

# Curriculum: History



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

**Marcus Garvey**

## Why do we learn History?

History is a study of the past. Historians are detectives who piece together accurate pictures of what life was like in the past. Children are encouraged, like historians, to form opinions and use evidence and sources to develop an informed opinion of the past. They also gain an understanding of how the past has shaped the present and how it may affect the future. Recurring themes in History allow children at Werrington Primary to revisit and elaborate on previous learning. For example, children learn about Josiah Wedgwood and his factory in Year 1 and the industrial revolution and child labour in Year 5.

## What are the aims of our History curriculum?

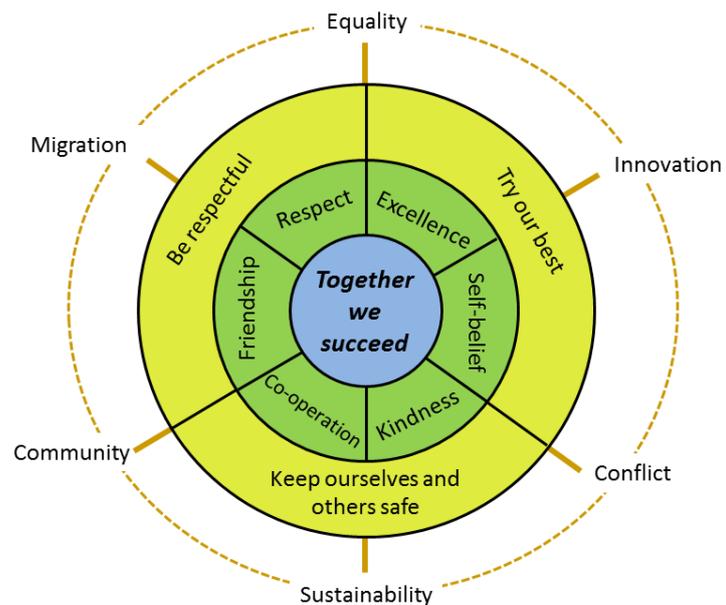
At Werrington primary School we want to inspire our pupils' curiosity about the past. Whilst learning Historical facts, they will develop their investigative skills and the ability to ask and answer questions about the past.

We believe that History should focus on stimulating the children's interest and understanding about the lives of people who lived in the past. We aim for the children to develop a sense of identity and a cultural understanding based on their historical heritage. We teach children to understand how events in the past have influenced our lives today. We also teach the children to investigate these past events and, by so doing, develop the skills of enquiry, analysis, interpretation and problem solving. As children progress through the school, we provide them with a chronological understanding of the past.

