History - Year 2	
Autumn 2	
Life in the pits	 Newcastle-under-Lyme had many coal mines during its history. Coal is made when dead plants get trapped in the soil over millions of years. Coal can be burned to make energy. Coal is found underground. People dig down to find it. This is called 'mining'. Coal miners worked long shifts for little pay. The conditions they worked in were dirty and dangerous. Children as young as 6 could work in coal mines.
Spring 2	
Compare Queen Elizabeth I and Queen Elizabeth II.	 A monarch is a King or Queen. Queen Elizabeth II is our current monarch. She became Queen of England in 1952. Elizabeth I was Queen of England from 1558 – 1603. Queen Elizabeth I became Queen around 450 years ago. Queen Elizabeth I lived at Hampton Court Palace in London. Queen Elizabeth II lives at Buckingham Palace in London. When Elizabeth I was queen she mostly travelled by horse or by carriage. Elizabeth II travels mainly by car, train or aeroplane. There have been many new inventions during the reigns of both Queen Elizabeth II.
Summer 2	
Space Travellers	 Space is what you can see when you look up into the sky. It is very big. Astronauts are specially trained to travel into space. When in space, astronauts travel to the moon, look at the Earth and do experiments. Satellites go around (orbit) the Earth. They can be natural or man-made. The first person on the moon was American astronaut Neil Armstrong. He landed in 1969 which was over 50 years ago.
	 Both men and women can be astronauts. Tim Peake and Sunita Williams are examples of this. The International Space Station orbits the Earth. It is a man-made satellite.