



DOSBARTH SEREN

Summer 2025

Castles

SPARKLY STARTER

As part of our Sparkly Starter, we were able to step back in time into our new topic and learn some facts about castles. Children created amazing castle art in the style of Paul Klee and wrote imaginatively about their very own castle. Pupils also thought about what they'd like to learn during the term and came up with some very thought-provoking questions. We were also lucky enough to enjoy a fun filled day at Carew Castle, learning about how people lived in medieval times. Pupils displayed their acting skills as they helped the castle staff prepare a feast for the Lord of the castle. We are looking forward to doing some follow up tasks in the coming weeks.

As part of Fab Finish, Year 1 will be taking part in a castle banquet. We will be sharing traditional medieval food, playing games, and dancing to traditional music. It will be an amazing end to our historical topic.

PUPIL LED LEARNING

After the super Sparkly Starter Day, the children had some questions they would like to find answers to. These included –

- How were people punished?
- Are there dragons in castles?
- Did they have medicine?
- How do people attack castles?
- What did royalty wear?
- What games did they play?
- What weapons did they have?
- What are on the castle flags?
- Did kings and queens work?

We are looking forward to investigating these ideas.

ENGLISH & WELSH

We will continue to develop our speaking and listening skills through stories, songs and role play. We will also develop a sense of curiosity about the world around us. We will continue to build our phonic knowledge through daily literacy / phonic activities, making the most of our outdoor learning environment as

often as we can and ensuring our fine and gross motor skills are developed daily! We will be writing poems and instructions, designing posters and writing descriptive pieces through the stories we will have read.

MATHEMATICS & NUMERACY

As mathematicians, we will be developing our understanding of fractions. We will be learning about equal and unequal parts, how to recognise halves and quarters and will be finding half of a variety of small, even numbers. Pupils will be exploring Position and Direction, describing movement in a straight line as well as quarter, half and 3 quarter turns.

Pupils will be learning to tell and write the time, including o'clock, half past and quarter past/to.

RVE

In RVE we will be learning about the Jewish faith.

Pupils will be given the opportunity to explore and appreciate a diverse range of ideas, beliefs, practices and traditions.

Pupils will learn about the Synagogue as an important focus for worship, the Torah and its importance for Jews.

We will also look at the background to Judaism in Wales.

HEALTH & WELLBEING & RSE

Whilst thinking about our wellbeing, through daily mindfulness and yoga sessions, we will be learning about relationships and how we change over time. This will include thinking about our families and the people who care for us, friendships and what makes a good friend and also discussing people who help keep us safe such as teachers, doctors, nurses and police. We will be talking about our wants and needs as a baby and how they change as we grow into a toddler, then a child. We will be looking at how this continues to change and develop as we move into adulthood.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

As scientists we will be investigating and naming everyday materials, exploring properties and thinking about why they used the materials they did to build castles. We will be analysing a range of materials and will predict, giving reasons, which ones would be the best to use when building a castle. We will then test their effectiveness before writing a report outlining our findings.

We will continue to explore how to keep safe online and will independently use technology in the classroom to support our learning.

HUMANITIES

Throughout this topic, children will consider the importance of castles throughout history. They will have the opportunity to visit a castle and see how this compares to the images of castles that they might have seen in stories on videos.

They will understand the significance of castles and that they were used to protect what was inside which tended to be members of the royal family, along with the soldiers who were there to protect them. As Geographers - we will be looking at castles all over our country and finding the ones nearest to us. We will describe where they are and looking at what the places are like. We will be using maps, Google Earth and photographs to help us describe what the place is like and explore why they may have built a castle there.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS

As Artists we will be using different sheet and collage materials to create our own castles, princes/ princesses and coat of arms, using ideas we find from our research to help us. We will be exploring how we can use arrange and mix different materials and textures to create abstract pieces of art

As Musicians we will sing songs and play instruments in keeping with the medieval times. We will also learn a variety of songs through daily Welsh 'Ffa-la-la' scheme.