

## History at Droxford Junior School

At Droxford Junior School the History curriculum is designed to ignite children's curiosity about the past in Britain and the wider world. We believe that alongside historical knowledge there will be a focus on the development of specific, age appropriate, historical skills. Children learn about how and why the world, our country and the local community have developed over time and how the past impacts the present. Pupils study a period in history for a term and lessons are taught discretely.

The teaching of History at Droxford is intended enable pupils to ask questions about the past, analyse evidence, think critically, appreciate different perspectives and make links to other curriculum areas. Pupils are encouraged to think like historians and develop their skills of historical enquiry. There is a strong emphasis on developing children's historical skills such as understanding of chronology, interpretation of evidence and consideration of change across time periods and cause and consequence.

Across the two years in 3 / 4 the children at Droxford Junior School study an overview of the **earliest civilisations** and a depth study of **Ancient Egypt**. They will learn about archaeology, what every day life was like for the ancient Egyptians, the impact of the River Nile, Ancient Egyptian religions and beliefs and will discover important discoveries, such as the discovery of King Tutankhamun's tomb. They will study **Britain in the stone age to the Iron age** in which they will discover how Britain changed during this time. They will discover how people travelled, hunted and farmed in ancient Britain, with a strong focus on how culture and society changed over time, this unit of work culminates in a visit to Butser Ancient Farm to experience hands on how the ancient Britain's lives. Pupils will also learn about **The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain**. They will use a range of sources, both contemporary and subjective and will learn about what these tell us about the past. They will extend their knowledge of ancient Britain through learning about the Celts and the Roman occupation of Britain. They will find out about Roman culture, religion and technology. This unit of work has a strong focus on the legacy the Romans left behind. The final unit of work studied in year 3 / 4 is a **local study** looking at how the **Second World War** had an impact on local children in and around Droxford. They will learn about rationing, the blitz and the impact the evacuation had on the daily lives of the people of Droxford village. The children will learn about how Southwick house and Droxford railway had an impact on the outcome of the war. This unit of work has a strong focus on how an event impacted people living in our local area. This culminates in a visit to the D-Day museum and a trip to the heritage steam railway, the Alresford Watercress line where children will role play an evacuation. In year 3 the children will study **the Mayans** as a **non-European contrast to Britain**. The children will begin the study by drinking chocolate and considering where chocolate came from. They will learn that the Mayans used chocolate and will learn about a range of different aspects of Mayan culture and ways of life. They will then consider the question 'What is the most significant achievement of the Mayans?'

Pupils in years 5/ 6 will learn about '**Ancient Greece**'. During this unit of work the children will learn about the myths, legends, religion and culture of the Ancient Greeks. There are strong links to British values as pupils explore the origins of democracy and learn about the Greek empire and Alexander the Great. Building on previous knowledge of the history of Britain, pupils will learn about the '**Anglo Saxons**' They will discover what happened then the Romans left Britain, the Kingdoms of Britania and about Viking invaders. There are strong links to the local city of Winchester as the children learn more about King Alfred the

Great, and ask the question: **Was he really great?** As a **thematic study** pupils will learn about what the study of underwater archaeology tells us about life at sea in the History of Great Britain. They will study 4 ships from different time periods - the Mary Rose, The Warrior, Endurance and LCT 7074 (A WW2 landing craft). They will visit Portsmouth Historic Dockyard to look at two of these ships in detail; The Mary Rose and The Warrior. Pupils' key focus will be comparing what life was like at sea during these different historical periods and how the study of underwater archaeology contributes to our understanding.

At Droxford our History curriculum links closely to other curriculum areas such as art and DT, in which pupils design and make Ancient Egyptian masks and Roman chariots. Pupils are taught subject specific vocabulary and are encouraged to use it within their own learning. The classroom and learning environment is rich with History displays and learning walls which display the children's learning journey and subject specific vocabulary. As historians, children will learn lessons from history and consider the significance of what they have learnt and its impact on modern society.