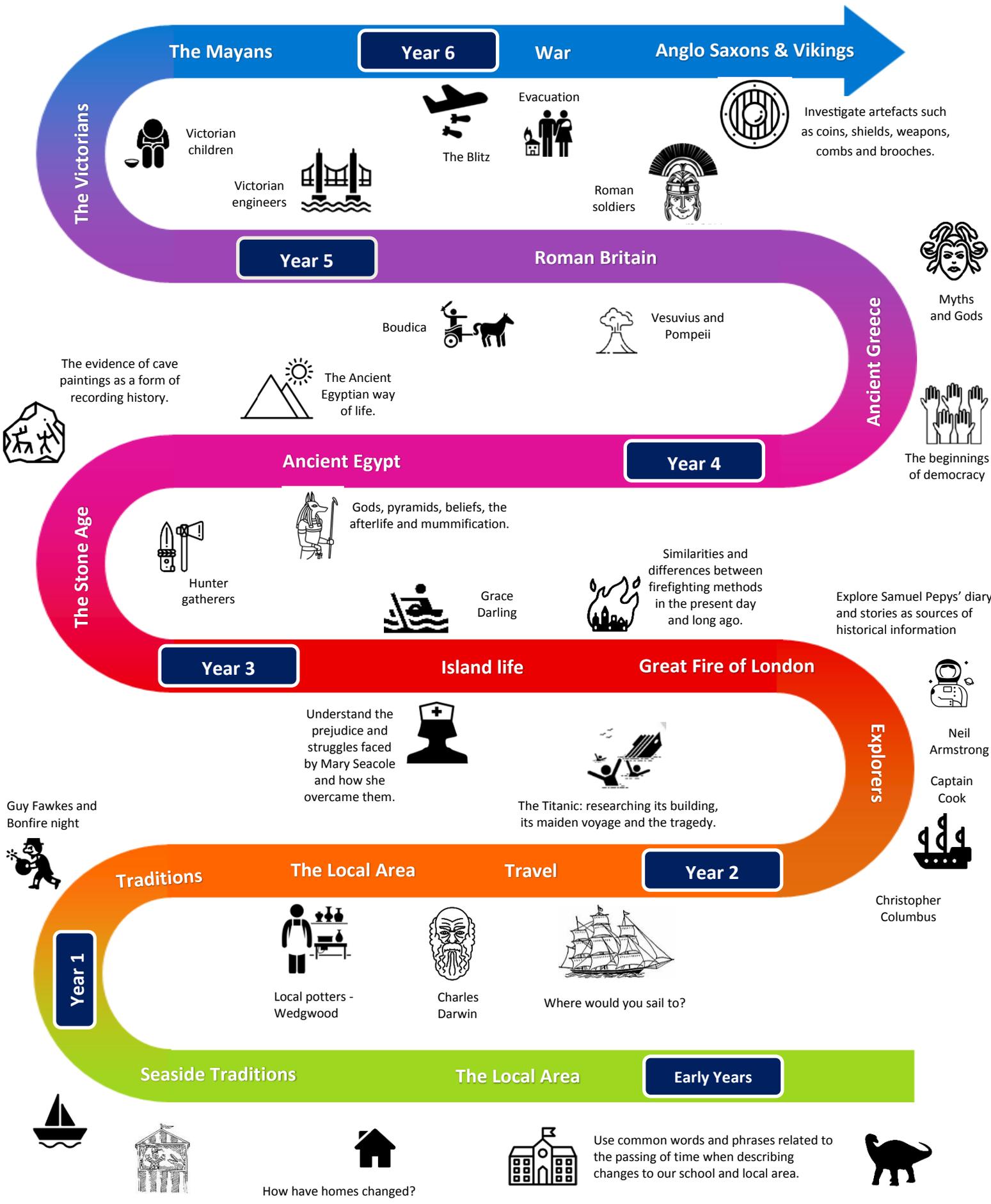
We believe that pupils learn better if they can relate to an event or concept so, wherever possible, we have tried to make links to local History.

At Werrington Primary our bespoke curriculum has 6 golden strands which encompass the core values of our school. These strands run through the history curriculum from Nursery to Year 6. Examples of this can be found in the table below.

<b>Equality</b>	Year 2 learn about Rosa Parkes and her role in the American civil rights movement.
<b>Innovation</b>	Year 5 learn about the legacy of the Victorian era through the inventions of the time.
<b>Conflict</b>	Year 4 learn about the Roman invasion of Britain and the opposition they faced.
<b>Sustainability</b>	<b>Year 6 learn about the effects of war on the landscape.</b>
<b>Community</b>	Year 1 learn about the local pottery industry comparing Josiah Wedgwood and Emma Bridgewater.
<b>Migration</b>	Year 3 learn about the settlement of people from Stone age through to the iron age and the migration of people at that time.



# What do we learn about in History at Werrington Primary School?



## An example of progression: Historical Enquiry

### Year 6

Looking at different versions and the effect different opinions have, children are encouraged to analyse different opinions. Children are encouraged to question the reliability of sources and find out if there might be reasons that people or events might be portrayed

### Year 5

Posing questions based on an opinion, creating a hypothesis and looking at different ways of using sources to find evidence to support ideas e.g. lives of children in Victorian times and the work of Dr Barnardo. Children are encouraged to question cause and effect when finding out for themselves about significant individuals and their impact on society e.g. inventors.

### Year 4

Research answering questions and forming opinions e.g. Boudicca. What could we find out about to help us to create a picture of a significant individual or a time period? Children are encouraged to question why people might have different opinions.

### Year 3

Ask questions and answer questions using different sources. Children are encouraged to question why we may have the evidence that we do (sources) e.g. why do we have little evidence of the Stone Age? How can we find out about a period that is so long ago? What questions can we ask to piece together the information? Who could help us to build a picture?

### Year 2

Ask and answer questions using different sources. Children are provided with different sources to provoke questions about their value and reliability e.g. Samuel Pepys diary and Great Fire of London paintings.

### Year 1

Past and present. Ask questions about a famous historical event: the gunpowder plot. Children are encouraged to question how things might be different comparing two distinctly different periods e.g. the life and work of Josiah Wedgwood compared to Emma Bridgewater.

### EYFS

Children learn what a question is, using past and present, asking questions about things which cause curiosity e.g. dinosaurs. Children learn to find out and question how things may have been different in the past and learn about the concept of change over time, from pre-historic times to the lives of parents and grandparents.

