

<p>English This term the children will be exploring a range of inspiring books about dragons, knights and castles. They will be writing for a range of purposes. This will include descriptive writing to describe their own dragons they create, dragon poetry and writing a recount of the story 'George and the Dragon' in their own words.</p> <p>We will also be reading a range of non-fiction books linked to our topic and writing non-fiction pieces. This will include a fact file about how to care for a dragon, a set of instructions about how to fly with your dragon and an explanation on how to become a knight. We will also be writing a recount of our visit to a local castle, recounting the main events in order.</p> <p>This term, your child will continue to have weekly spellings to learn, with a spelling test each Friday. They will have regular guided reading sessions and daily letters and sounds sessions. The children will also continue to practise letter formation to help them to develop a neat handwriting style.</p>	<p>Music In Music this term, we will be covering units linked to pitch and composition. As part of our pitch units we will use instruments and our singing voices to explore how notes can change between low and high sounds. We will be playing low and high patterns using picture notation alongside the note names and then composing our own patterns. We will continue to develop our composition skills after half term when we will be creating class compositions linked to our class topic.</p>
<p>Mathematics This term, the children will have a focus on multiplication and early division. We will look at how objects can be put into equal groups and how this can be represented through repeated addition and then multiplication. The children will learn to 'skip count' in 2s, 5s and 10s and this will develop to learning the facts for these multiplication tables. We will then use our knowledge of the 2, 5 and 10 times tables to solve simple multiplication and division problems.</p> <p>The year 2 children will also be identifying, sorting and comparing 2D and 3D shapes. Alongside their mathematics lessons the children will continue to have daily mastering number sessions to strengthen their understanding of number and develop their fluency with number facts.</p>	<p>P.E This term, the children will be having twice weekly PE lessons as well as completing their daily mile. In our gymnastics lessons, we will have a focus on balance, linking movements and moving in unison. In our dance lessons we will be composing and linking actions to create our own dance sequences. In our games lessons we will be learning how to control a ball to attack, defend and shoot. They will then use these skills to play team games.</p> <p>P.S.H.E (Personal, Social and Health Education) Through the unit 'Dreams and Goals' the children will learn about how they can set themselves goals and how they can achieve them through determination and growth mind-set. Through the second half term's unit 'Healthy Me' the children will learn about some of the ways in which to keep themselves physically and mentally healthy.</p>
<p>Science This term the children will be studying the topic 'Marvellous Materials'. They will be learning to identify and name a range of materials, such as; metal, glass, plastic, rock and fabric. Through our 'material hunt' the children will be finding examples of these materials in the classroom and outdoors. They will explore the physical properties of these materials and compare and group them on the basis of these properties. We will be carrying out a range of investigations to explore questions such as which material makes the best waterproof cover for the dragon's egg? Which objects from the Knight's pockets will float on the water in the moat and which will sink? Which fabric is the most absorbent to mop up spills? The children will be continuing with their on-going seasonal change project, observing and recording changes to the weather, plants and animals in the school grounds as we move through Winter into Spring.</p>	<p>Art and Design This term, our focus will be on 3D structures. We will study the works of the sculptors Alexander Calder, Maggi Hambling and Anthony Caro. The children will be working with cardboard to create their own inspirational 3D structures. We will start by completing observational drawings of interesting sculptures. We will practise the skills of joins and folds then learn how to create surface colour and pattern. The children will then use all their skills to create their own 3D card sculpture.</p> <p>R.E (Religious Education) During the first half term unit of work the children will think about what might be found in a Jewish home and how these objects link to the Jewish way of life. There is a focus on the mezuzah, the belief in one God, Shabbat and Chanukah. In the second half term, we will be looking at different symbols of belonging, including symbols of belonging for Christians and Jews. The children will give an account of what happens at a traditional Christian infant baptism /dedication and wedding and suggest what the actions and symbols mean.</p>
<p>Humanities Through our history topic 'castles' the children will be learning about castle life, exploring why castles were built, who lived in castles, what they did and what they ate. We will be visiting a local castle and finding out about all the different parts of the castle and what they were used for. We will also be finding out about the first castles that were built by William the Conqueror and what happened at the Battle of Hastings, all those years ago. The children will learn about Windsor castle and the kings and queens that have lived there over the last nearly 1000 years.</p>	<p>Computing This term, the children will be developing their word processing skills and will learn simple programming skills using Scratch Junior. They will also continue to learn about the importance of staying safe when online.</p> <p>Design Technology This term, we will be exploring free standing structures. The children will practise their skills of measuring, marking out, cutting, shaping and joining, with a range of tools and reclaimed materials. The children will build a variety of freestanding structures using construction kits, such as wooden blocks, interconnecting plastic bricks and those that make frameworks, exploring questions such as 'How can you stop your structures from falling over?' 'How they can be made stronger and stiffer in order to carry a load?' The children will then use these skills to construct a free-standing part of a castle that is strong enough to carry a load and not fall over.</p>

Possible ways of helping your child with their work this term:

- Ensure they complete any home activities given.
- Visit the library to look at or borrow books connected with the work that your child is doing.
- Use the Internet and visit websites to research information about the topic area.
- Visit places of interest connected with the work that your child is doing.
- Allow your child to bring information into school to share with the rest of the class.

Useful websites:

Literacy:

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvq9bdm>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/5-7-years/letters-and-sounds>

Mathematics:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16&AgeGroup=2>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zjxhfg8>

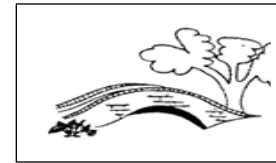
Topic: (Websites for children about castles)

https://www.ducksters.com/history/middle_ages_castles.php

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/castles/>

<https://www.funkidslive.com/learn/top-10-facts/top-10-facts-about-castles/>

Whixall Church of England
Primary School and Nursery



Curriculum Information for
Parents

Spring Term 2025

Mayfly Class



‘Castles’