



Happy New Year from YEAR 4!

Spring term topic – Land of the Dragons

<p>Languages, Literacy and Communication</p> 	<p><u>English</u> Whole class guided reading to improve fluency, expression and comprehension (Dragon Gold by Shoo Rayner, Tell me a Dragon by J. Morris, extracts from Cressida Cowell’s How to train a dragon, Dragons of Wales by Andy Frazer, Dragonology by Dugald Steer). Reference work including dictionaries, contents pages, indexes, maps and keys. Instruction writing (how to trap a dragon), explanations, poetry and creative story writing. Learners will design their own dragon and create a class Dragonology book. Handwriting – joined, cursive writing with correct ascenders and descenders.</p> <p><u>Welsh</u> Focus on using the past tense and extending sentences, giving information and opinions. Learning new topic vocabulary linked to ‘Y Parti’ (the party) and the Eisteddfod and becoming confident asking and answering questions.</p>
<p>Maths and Numeracy</p> 	<p>Number: Decimals and percentages, fractions, ratio and proportions. Place Value – dividing and multiplying by 10, 100 and 1,000. Recognising and using decimals including tenths and hundredths. Mental and written addition, subtraction, division and multiplication (grid method progressing to short multiplication method). Financial maths – budgeting. Measure: time (24 hour clock). Shape and space: Perimeter and area and properties of 3D shapes. Problem solving and reasoning skills Cross-Curricular maths based on our topic.</p>
<p>Humanities</p> 	<p>This project has a humanities focus and will teach children about many aspects of the middle ages of Welsh history. They will answer questions such as ‘What was Wales like in the past?’ They will learn about significant Welsh figures that shaped this period of history and will also focus on learning about the castles of Wales. They will consider the inquiry question, ‘Where is the best place to build a castle?’ and will choose how to present their research.</p> <p>Children will also learn about the cultural identity of Wales and will discover the various wonders of our country. They will decide on their own top wonder and justify their opinion.</p> <p>Learners will look at why holy books are important to believers of different religions.</p>

<p>Science & Technology</p> 	<p>Science: 'Let's Play with Physics' Children will learn about different forces such as pushes, pulls, magnetism and friction. They will plan a series of fair tests and will make predictions based on their previous knowledge and experience.</p> <p>Design and Technology: Children will have the opportunity to learn about levers and linkages and will design and make their own models incorporating skills they have learnt during this project.</p> <p>ICT: Children will have the experience to enhance and develop all aspects of their filmmaking skills. They will be encouraged to write and create their own films based on our topic. They will learn how to use iMovie and a green screen. They will continue to develop their ability to use the Internet safely for research.</p>
<p>Expressive Arts</p> 	<p>Children will study a variety of mythical beast illustrations (e.g. by the illustrator Iman Joy El Shami Mader) and design their own mythical creature. They will draw a dragon's eye and use clay to create it in 3D. They will also design, draw and paint their own image of a castle, combining paint and pastel into their work.</p> <p>Children will learn to maintain a part in group singing and will learn a range of traditional Welsh songs to be performed during our Eisteddfod celebrations.</p>
<p>Health and well-being</p> 	<p>Children will focus on developing their footwork skills for outdoor team games. They will also learn the rules of tag rugby and will play short games. Children will learn a traditional Welsh dance to celebrate St. David's Day.</p> <p>Children will reflect on their own learning with the aim of becoming resilient, resourceful, reflective, curious team players (our learning assets).</p>

Useful websites:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround> - discussion and current affairs

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/> - fun experiments at home

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/mental-maths> - games to practise maths skills

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar> - spelling

<https://cadw.gov.wales/visit/family-days-out/10-top-castles-kids>