



*'A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.'*

Marcus Garvey

### Intent

History gives us an understanding of who we are, where we came from, and of the ideas and events that have shaped us and the world around us. By understanding the past we can see trends and themes that can inform our actions and help us make responsible choices and contributions to society in the future. Study of the past can help equip us with an understanding of the contributions of different groups of people over time and to appreciate the diverse experiences which have shaped our present.

At St Ives Infant School, we aim to inspire our pupils to be curious about the past, in order that they begin developing their understanding of the chronology of key historical events, their awareness of changes over time, and feel a sense of where they stand within the world's history. We want children to ask and answer questions, begin considering different ways in which the past is represented, and to be able to talk about their learning using appropriate historical terms and vocabulary related to the passing of time.

In each year group there is a local history study so that our children can develop their sense of belonging and understand how the past has shaped their lives today and how their lives will help to shape the future.

### Implementation

We implement a history curriculum that fulfils the aims of the Primary National Curriculum, is progressive throughout our school, and equips pupils with the knowledge and skills necessary to continue enjoying history and making progress throughout KS2.

Through carefully planned progression from Early Years through to year 2, pupils are introduced to considering changes in living memory and beyond living memory by learning about nationally significant events and people from the past, as well as people and places familiar to them, such as grandparents, their school and locality.

Through this study pupils will become aware of similarities and differences in ways of life of the past and present, and of where the people and events they learn about fit into British and World history. They will be able to talk about people and events of the past using appropriate historical terms and vocabulary related to the passing of time.

Planning is centred on key enquiry questions, allowing children to begin asking and answering questions about, and to begin considering different ways of finding out about the past.

History is taught as a half-termly topic, to build an in-depth knowledge about a particular period in history, significant individuals who have impacted on the lives of others, or understand how an aspect of life has changed through time.

History topics often form the core of a cross-curricular approach to teaching, supporting and engaging our pupils with work in other subjects, including English, Art, DT and Maths. In this



way, children are able to gain a richer and deeper understanding of a particular aspect of history they study.

We aim to inspire our children to be curious about the past and its impact on the present by bringing history to life via educational trips, opportunities to talk to visitors and handle artefacts, and participate in practical activities.

### Impact

Pupils should be able to describe key events in local and national history that they have learned about, and to compare aspects of their lives with those of periods they have studied.

They should be able to talk about the past using common words and phrases relating to the passing of time, and be able to use and understand everyday historical terms.

Pupils should understand some different ways in which we can find out about the past and have a secure sense of chronology and be able to make connections between the people, events, societies and cultures of the past and of the present. Our children will think and act like historians.