Curriculum Overview – HISTORY Spring Term

Etone College Progress For All



YEAR 7

The Norman Conquest

In first half term your child will be deepening their understanding of what life in England was like following the Norman Conquest in 1066 including politically and socially.

Over the course of the term your child will learn:

- How to select the key arguments from each contender to the throne in 1066 and explain which was the biggest claim to the throne
- Use primary sources such as the Bayeux Tapestry to explain the events of the Battle of Hastings
- Use primary sources and explain how useful they are to historians
- To be able to explain which problems William faced in 1066 and in the latter parts of the 11th century gave him the biggest threat
- Explain why some of the English did not like approve of William being King
- To be able to assess whether tactics or Harold Godwinson's leadership led to the Saxon defeat at the Battle of Hastings
- Be able to explain the journey that the Saxons took in 1066
- Be able to explain the reason for William's choice of location of motte and bailey castles

Power, Life and the Church

In the second half term your child will be deepening their understanding of what life in England was like following changes to the political system.

Over the course of the term your child will learn:

- Explain the importance of doom paintings, and describe what one is illustrating about heaven/hell for ordinary people
- Be able to explain what is meant by 'peasantry'
- Be able to read historical interpretations and decide which best fits their knowledge on the murder of Thomas Beckett
- Explain the reasons for a crusade taking place
- Be able to place into chronological order the key events of the First Crusade
- Be able to describe the key symptoms of the Black Death on its arrival in 1348 to England
- Reach a judgement on what led to the murder of Thomas Beckett
- Explain the reasons for conflict between the Church and King in the build up to the death of Thomas Beckett
- Assess the impact of the Black Death on English society
- Explain the reasons for the Peasant revolt
- Describe the conditions in a medieval town and how this differed to a medieval monastery

Curriculum Overview – HISTORY Spring Term

Etone College Progress For All



YEAR 8

The Struggle for Equality

In first half term your child will have an opportunity to investigate what life was like during the Transatlantic Slave Trade and to understand how the abolition of enslavement took place in both Britain and USA.

Over the course of the term your child will learn:

- The reasons for and against Britain owning an Empire
- What Africa was like before the transatlantic enslavement trade
- The countries involved in the transatlantic enslavement trade (their role) and what resources they needed
- The key issues that America was facing in the 1800s that led to the outbreak of the American Civil War in 1861
- The significance of the American Civil Was a turning point in the lives of African-Americans
- Examples of different types of resistance
- The difference between an 'auction' and a 'scramble'
- Key individuals involved in the abolition of enslavement
- Britain's ending of enslavement in Britain
- The experience of enslaved Africans during the Middle Passage
- What is meant by 'enslaved Africans'

The First World War

In the second half term your child will deepen their understanding of the First World War, focussing on the role of trench warfare and how this affected key turning points such as the Battle of the Somme.

Over the course of the term your child will learn:

- Explain the short and long-term causes of the First World War
- Recall the events that led to the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand
- Explain the implication of his assassination and why this led to the outbreak of the First World War
- Explain which countries made up the Triple Entente and the Triple Alliance
- Reach a judgement on how successful Britain was at the Battle of the Somme
- Assess General Haig's role in the Battle of the Somme
- Compare the trench system of the British and German troops
- Compare the differing weaponry used during the war effort and how this led to new medical developments and injuries
- Use primary sources to investigate what life was like in the trenches and to explain how the nature of conflict changed in the 20th century
- Put events of the First World War into chronological order

Curriculum Overview – HISTORY Spring Term

Etone College Progress For All



- Explain how important alliances were in Europe at the beginning of the twentieth century
- Define who a 'conscientious objector' was in the First World War

YEAR 9

An Introduction to International Relations post 1945

This term your child will deepen their understanding of how relations between the superpowers developed in the 20th century, both politically and economically. They will study key turning points and that led to an increase or decrease in tension between the USA and USSR.

Over the course of the term your child will learn:

- Explain the characteristics of a communist and capitalist society
- Use and apply my own knowledge to the content of a historical source
- Explain how useful a historical source is in studying attitudes of key individuals and events in the Cold War
- Assess how the relationship between the superpowers developed during the 20th century and to explain the reasons why
- Explain the impact of the arms race on the development of international relations
- Place key events into chronological order from the 20th century
- Discuss the key policies of Soviet leaders in the early 20th century
- Explain how the Russian Revolution was a turning point in history of the 20th century