may turn sour on long journeys! People would not want to buy it.

Railways now meant farmers could transport produce and livestock (such as cattle and sheep) quickly from the country to different towns to sell.

5. NEXT, CAN YOU FIND ...MILK CHURN?

Now the railway is here people can take holidays to towns far away. They can take a day trip to the seaside from anywhere in the country!

Why couldn’t they do this before, do you think?
1. It was too expensive for most people!
2. It was too far to travel in one day?
3. Both of the above.

Interesting fact: Before steam trains were invented carriages were pulled along the track all the way to Grosmont by horses!

Now draw some fish belly tracks here: