

*WE ARE NOT MAKERS OF HISTORY. WE ARE MADE BY HISTORY.*

Martin Luther King, Jr.

### **Intent**

At Leavening, our aim is to:

- Teach history so that we can extend our children's understanding and help them to compare the world today as it is now, with how it was in the past, which encourages them to be curious and ask questions and therefore develop a desire and enthusiasm for history.
- Extend children's knowledge about the events in history that have happened in the past, in order to develop their understanding of producing a time line of well-known events.
- Show all children how they belong in different communities locally, nationally and globally, and how everyone has personal roles and responsibilities of looking after their own societies.
- Develop positive and determined historians, by teaching them a range of exciting differentiated lessons based on their personal interests. They are specifically adapted to their abilities and needs by using clear objectives taken from the National Curriculum.

## **What History looks like at Leavening**

### **Implementation**

History at Leavening C P School is taught in several blocks throughout the year, linking to a particular topic, so that children achieve depth in their learning and can really explore specific objectives in more detail. Teachers have identified the key knowledge and skills required for each topic, which have been used to organise long term plans.

The staff have ensured these plans demonstrate progression across topics throughout each year group from nursery all the way through to year 6, so that by the end of key stage 2, children are confident in discussing the time line of events from the Stone Age to the present day in British history. They are able to draw comparisons and make connections between different time periods and their own lives today such as, the Victorians and Ancient Greeks.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) in nursery and reception follows the 'Development Matters in the EYFS' guidance which aims for all children to have skills in: 'Understanding of the World'. 'People and Communities' and 'The World and Technology' by the end of reception.

In the curriculum that we provide at Leavening, we try to include as many cross curricular links with other subjects as possible. The outcomes that we want our children to achieve in history are explicitly planned for, with strong links to a range

of lessons including English, Music, Art and Design, Design Technology and Science lessons. We use the national curriculum to inform all our planning across both key stage 1 and 2, and 'Development Matters in EYFS' for nursery and reception. The outcomes of children's work are regularly monitored by teachers to ensure that they reflect a strong understanding of the key identified skills they have been taught in that particular series of lessons.

### ***Wider Curriculum***

- History lessons we teach provide cross curricular links with most subjects we teach including English, Music, Art and Design, Design Technology and Science lessons and the key vocabulary is used consistently by all staff across subjects where appropriate.

### ***Displays across school***

- Displays in classrooms and around school emphasise the importance of history in the curriculum and enable children to make links with other subjects.

## **How we entwine History with our Leavening school values underpinning our purpose of 'Together We Can'**

### **Care, share and belong**

Children are taught how everyone in this world has different personal roles and responsibilities for looking after their societies. They learn to appreciate what others have done for the local community in the past as well as world-wide.

Children are encouraged to share their personal experiences and artefacts with others, for example if they have visited a particular building linked to the topic, or a relative has a WW2 medal.

### **Look and learn beyond the classroom**

Children have the opportunity to experience first-hand, high-quality visits to various places, and speak to visitors in different communities, so they gain more knowledge in an inspiring way.

### **Aim high so everyone can shine**

Children are encouraged to be the best historians they can be. They are provided with the enquiry skills and vocabulary, which enables them to ask further questions about particular events that have happened in history, and as a result help themselves and others to improve their understanding.

## Learn with passion

Children are encouraged to develop a growth mind set and resilience in their attitude towards all areas of learning. They are encouraged to ask questions and help others in order to become more independent learners.

## How we know our History curriculum is successful

### Impact

- Children will develop enquiry skills to pursue their own interests within a topic and lead to further questioning, which will extend their knowledge of British history.
- Children will recall prior-learning and openly make connections between what they have learned in previous years and what they are currently learning in particular topics.
- Children will become progressively more critical and analytical within their own thinking so they can form their own opinions, as well as counter arguments built on their knowledge of the past.
- Children will gain more understanding of how historical events such as World War 1 and America's Revolution have shaped the world that they live in today.
- Children will also develop an understanding of History on a local level, as well as on a national and global scale.
- Children will experience high-quality visits or spoken to special visitors' first hand in school, in order for them to empathise and appreciate the impact of History on society.