

## **Bringing the Past to Life**

History at Sacred Heart is an integral part of our creative curriculum approach to learning. We have recently adapted our topics to embrace the new National Curriculum requirements but we also go above and beyond it. We want our pupils to have as broad a range of not only our country's history but also that of the wider world. For example, a themed Industrial Revolution for all Key Stage Two year groups, exploring our local history and Atherton's role in the cotton and coal industry. Enquiry questions feature at every Humanities lesson to enhance critical thinking and judgement. Our school chooses to continue our World War Two unit for Year Six as this period of study enables the children to learn facts, causes and consequences but also the personal stories of so many lives, including our own family histories, teaching all of us invaluable lessons of the effect of war.

In Key Stage 1, History provide the framework for a variety of topic based learning. In Key Stage 2, History is taught as an individual lesson. In addition children cover a breadth of study from The Stone Age, to the Romans and Vikings, to Victorians. We want our children to understand the historical facts but also to have the skills needed for research, learning how to read and interpret a variety of sources and to make judgements on the events of the past which will help them to inform their future

## **Understanding our world and environment**

Geography at Sacred Heart is taught as part of our creative curriculum approach to teaching and learning. The range of topics covered encompass all aspects of the Geography National Curriculum and are both skills and knowledge based.

In Key Stage 1, Geography and History are often closely linked and are sometimes taught alongside each other. In Key Stage 2, Geography is taught as a lesson in its own right, however links with other subjects are made when appropriate. Practical, hands on and interactive lessons are taught ensuring all learners are able to access the experiences available. More able learners are extended and challenged; lessons are carefully tailored to suit the variety of needs and interests that each child brings.

Skills such as map reading and atlas work, scale and direction are taught and ICT is integrated into all aspects wherever possible. Fieldwork also plays an integral part of our studies.