



RIVERLEY NEWS

PROUD TRADITIONS

WIDE HORIZONS

HIGH ACHIEVEMENT

HISTORY 02

FRIDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2023

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Dear Riverley Families,

Our students have not only embraced but excelled in their roles as historians, delving into the intricacies of the past and honing their historical enquiry skills. Across all year groups, our students have enthusiastically immersed themselves in the wealth of resources available at our in-school Natural History museum. Their exploration of various artefacts has been a captivating journey, providing them with tangible connections to historical periods. Our Art gallery is currently hosting an exhibition spotlighting the lost history of Black Victorians, not only fostering an inclusive perspective on history but also celebrating the diversity of narratives that have shaped our past. Incorporating cutting-edge technology into our teaching methods, pupils have utilised virtual reality to transport back in time. This immersive experience has provided valuable context, allowing us to breathe life into historical scenarios and enhance the overall learning experience.

If any family members are interested in joining the newly formed History Pupil Leadership Team as family representatives, kindly reach out to the school office.

With very best wishes,

Ms O'Dwyer

History Lead

Year 1

Year One have been exploring the past and present in a variety of ways. Pupils were transported into the past after learning about different modes of transport and types of communication.

Engaging in thoughtful discussions, these young scholars have probed into the changes within living memory. They've astutely identified and analysed the similarities and distinctions that characterise the diverse ways of life across different historical periods.



Year 2

The Year 2 children have been learning about the Great Fire of London.

Lessons were based around exploring pictures from the past whilst generating research questions such as: 'When did the fire start? Why did the fire start? Who started the fire? How long did it burn for?'

The pupils then used the VR headsets to visualise what happened and formulated predictions before delving into identifying key events from that era.



Year 3

In Year 3, the children have been learning about The Stone Age life. They researched Stone Age tools and weapons. Being introduced to key vocabulary such as anachronism, chronological order, era, period, B.C.E (Before Common Era) and millennium, enabled the children to expand their written and spoken language.

They thoroughly immersed themselves in the life of Stone Age individuals by crafting their own cave drawings beneath tables. Using delicious treats, pupils built their own versions of Stonehenge and then used this understanding of stone age structures to create clay models.

This hands-on and creative approach not only fostered a deeper understanding of historical concepts but also showcased the students' ingenuity and ability to apply knowledge in inventive ways.



Year 4

The Year 4 children have been utilising the Riverley History Museum to explore artefacts and investigate Mayan civilisation. They have been using a range of primary and secondary sources to find out about the past and everyday lives of people during that time. Of notable mention is their immersive Mayan food tasting session, which certainly enriched their understanding of the cultural nuances and culinary practices.

They have investigated different historical events to explain some of the reasons why some accounts may differ. The children have had the opportunity to research aspects of Mayan life and events through careful selection and organisation of relevant historical information. From the information found they have been devising their own questions and conducted further research to find answers.

Year 5

The Year 5 students have undertaken a thorough exploration into the fascinating world of the Romans. Employing a sophisticated approach, Year 5 harnessed a wide spectrum of sources, including archival materials, tangible artefacts, remnants of Roman architecture, and cutting-edge virtual reality software.

They are also now confident to describe objects, people and some key events that happened during the time of The Romans. This has enabled them to gain fantastic insight into what life for the Romans would have been like.



Year 6

The Year 6 cohort has been engaging in a rigorous exploration to enhance their comprehension of historical facts surrounding The Mughal Empire. Commencing their journey with in-depth research, the students meticulously delved into the lives of key rulers, unraveling the profound impact they wielded on society.

The children seamlessly transitioned to a more sophisticated phase of historical inquiry. They skillfully identified and contextualised pivotal events and influential figures of the Mughal era, meticulously placing them on a chronological timeline.

