

St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School



HISTORY CURRICULUM STATEMENT

Intent

History at St Mary of the Angels is a valued subject that is essential in the learning journeys of all of our children. Whilst teaching history, we strive to build curiosity about the past by developing knowledge and understanding in an exciting and 'hands on' way. We teach our children to be resourceful and encourage them to become inquisitive learners who can compare, contrast and develop an understanding of the cause and effect. As well as teaching the children about the past, we ask to them to think of the impact they are having on the present and will have in the future by analysing key historical learning points and their implications.

Our curriculum is planned to ensure skills and knowledge are sequenced purposefully and provide the children with lifelong skills that will support them not only in education, but also as 'well informed' citizens who will be valued by employers.

Implementation

Through our topic-based approach, each year group has a key historical period or concept at the heart of their curriculum. Through the teaching of history, cross-curricular links will be made to consolidate the skills being taught through art, music, D.T and Learning Outside of the Classroom. Our sequenced approach allows children to draw on their prior learning whilst exploring a wide range of resources that will help them develop links. Learning is enhanced through handling real artefacts, visits to local sites of historical interest, carefully planned school visitors, support of our of our local and school community and invaluable forest school experiences that allow the children to experience key aspects of history first-hand. For example, children take part in building Native American tipis in Year 5 to enhance their understanding of the everyday life for the native people whilst children in Year 1 build their own model houses and safely recreate the Great Fire of London in their sessions.

Impact

At St Mary of the Angels, children adore their history learning.

"I love learning about bones and dinosaurs."

"History teaches us about stories. Did you know cavemen didn't have any lights?"

"History is my favourite subject because I like learning about peoples and events from the past."

The knowledge and skills that the children build on year-by-year can clearly be evidenced through pupil voice activities, learning walks, environment checks and book scrutinies across the school year. Leaving our school, the children are inquisitive individuals who use the lessons of the past to inform their decisions for the future.