



## GTS Learning Focus: The Revolutionary World

Our focus of 'The Revolutionary World' brings together History, Geography, Design & Technology and Computing, with links to Science and Maths. By ensuring effective progression of components within subjects and effective links across the curriculum, the children at Glastonbury Thorn School gain a better understanding of the changing world around them, developing curiosity about the past, present and future world.



Focusing on changes through history, the children begin by learning more about how jobs have changed over time. This understanding of changes over times continues when learning about life within a castle, with comparisons to modern houses. Focusing significant events, the Great Fire of London gives children the understanding of how events can change the world, with advances in town planning and fire safety and regulations. Linking strongly with this, the children at GTS also learn about significant people in history who have impacted on how we live today and in the future. The children understand that role models are within reach by learning more about their immediate families and other important role models in their lives. Focusing on the past, the children gain an understanding of the significance of pioneers/inventors by studying the impacts of Louis Stephenson on the revolution of transport. By studying the Great Fire of London, the children at GTS learn about how different forms of evidence depict significant events in history, including studying Samuel Pepys and his diary of events. The children also develop their understanding of town planning by learning about Sir Christopher Wren (London) and Derek Walker (Milton Keynes). To fully understand the role of nurses and carers, especially important due to the children's first-hand experience of a pandemic, the children study the lives and impacts of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. Towards the end of the children's learning in History at GTS, the children focus on explorers and pioneers. The children gain an understanding that things can develop over time, including transport and with this, people's aspirations become higher and more far-reaching. By studying Mae Jemison in particular, the children at Glastonbury Thorn School gain an understanding that anything is possible and with hard-work and dedication, you can aspire to what you want to be in an ever-changing world.



Through the focus of 'The Revolutionary World,' the children gain a better understanding of the impact of progress, both on the Earth itself and the people and animals making the earth their home. Through the continuing study of physical geography, the children learn that the environment is something that should be protected. By considering climate change, the children begin to understand the roles of people in society who make it their responsibility to protect the natural world. The children understand the work and vision of Sir David Attenborough and also consider the views of Greta Thunberg when looking at climate change in different parts of the world. Through the study of human geography, the children at GTS also develop their skills and fieldwork by studying maps when learning about London and their own locality and in turn, consider the importance of town planning and how cities develop over time.



To support the focus of 'The Revolutionary World,' the children develop their technical knowledge of making and designing. Linking to Science and materials, the children make a floating vessel reflecting on not only the materials used, but also on real-life examples of boats/ships (Thames Shipbuilding Company) and how shape is vital in making a vessel float. When focusing on exploration, the children are challenged to make an operational moon buggy, developing their knowledge of sliders and levers. Here, the children gain an understanding of how vehicles have advanced for exploration.



By developing their understanding of computing, the children at Glastonbury Thorn School understand the importance of technology in 'The Revolutionary World.' Beginning with simple algorithms and programming, the children understand that computers follow instructions and this can be learnt through the use of Beebots and simple directional inputs. This understanding is developed further when using Beebots in Year 1, but now with increased directional programming. In Year 2, the children have a visit from a real-working Starship robot. Inspired by this, the children gain confidence in algorithms and programming and are able to debug errors to solve operational problems. By developing skills and digital literacy, children demonstrate their understanding of advances in fire safety, producing and presenting a multimedia presentation. When making their moon buggy in Year 2, the children have the added challenge of planning using ICT. The children at GTS understand that in the modern world, computers are integral to the way we develop and how we continue to evolve in our revolutionary world.



# GTS Learning Focus: The Revolutionary World

Autumn Term

Spring Term

Summer Term

YEYS

Algorithms and Programming  
Beebots – forwards and backwards

Comparing Old and New  
Tiger who came to tea –  
looking at human changes and  
jobs

Comparing Old and New  
Within a castle – changes to  
modern houses

Significant People  
Family role-models

Everyday materials  
Recycling (link to the  
environment)  
10 Ways To Help The World

YEAR 1

Algorithms and Programming  
Beebots – directional programming

Direction/turns

Physical Geography  
Climate and the environment – people who protect  
nature (Rushmere and David Attenborough) Link to  
weather

Significant People  
Louis Stephenson  
– History of  
transport

Make  
A boat that floats  
(link to the Thames  
Ironworks and  
Shipbuilding  
Company)

Everyday materials  
Properties and  
suitability

Skills and digital literacy  
Creating an E-Book

YEAR 2

Significant  
Places and  
Events  
The Great  
Fire of  
London

Skills & Fieldwork (human  
geography)  
Derek Walker – MK City  
planner (link to aerial view  
of London)

Physical  
Geography  
Climate  
change –  
different  
countries  
including hot  
and cold  
(revisit David  
Attenborough  
and introduce  
Greta  
Thunberg)

Significant People  
Florence  
Nightingale and  
Mary Seacole  
(key workers)

Significant People  
Louis Stephenson  
– History of  
transport

Make  
A boat that floats  
(link to the Thames  
Ironworks and  
Shipbuilding  
Company)

Everyday materials  
Properties and  
suitability

Significant  
People  
Samuel  
Pepys & Sir  
Christopher  
Wren

Skills and digital  
literacy  
Using a search engine  
to produce a  
multimedia  
presentation – Fire  
Safety

Algorithms and  
Programming  
Algorithms (errors) –  
Starship Robots

Everyday materials  
Properties and  
suitability for  
different purposes  
and parts

Technical Knowledge  
Moon buggy – how  
vehicles have advanced  
for exploration

Link to Computer –  
planning using ICT

