History – Mexborough St John the Baptist C of E Primary School

Showing a rationale for sequencing content: how progress happens. Year 2 history planning placed in context of long-term knowledge growth.

	Historical Content and Enquiry Questions.	Concepts, Ideas and Language		Subject Rationale	Evidence Record
YEAR 2– Great Fire of London	How can we work out why the Great fire started? What happened during the fire and how do we know?	Government/ parliament/politics/ leadership/law and order	Cabinet style of government Groups with different opinions were forerunners of Whigs and Tories	Learning about London before, during and after the Great Fire allows children to identify changes over time. Compared with the study of Conisbrough Castle in Year 1, where change may happen slowly over a long period of time, here, children will understand that a single event can bring about change and development quite quickly. Learning about the importance of London as a centre of trade forms the basis for comparison with trade in Tudor England in Year 4. An understanding of what religion looked like in Stuart times will also be used as a point of comparison when children study the Reformation in Year 4.	Diaries of Samuel Pepys and John Evelyn Paintings and illustrations Maps and plans Newspaper reports – London Gazette
	Why did the fire burn down so many houses?	Change	Building regulations, city planning Development of fire brigade Fire insurance and fire marks		
	Could more have been done to slow down the spread of the fire?	Legacy	St Paul's Cathedral Architecture and design of modern city Building insurance		
	How did people manage to live through the Great Fire?	Conflict and resolution	Who was to blame for the fire getting out of hand so badly?		
	How should we rebuild London after the Great Fire?	Trade	Established trade routes. Exports: tea, silk, porcelain Imports: wool, tin, lead, silver		
		Religion	St Pauls Cathedral What is the purpose of cathedral? What happens there?		
YEAR 2 – Polar Explorers	Who on earth is this famous person? How did Scott get to the South Pole and what happened then?	Government/ parliament/politics/ leadership/law and order	Who were the leaders of the expedition? What makes a good leader?	During Year 1, children will have developed a secure understanding of some of the ways in which significant individuals have contributed to change in their local community and some on a wider scale. In Year 2, children will build on this work and look at how the past is represented in different ways; using a range of sources to ask and answer questions about the past. Conflict is explored in the form of competition between different individuals and countries. This can be compared with the space race explored in Year 1.	Photographs Diaries, Letters
	Why did Scott risk his life going to the South Pole?	Change	Expanded knowledge of the world – polar explorers		
	How do we know what happened on Scott's last journey?	Legacy	Understanding new habitats Scott Polar Research Institute		
	Why did he not get to the pole first?	Conflict and	Scott vs Amundsen: Competition between teams		
	How should Scott be remembered today?	resolution	from different countries Race for prestige		
		Trade			
		Religion			

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	The Gunpowder Plot	Government/	James I	In Year 2 children carry out a study of a nationally	Letters
YEAR 2– Remembrance		parliament/politics/	Protestant government	significant event beyond living memory. This unit	Royal proclamations
	Who was in charge during the Gunpowder	leadership/law and	Catholic resistance	provides opportunity to understand a more	
	Plot?	order		complex view of tension between religious groups;	
	What changed as a result of the	Conflict and	Tension between Protestant government	which will be studied in more depth during the Year 4 Tudor topic.	
	Gunpowder Plot?	resolution	and Catholic groups	From Year 1, children will have an understanding	
	Why do we remember the Gunpowder		Plot organized by English Catholic Robert	of some of the ways in which significant individuals	
	Plot?		Catesby in an effort to end the persecution	are remembered. During this topic this knowledge	
			of Roman Catholics by the English	will be developed further with children	
			government.	understanding why and how some events are so	
	 Monarchy and Parliament 	Change	Following the failed plot, new laws were	significant as to be commemorated today.	
	 Tension between religious 		instituted in England that eliminated the		
	groups; differences in practice		right of Catholics to vote, among other		
	• Plot, discovery and consequences		repressive restrictions.		
	How do we remember nationally	Legacy	1606: Parliament established 5th November		
	important events?		as a day of thanksgiving.		
			Bonfire Night celebrations in modern era		
		Religion	Differences between Protestantism and		
			Catholicism		
			James I sponsored an English translation of		
			the Bible		