



Townlands C of E Primary Academy

A journey of learning in the light of God's love.

History

"Study the past if you would define the future."

Confucius

Our Vision for History

At Townlands, we believe that history teaches an understanding about events and the life of people who lived in the past. We teach chronology and through this we endeavour to develop within children a sense of identity and cultural understanding based on their historical heritage. Children learn to value their own and other people's cultures through the study of British history and the wider world.

Why do we teach history?

At Townlands, we teach children to understand how events in the past have influenced our lives today. We also teach children to develop the historical skills of enquiry, analysis, interpretation and problem solving, which support the development of knowledge. We teach history termly, allowing children to build on their previous knowledge so that they can then fully immerse themselves and have opportunities to reflect and build upon prior learning. Our long term plan allows each class to develop their prior learning from the previous year. The history curriculum at Townlands makes full use of resources within the immediate and wider local area enabling children to develop a deep understanding of the history of their locality. Topics are informed by the national curriculum, but are also sensitive to the context of the local area.

The history curriculum aims to ensure that all children:

- Develop an interest and coherent understanding about the past, through which an understanding of the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups occurs
- Know about significant events in British history and to appreciate how things have changed over time
- Develop a sense of chronology and the process of change

- Know and understand how the British system of democratic government has developed and in so doing, to contribute to a child's citizenship education
- Understand how Britain is part of a wider European culture, and to study some aspects of European history
- Have some knowledge and understanding of historical development in the wider world; ancient civilizations
- Help children understand society and their place within it, so that they develop a sense of their cultural heritage
- Develop in children the skills of enquiry, investigation, analysis and evaluation

Rationale – Why we do what we do...

After completing a history audit with pupils and staff we know that our pupils really enjoy these lessons. However, for our children to develop their geographical knowledge further, we devised a new history curriculum across KS1 and KS2; this is now being taught in all year groups. Our progression documents enable teachers to plan the development of historical knowledge purposefully. We are also embedding historical fiction and non-fiction texts into English lessons throughout the school to embed cross curricular links.

We also look at increasing our use of timelines in history lessons, and embed historical fiction and non-fiction texts in English lessons throughout the school, for example, Beowulf in Year 4.

Enrichment

Children will learn about aspects of British history and history in the wider world. In addition, they will learn about current topical historical events such as changes within the monarchy and important sporting events. Where possible, topics will be taught that are relevant to the local area.

Children will also experience the following:

- Trips and visits within the local area (e.g. Bosworth Battlefield, Beaumanor Hall, local museums, Rockingham Castle)
- Meeting and talking to history students in association with The University of Leicester Widening Participation Programme
- Workshops with specialist historians and talks from visiting speakers from the local community
- Opportunities to explore artefacts from a specific period of history
- Learning about and celebrating historical events and people, such as saints days and activists through collective worship

How do we deliver the history curriculum?

The teaching and implementation of the history curriculum at Townlands is based on the National Curriculum. Our content is subject specific, however we make cross-curricular links to strengthen schemas. Reading, writing, speaking and listening skills are further promoted in History.

Historical Skills

As well as learning the historical skills, learning vocabulary, dates and facts the children will also learn key skills including:

- Identifying trusted sources
- Using a timeline to understand when key eras or events from history occurred in relation to each other
- Asking perceptive questions
- Critical thinking
- Research

These skills are repeated throughout the years, so that the children can build upon prior learning. These skills are also transferable, meaning our children can apply them to other subject areas too.

EYFS

In EYFS, history makes a significant contribution to developing a child's knowledge and understanding of the world. We do this through activities such as finding out and talking about the past and present of their own lives and those of their family. This is enhanced further, by providing the children with an enabling environment, where children use their own curiosity to explore and investigate the world around them.

KS1 and KS2

History is taught in topic blocks throughout the year, so that children achieve depth in their learning. Teachers have identified the key knowledge and skills of each topic and consideration has been given to ensure progression across topics throughout each year group across the school. By the end of year 6, children will have a chronological understanding of British history from the Stone Age to the present day. They are able to draw comparisons and make connections between different time periods and their own lives. Interlinked with this are studies of world history, such as the ancient civilisations of Greece and the Egyptians.

Cross curricular outcomes in history are specifically planned for, with strong links between the history curriculum and literacy lessons enabling further contextual learning. The local area is also fully utilised to achieve the desired outcomes, with extensive opportunities for learning outside the classroom embedded into practice. Planning is informed by and aligned with the national curriculum.

