



HISTORY

At Holmer Green Junior School, we strive to stimulate the children's curiosity and understanding about the life of people who lived in the past. Through a range of topics, we promote children to think and act as historians to interpret the past, build an understanding of significant historical aspects of both Britain and the wider world, and develop a sense of chronology. The children develop a sense of identity and a cultural understanding based on their historical heritage. Children investigate these past events to understand them further, and develop the historical skills of enquiry, analysis, interpretation and problem-solving.

We encourage children to be curious learners and enable them to think as historians, through encouraging the use of searching questions. Initially, children develop an understanding of Britain in the earliest times by studying the changes from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. As they move through the school, they explore the expansion and dissolution of empires across the wider world, include the Ancient Egyptians, Mayas, Romans, and Vikings.

Children also have the opportunities to examine historical artefacts and primary sources to stimulate interest in the past. We provide challenge for the children to consider the reliability of the sources in order to better grasp an image of the past. The children will be challenged to consider a variety of text types, photographs, artefacts and pictures and order which they think is the most helpful when identifying the truth about our History.

Our History curriculum is accessible by all. We challenge our more able pupils by encouraging them to think deeper and make comparisons across the different topics. We encourage this by asking them to analyse the information and identify any similarities from different time periods. The children also use retrieval at the beginning of every lesson to allow the class teacher to identify where any support may be needed in understanding the chronology of events. This method allows staff to scaffold and support children where needed. Teachers will also use children's support plans in order to adapt their lessons where necessary.

The main aims of our curriculum are to:

- understand the history of the islands from the earliest times to the present day
- understand the 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 an understanding of historically abstract terms
- develop and use historical concepts including: continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance.

- understand methods of historical enquiry, including how evidence is used to make historical claims.