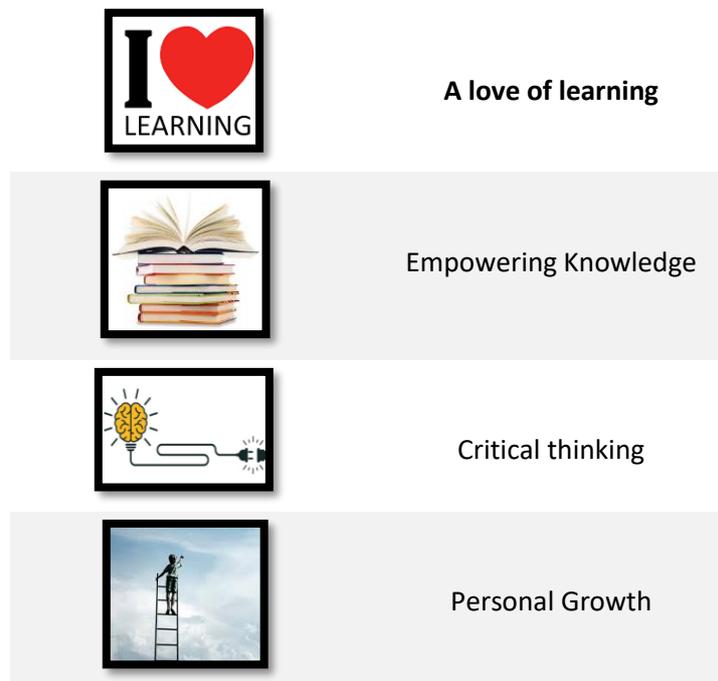




Dear Parents and carers

At SJSC we believe a curriculum needs to provide all children with the tools they need to achieve and contribute positively to society...

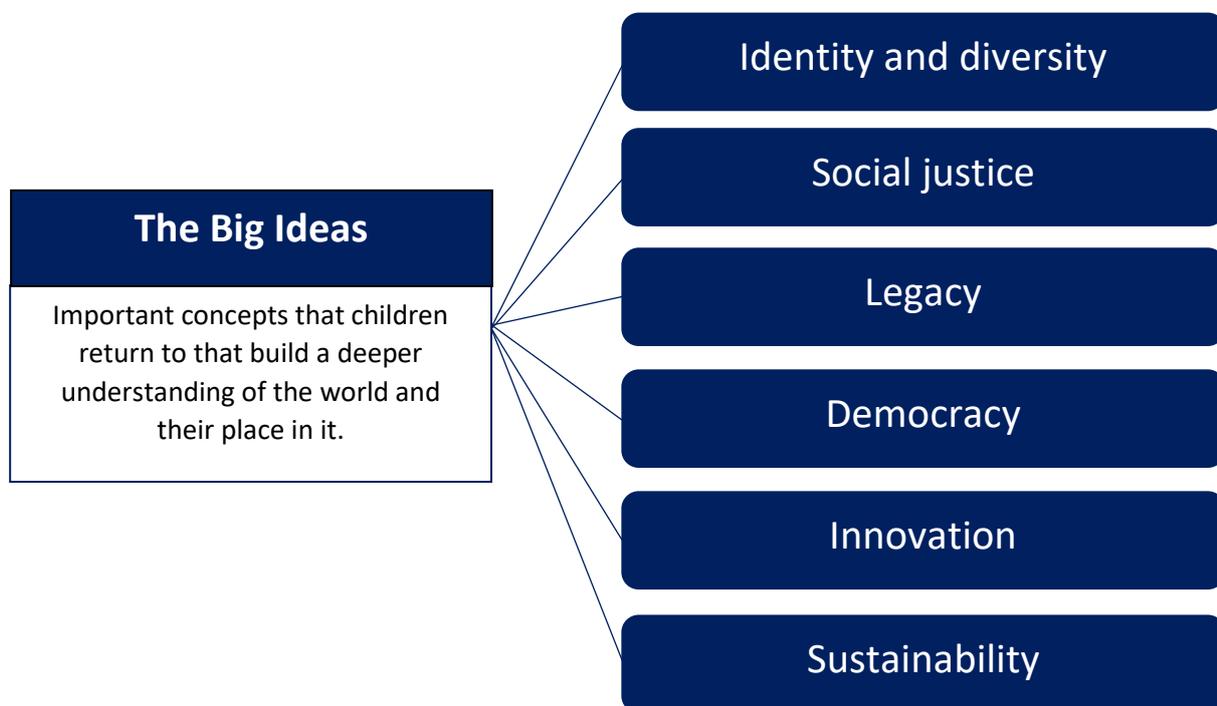


Our curriculum is underpinned by our school values of

**community resilience aspiration creativity kindness**

The curriculum is reviewed regularly to ensure it is of the highest standard. This year we have focussed on developing a more diverse and representative curriculum and worked to give even more opportunity for critical thinking than before, further encouraging children to be deeply engaged in their learning and to see their achievements and impact.

## How does the curriculum work to do this?





The children explore these concepts through the knowledge being covered in their lessons and being supported to discuss, answer and debate enquiry questions. They use and apply their knowledge in end of term projects, giving their learning a real context and an opportunity to solve problems, create, and see their own impact in the world.

### This issue – A closer look at **DEMOCRACY**

In Early Years children learn that they are part of a community, they develop an understanding of fairness through sharing, taking care of each other and kindness.

In Key Stage One they start to look into the importance of rules and why we have them. They also start to think about whether it is ever okay to break the rules by studying inspirational people throughout history, such as Rosa Parks and Emmeline Pankhurst, who did break rules.

As the children go through the school they continue to develop and question their understanding of democracy, thinking about who should make the rules by exploring different kinds of leadership throughout history – royalty, elected leaders and dictators. They learn about how democracy looked throughout history from the Athenian Demokratia in Ancient Greece, The Pharaohs of Egypt, the Emperors of Rome, the leaders in World War 2, they look at the impact of segregation in the USA on Britain, colonialization, debate the actions taken by the Suffragettes to get their voices heard, and learn about how modern parliament works in Britain today.

Children will explore such questions as .....

- When is it necessary to question the status quo? Who decides?
- Should everyone follow the same rules? Is it ever okay to break the rules?
- What power does an individual have in their society?

Children will get the opportunity to use their knowledge and understanding to set up a school council that represents the whole school community fairly, make speeches about a fairer world at a model UN, and take the Pharaohs to trial to decide whether their rule was a success of humankind or a failure of human kindness.

Importantly, children will gain an understanding of their voice and the right to have a say in their society.

The books we choose to study are often linked to our topics and big ideas. They are quality texts that engage and inspire as well as enable children to develop a high standard of reading and writing.

Maths is often taught through using concrete objects in order for children to be able to gain a thorough understanding of abstract mathematical ideas. There are 'reasoning' opportunities embedded throughout the curriculum where there are problems for the children to solve by applying their mathematical knowledge.

The PSHE (personal, social, health and emotional) curriculum is taught in specific lessons and also integrated into other aspects of learning and school life.

Above all, children are encouraged to actively engage in their own learning, to have a go and be persistent, to be creative and shine.