



History

Subject Leader Report 2024-2025



Subject Leader: Megan Ritchie

Summer Term

During the Summer Term, History teaching at Masefield Primary School has continued to engage and inspire pupils across all year groups. The curriculum has focused on developing children's understanding of the past through a variety of engaging topics, enabling them to make connections between different periods in history and understand how historical events have shaped the world we live in today.

History is a vital subject that helps children understand the story of human civilisation and the events that have influenced our modern society. At Masefield Primary School, History is taught not only as a collection of dates and facts but as a means to develop critical thinking, curiosity, and a sense of identity. It encourages pupils to ask perceptive questions, think analytically, and appreciate the complexity of people's lives, the diversity of societies, and the challenges of the past.

Throughout the term, children have been able to deepen their chronological understanding by exploring historical events in sequence and identifying cause-and-effect relationships. Pupils have worked on placing events on timelines, comparing different historical periods, and recognising continuity and change over time. This chronological framework has helped them build a more coherent picture of the past and better understand the context of key events and figures.

EYFS (Reception and Nursery):

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, children have been continuing to develop the fundamental concept of what history is and what it means to them. Through storytelling, discussions about their own lives and families, and comparisons between past and present, they have begun to understand that history is about real people, real events, and how things change over time. Activities such as looking at old photographs, exploring traditional tales, and learning about key figures from the past have helped EYFS pupils connect historical ideas to their own experiences, laying a strong foundation for future learning.

KS1: In Key Stage 1, History teaching has focused on introducing children to the concept of significant individuals and their impact on the past and present. This term, pupils have been learning about prominent figures such as **Queen Elizabeth II** and **King Charles III**, helping them to understand the role of monarchy and how leadership and national events shape our country's history.

Children have explored key moments from Queen Elizabeth II's reign, including her long service to the nation and her role in modernising the monarchy. Following this, they studied King Charles III, learning about his early life, his new responsibilities as monarch, and the significance of the recent coronation as a historical event they are living through.

LKS2: The study of **Ancient Egypt** has allowed pupils to investigate how the civilisation flourished along the River Nile, the significance of pharaohs, and the remarkable developments in writing, architecture, and religion. Pupils particularly enjoyed exploring the process of mummification, the building of pyramids, and the discovery of



History

Subject Leader Report 2024-2025



Tutankhamun's tomb, using a range of sources and artefact replicas to enhance their understanding.

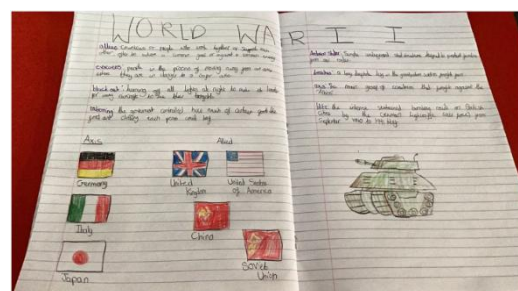
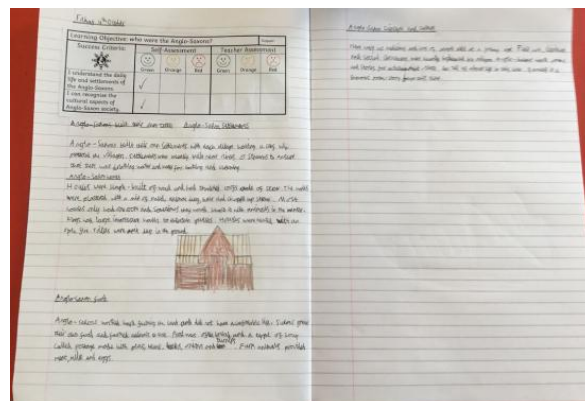
In their **Ancient Greece** topic, children have explored Greek myths and legends, the origins of democracy, and how Greek ideas continue to influence modern life—from language and philosophy to the Olympic Games. Pupils compared life in Athens and Sparta, gaining insight into different aspects of daily life and governance

UKS2: The study of **The Mayans** introduced children to the advanced civilisation that thrived in Mesoamerica long before European contact. Pupils explored Mayan achievements in writing, mathematics, astronomy, and architecture, as well as the importance of religion and city-states. They considered how and why the civilisation declined and how we know about the Maya today through the study of artefacts and ancient texts. This topic allowed children to reflect on non-European societies and the importance of diverse perspectives in history.

In the **World War II** unit, pupils examined the causes and key events of the war, with a particular focus on life in Britain during the conflict. Topics such as evacuation, rationing, the Blitz, and the role of women on the home front helped children to empathise with the experiences of ordinary people living through extraordinary times. They also studied significant leaders, the global impact of the war, and its long-lasting consequences on the modern world.

The next steps for History are to:

- Continue to refine curriculum planning to ensure clear progression of knowledge and skills from EYFS through to Year 6. This includes making stronger links between topics across year groups and ensuring that pupils revisit and build upon key historical concepts over time.





History

Subject Leader Report 2024-2025