History in the curriculum

- We plan using the National Curriculum
- We enhance the curriculum using progression grids
- Subject progression grids are used to develop long term planning
- Teachers use the long term planning to plan units of work and deliver individual lessons

This is how we support and ensure access for all children:

- Ensure that a range of equipment and resources are available to enable success for all pupils (e.g. artefacts, historical documents, additional templates etc).
- We use teacher and self-assessment to quickly identify any child who requires additional support in specific skills

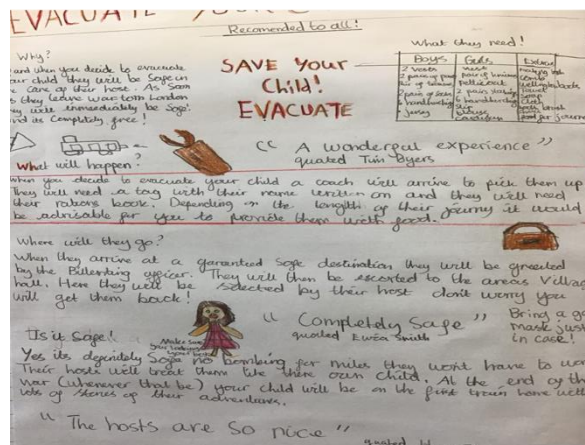
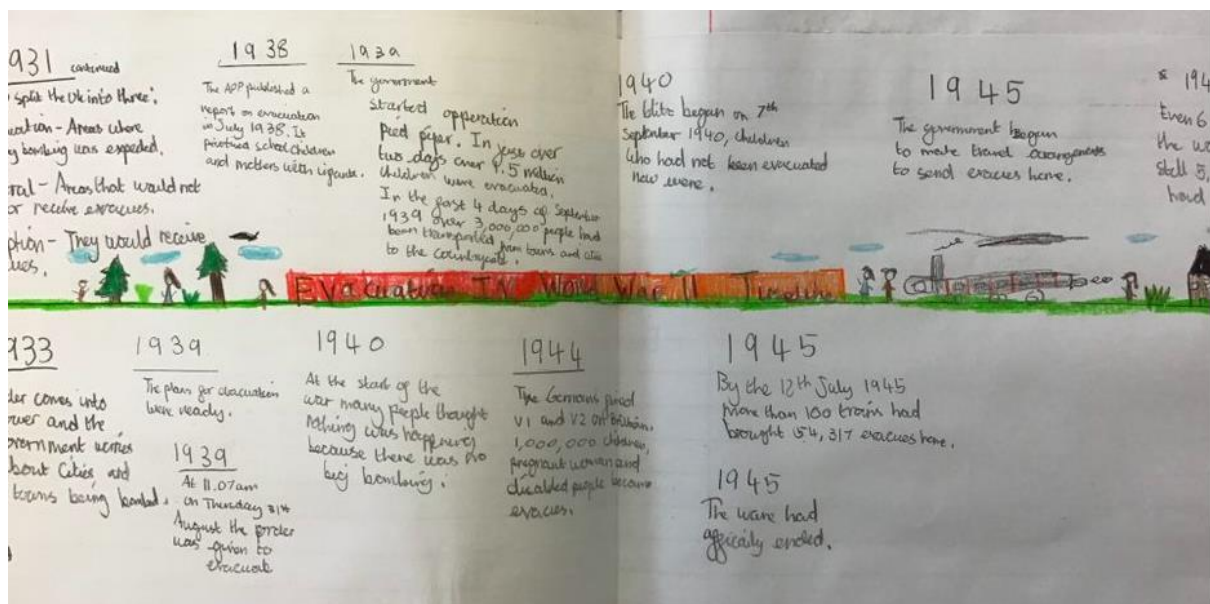
This is how we challenge:

- An additional challenge planned for, from the very start of the lesson

How does the history curriculum embed knowledge?

The successful approach at Townlands results in a history curriculum that enables children to build knowledge and make connections between this knowledge. Emphasis is placed on analytical thinking and questioning which helps pupils gain a coherent understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. Through this subject, pupils learn to ask perceptive questions and think critically. The children will have a sound understanding of history in the world around them and gain a rich cultural capital, supported by school trips and further contextual learning.





Useful Websites

Historical Association

<https://www.history.org.uk/primary/resource/3620/primary-topic-websites>

National Geographic Kids

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/teacher-category/history/>

Primary Homework Help

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/history/index.html>

BBC Bitesize

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z7svr82>

BBC Horrible Histories

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/shows/horrible-histories>