

Intent

In teaching History, we aim to inspire curiosity about the past in all our children, regardless of their ability and needs. Throughout their time in school, the children will be taught historical skills, so that they can piece together the jigsaw puzzle of the past with understanding, and relate the outcomes and consequences of these to life in the modern world.

These skills can be divided into four key areas – understanding chronology, knowledge and understanding, historical enquiry, and interpretation. Children will be taught to ask perceptive questions and to use historical enquiry to think critically. Children should reach year 6 able to analyse and interpret artefacts and events from the past, as well as being able to set them in the correct historical context.

All historical enquiry is underpinned by an understanding of the following:

- Continuity and change, both within and across periods studied- What is the same and what is different?
- Cause and consequence – What were the reasons for and the results of events in history?
- What was the significance of particular events and people in history – why did it matter?

Implementation

In Early years, history is taught as an integral part of the topic work through child initiated and adult led activities. The children are given the opportunity to gain a wider experience of the world around them. The children will begin to develop an understanding of chronology, in discussing their own routines and past events. This may include the telling of stories from the past and a chance to talk about the characters within them.

In Key stage 1, the historical content chosen gives a taste of the content that is visited in Key stage 2. Topics are not in chronological order at this stage and an understanding of chronology is begun through the use of personal time lines, and time lines focussing on events within living memory. As more content is studied children will begin to have an understanding of how particular historical periods were different from one another and from today.

In Key stage 2, studies of British historical periods run in chronological order from the Stone Age in year 3, to a study of WWII in year 6. As such, a line of development in some of the following areas can be built up: law and order; invade and conquer; traditions and beliefs; agriculture and industry; settlements and homes; education and childhood. These can be traced through history, showing similarities between periods as well as differences. Alongside this, each year group studies one civilisation from around the world, allowing comparison with events and people from a similar time in history. For each topic, there will be a focus on at least one significant individual or event building the children's general knowledge.

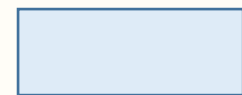

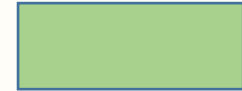
While in many cases, the historical content is the 'topic leader' for that half term, some events and people in history are part of another topic area. This does not mean they can't be added to class time lines, and connections made with previously taught topics. Throughout the school, children should be helped to learn and remember key names and dates.

Learning may then be communicated in a number of ways, including written work, drama, drawing, model making, making presentations.

Impact

By the end of their time at Newton Leys, pupils will have developed an appreciation and understanding for the way that the past has an impact on subsequent times and leaves a legacy that affects the way we live today. As historians, children will learn lessons from history to influence the decisions they make in their lives in the future. They will be able to use appropriate subject specific vocabulary and understand that events have causes and consequences. The facts they have learnt will contribute to their cultural capital, helping them in their journey through secondary school and beyond.

Progression in Historical Knowledge and Chronology at Newton Leys Primary School and Nursery

-  Topic Leaders
-  Historical subjects met via other topic leaders
-  World History – Topic Leaders

