

History at Key Stage 1

Aims of the History National Curriculum:

- ♣ know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day: how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world;
- ♣ know and understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world: the nature of ancient civilisations; the expansion and dissolution of empires; characteristic features of past non-European societies; achievements and follies of mankind;
- ♣ gain and deploy a historically grounded understanding of abstract terms such as 'empire', 'civilisation', 'parliament' and 'peasantry';
- ♣ understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically-valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses;
- ♣ understand the methods of historical enquiry, including how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed;
- ♣ gain historical perspective by placing their growing knowledge into different contexts, understanding the connections between local, regional, national and international history; between cultural, economic, military, political, religious and social history; and between short- and long-term timescales.

Key Stage 1 - Subject knowledge

Pupils should develop an awareness of the past, using common words and phrases relating to the passing of time.

They should:

- know where the people and events they study fit within a chronological framework and identify similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods.
- use a wide vocabulary of everyday historical terms.
- ask and answer questions, choosing and using parts of stories and other sources to show that they know and understand key features of events.
- understand some of the ways in which we find out about the past and identify different ways in which it is represented.

Through teaching about the people, events and changes outlined below, teachers are often introducing pupils to historical periods that they will study more fully at key stages 2 and 3.



The children in Key Stage 1 at St John's Primary will learn about:

- Changes within living memory. In particular, the development of technology within the year 1 topic, 'From Paper to Pixels'.
- The lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements. Year 1 children will learn about Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong.
- Significant historical events, people and places in their own locality. In year 2, children will look at the work and life of H. G. Wells.
- Events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally.