Key Concepts through Beech Grove

Key substantive concepts are revisited across the history curriculum to help pupils develop a deeper understanding of how societies develop and change over time. These concepts are introduced through familiar contexts in the Early Years and Key Stage 1 and explored in greater depth through more complex historical periods and societies in Key Stage 2. By encountering concepts such as power, society, belief, monuments and legacy in different historical contexts, pupils develop a connected and coherent understanding of the past. History is not learnt in isolated blocks; instead, these concept threads encourage pupils to make comparisons across periods, helping them to identify patterns, recognise change over time and assign significance to different content. Through revisiting these concepts in different historical contexts, pupils deepen their understanding of how societies are organised, how power operates and how events from the past continue to shape the present. Alongside these key substantive concepts, pupils develop disciplinary historical thinking through chronology, historical enquiry, interpretation, and understanding cause and consequence.

Key Substantive Concepts		**EYFS (Foundations of Historical Understanding) Children begin to develop an understanding of simple historical concepts by talking about familiar people, events and experiences, such as:**	**Year 1 & 2 Children begin to explore simple concepts, which are introduced through stories, significant people and familiar events, such as:**	**Year 3 & 4 Children develop a broader understanding of societies and civilisations, including:**	**Year 5 & 6 Children deepen their understanding of how societies interact and change by exploring:**
Everyday Life	**Community Society Hierarchy**	People who help us (police, doctors, firefighters) People in our community Talking about jobs and roles	Our High Street The Great Fire of London Mary Seacole & Edith Cavell	Ancient Egypt Stone Age to Iron Age The Romans	The Maya Anglo-Saxons and Vikings Fox Brothers Tudors Early Islamic Civilisation: Baghdad
	Trade	Buying and selling in role play (shop role-play area) Talking about where things come from		Stone Age to Iron Age The Romans	Vikings the Maya Fox Brothers Tudors Early Islamic Civilisation: Baghdad
	Religion	Celebrations and festivals Diwali, Christmas, Eid etc		Ancient Egypt The Romans	Anglo-Saxons The Maya Tudors Early Islamic Civilisation: Baghdad
	Civilisation			Ancient Rome Ancient Egypt Ancient Greece	The Maya Early Islamic Civilisation: Baghdad
Hierarchy and Power	**Monarchy**	Kings and Queens in stories Castles in stories and role play		Ancient Egypt - pharaoh	Anglo-Saxons – Alfred the Great Tudors – Henry VII, Henry VIII, Elizabeth I, Queen Mary I
	Power	Leaders/Main Characters in stories		The Romans Ancient Egypt	WW2 The Maya

		Talking about who makes rules at school			Tudors Early Islamic Civilisation: Baghdad
	Government Parliament		Arthur Wellesley	The Romans - senate	WW2 Tudors Early Islamic Civilisation: Baghdad
	Democracy			Ancient Greece	
	Kingdom	Kings, Queens and castles in fairy tales			Anglo-Saxons The Maya Tudors
Invasion and Settlement	**Invasion**			Romans in Britain	Anglo-Saxons Vikings WW2 Tudors
	Warfare Military / Battle	Remembrance Day Why people remember soldiers	Arthur Wellesley – the Battle of Waterloo Mary Seacole & Edith Cavell	The Romans – army, Battle of Medway	WW2 – The Blitz Vikings – Lindisfarne Anglo-Saxons – Battle of Brunanburh, Battle of Hastings Tudors - Spanish Armada, Battle of Bosworth
	Empire			The Romans	Early Islamic Civilisation: Baghdad
Legacy	**Legacy**	Why we remember important people Talking about events that are remembered each year	Mary Seacole & Edith Cavell The Great Fire of London Arthur Wellesley	The Romans – roads etc Stone Age to Iron Age	WW2 - Anne Frank's diary, the creation of the United Nations as peacekeepers Anglo-Saxons – language, place names Fox Brothers Tudors Early Islamic Civilisation: Baghdad
	Monuments	War memorial in Wellington Park The Wellington Monument Why people remember important events	Arthur Wellesley – Wellington and the Monument	The Romans - Boudicca statue Ancient Egyptian pyramids Stone Age to Iron Age - Stonehenge	War memorials Pyramids / Temples of the Maya Early Islamic Civilisation: Baghdad