LEARNING LIGHTHOUSE
Rooted in TRADITION, Built for TODAY.

HISTORY

Upper Key Stage 2 · Years 5–6 · Ages 9–11

TWO-YEAR ROLLING PROGRAMME

Our Upper Key Stage 2 History programme explores influential ancient civilisations, intellectual achievements and the changing ways people have lived and communicated. Children interpret evidence, examine contrasting perspectives and make connections across the world.

Our rolling curriculum

Years 5 and 6 are taught together in one class. Rolling Years A and B offer distinct historical studies, both accessible to either year group. Pupils can begin with either cycle; teachers differentiate the depth of historical enquiry and reasoning.

A British curriculum, thoughtfully designed for learners around the world.

ROLLING YEAR A

History · Years 5–6

AUTUMN TERM | Ancient Greece

Pupils explore Greek city-states, including Athens and Sparta, and encounter Alexander the Great, democracy, family life, education, art, the Olympics, religion, myths and theatre. They investigate how ancient Greek ideas influenced later societies.

Learning objectives: Locate and sequence major events; compare political and social structures; recognise cultural achievements; and draw conclusions from artefacts and historical accounts.

SPRING TERM | Ancient Sumer

Children discover early civilisation in Mesopotamia through Sumerian cities, homes, social hierarchy, work, cuneiform, mathematics, trade, transport, written laws and religion. They examine how innovations shaped urban societies.

Learning objectives: Explain features of early city life; interpret evidence of social organisation; recognise developments in writing, mathematics and law; and investigate links through trade and technology.

SUMMER TERM | The Maya Civilisation

Pupils explore the Maya of Mesoamerica, investigating city-states, rulers, farming, trade, temples, religious practices, the ballgame, glyphs, mathematics, calendars and art. Archaeological discoveries help them examine achievements and daily life.

Learning objectives: Locate the Maya in time and place; compare social and political life; describe advances in writing and mathematics; and use historical evidence to support interpretations.

History · Years 5–6

AUTUMN TERM | Ancient Egypt

Children investigate life beside the Nile, Egyptian homes and families, trade, leisure, clothing, hieroglyphs, religious beliefs, pharaohs, pyramids and burial customs. Discoveries such as Tutankhamun’s tomb reveal how historians interpret the past.

Learning objectives: Explain the Nile’s significance; examine social life and kingship; recognise Egyptian writing, beliefs and achievements; and evaluate evidence from objects, monuments and tombs.

SPRING TERM | Early Islamic Civilisation and Baghdad

Pupils study Baghdad as a centre of trade and learning, exploring historical maps, markets, the Silk Roads, pilgrimage and travel, the House of Wisdom, scholarship, mechanical invention and Islamic art. They consider contacts between different regions and cultures.

Learning objectives: Explain Baghdad’s historical importance; trace the exchange of goods and ideas; investigate scholarly and technological achievements; and compare accounts and other historical sources.

SUMMER TERM | The History of Communication

Children follow changes in communication from oral traditions and pictorial symbols to codes, printing, postal systems, telegraphs, telephones, radio, television and the internet. They compare innovations from different historical periods and regions.

Learning objectives: Sequence changes in communication; identify important inventions and their effects; compare the reach and reliability of different methods; and construct evidence-based explanations of historical change.

Our approach

History is taught live on Mondays through maps, timelines, artefact images, sources, discussion and short interactive investigations. Years 5 and 6 explore the same themes at differentiated levels. The programme is informed by the English National Curriculum and includes international historical studies; it is not presented as complete statutory KS2 History coverage.

Rooted in Tradition, Designed for Today.