

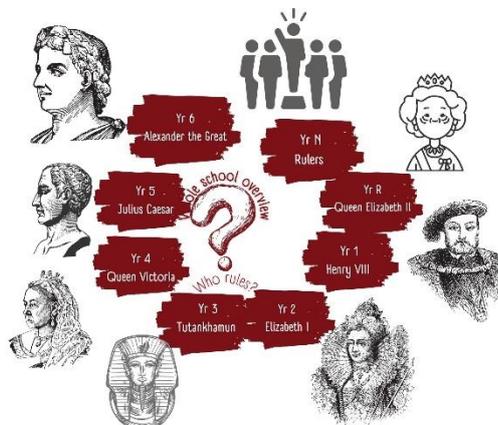


12th January 2022

RE: New Curriculum at Longmeadow

Dear Families,

Over the last year leaders and staff have been busy designing a new curriculum for children at Longmeadow. The new curriculum will launch from Monday 17th January 2022, following on from our work on exploring and engaging with the book 'Coming to England'. The first topic will be a whole school topic of 'Who Rules?', with children studying leaders from different times in history.



WHAT ARE THE MAIN CHANGES?

Children will still follow a thematic curriculum, however this will now be centred upon a Big Question such as 'Who Rules?' and 'How do we reduce our Carbon Footprint?'. These are our two whole school themes. Children will also have their own Big Questions for their year groups such as 'Does anybody ever really win in a war?' and 'What's on the other side of the world?' Working walls will be established as displays in classrooms, in line with our current provision for English and Maths. Children will input into these through their own questions to engage them in their learning. This seeks to provide an even greater personalised learning experience for children and continue to offer them breadth across the curriculum, celebrating all subjects.

Launch days will now start the topic. This means an engaging launch will begin each topic to hook children's interests. They will be involved in constructing what they will learn throughout the topic, with staff carefully mapping this to meet the demands of the National Curriculum in an engaging way. Wow days will be replaced with whole school showcases for parents. These will all be within one week and will allow both families and children to view the work completed across the school. These will also give a purpose to children's learning throughout the theme as we

encourage them to produce their very best work across the curriculum. More information regarding this terms showcases will shortly follow.

Subjects will be referred to as the skills and knowledge the pupils will develop. For example, History is referred to as Historians. This is to support pupils to understand the skills and knowledge they are learning and preparation for employability.



WHY ARE WE MAKING THESE CHANGES?

We have noticed that a cross curricular curriculum supported the engagement of our pupils. We have been working hard to ensure that 'The Longmeadow Way' is developed and established, providing the best possible quality of education that meets the needs of all of the children at Longmeadow. Our vision at Longmeadow is 'to create lifelong learners who are passionate about the things they do and successful in the things they try', closely linked to our school values of Learning, Passion and Success. We recognise that in order to be a life-long learner, children must recognise learning as a fun and interesting part of their lives. To be passionate, you must also enjoy what you are learning, and as a school we must celebrate success in all subjects to build the passion children need to take into the next stage of their lives and future jobs. Our new curriculum seeks to immerse children in learning through engagement and allows changes to long-term memory. In short, children will know and remember more from their learning.

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE?

We will be running an introduction to our new curriculum for parents on Friday 11th February. There will be two sessions. One at 9am and one at 2.15pm. These will be available to book on the gateway and will be presented by myself, alongside Mrs Catherine Badesha and Ms Sally Laffin.

Families will be able to see all curriculum documents and hear more about why we are launching a new curriculum. You will also be able to ask any questions that you have.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Kind regards

Emily Howley

Head teacher