

A SPOTLIGHT ON HISTORY AT RADDLEBARN

Hello and welcome to this year's newsletter about History at Raddlebarn. In this edition, you will find out about our new and improved History curriculum as well as some of the exciting opportunities that have taken place this year.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and if you have any further questions, do not hesitate to get in touch

Mrs Kyriacou

History at Raddlebarn

At Raddlebarn, our principal aim is for the children to think and feel like historians through the delivery of a knowledge-rich history curriculum. This curriculum provides a vehicle for historical enquiry and the development of disciplinary skills in history. We believe our history curriculum will ignite our children's curiosity and play an essential role in preparing them for living and working in the ever-changing society we inhabit today.

We want children at Raddlebarn to appreciate the diversity of human experience and possess a secure understanding of what they can learn from past events and how they can shape their future as citizens of the world.

Our history topics are informed by the National Curriculum, our local area and the demographic of children who attend our school. The units are carefully planned and sequenced which allows for the progression of historical concepts and time periods through repeated encounters and knowledge-rich lessons. Lessons are curated so that our pupils are encouraged to think critically, weigh evidence and develop perspective and judgement, by building on and challenging the work of others through the analysis of sources.

Each Year group will be taught two History topics a year with the exception of year 6, who are taught three.



History topics at Raddlebarn

Year 1: The History of Toys and Significant Figures

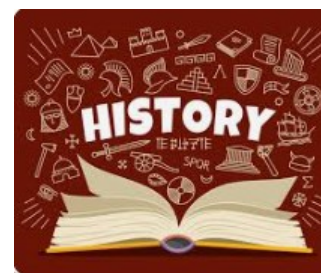
Year 2: The Cadbury Family and The Great Fire of London

Year 3: The Stone Age to Iron Age and The Romans

Year 4: The Anglo Saxons & Scots and The Anglo Saxon & Viking Struggle for Power

Year 5: Ancient Greece & The changing Power of Monarchs

Year 6: World War Two, Ancient Civilisations & Early Islamic Civilisations.



A snapshot of the wonderful learning experiences this year

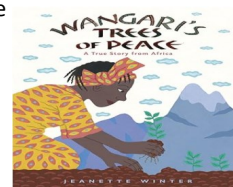
Nursery

In Nursery, History is part of the area of learning called "Understanding the World." There are key skills within this area that children will be taught. A couple of examples include talking about how they have changed since they were a baby and understanding daily or weekly routines. In Nursery, the daily routine helps children to understand the passing of time and of what is to come. Nursery also make use of a large class calendar that supports their understanding of what has happened in the past, what is happening today and what is going to happen in the future.



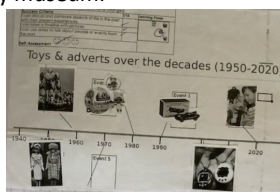
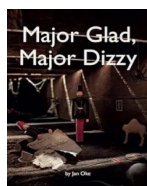
Reception

During the topic "Caring for Our World," Reception read the story *Wangari's Trees of Peace*. As a young girl growing up in Kenya, Wangari was surrounded by trees. However, years later when she returns home, she is shocked to see whole forests being cut down, and she knows that soon all the trees will be destroyed. Subsequently, Wangari decides to take action that would change her country forever. This story served as a conduit for chronological understanding, black history, the legacy of significant figures, and historical interpretation through the theme of hope and change.



Year 1

Year 1 started the year with a topic on how toys have changed over time. The children developed their understanding of chronology by exploring the toys they play with and those their parents and grandparents played with. They deepened their historical enquiry skills through discussions about gender-specific toys from the past, highlighted in toy advertisements spanning decades. The topic was further enriched by the text *Major Glad, Major Dizzy* and finally, culminating in a trip to the toy museum.



Year 2

Year 2 pupils delved into the history of the Great Fire of London as part of their exploration of pivotal historical events. They engaged as investigative historians, honing their emerging enquiry skills through the analysis of primary sources from the National Archives. Utilising census records from 1666, the diary of Samuel Pepys, city plans crafted by Sir Christopher Wren, and declarations from Charles II, the children deepened their understanding of the events that unfolded during the Great Fire. This topic was further enhanced through the text *The Great Fire of London—An Illustrated History*.



Year 3

In the Autumn term, Year 3 studied the transition from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. They learned about significant archaeological discoveries such as the Amesbury Archer and Skara Brae, which shed light on prehistoric life in Britain. The children examined evidence on the Amesbury Archer, a burial site dating back to around 2300 BC, providing insight into early metalworking. Additionally, they explored Skara Brae, a Neolithic village in Scotland. By using primary sources such as artefacts, structures, and ancient texts, the children were able to piece together the diverse cultures and technologies that influenced this crucial period in history.



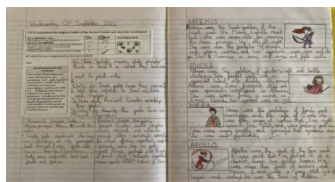
Year 4

Year 4 have learnt how Anglo-Saxons and Vikings were pivotal in shaping England's history. Children studied the battle for England between these groups and used secondary sources to support their understanding the differences between the two settlers. Learning that the Anglo-Saxons were largely Christian, building churches and monasteries, while the Vikings, initially pagan, later embraced Christianity. The topic was topped off with a visit from Professor McGinty who combined storytelling, artefacts and costumes to deepen their understanding of this period in History.



Year 5

Year 5, have learnt that Ancient Greece renowned for its rich history and influential contributions, was home to numerous mythical Greek gods who were central to their religious beliefs. Through high quality secondary sources and the analysis of artefacts from the National Archives the children discovered that Greece introduced a political system where citizens had a say in decision-making and that the Olympic Games, celebrated the unity of Greek city-states every four years. By the end of the topic, children understood the legacy that Ancient Greece has left through its lasting impact on philosophy, art, and literature.



Year 6

Using their skills as historians, Year 6 deepened their understanding of British and world history through the topic on World War II. The Blitz heavily impacted cities like Coventry, with the iconic cathedral tragically destroyed. Children learnt that Bournville resident, Bertha Bracey, emerged as a prominent figure through her involvement in the Kindertransport, rescuing Jewish children from Nazi-occupied territories. Through the analysis of primary sources from the National Archives, children discovered that the Women's Land Army made a valuable contribution to the war effort, ensuring food security by working on farms and producing vital supplies.

