



Castles & Knights

Spring 2



Our Key Enquiry Question(s) is...

What if the Normans never invaded England?

Websites:

<http://www.alnwickcastle.com>

<http://www.kidsonthenet.org.uk/castle>

<http://www.castlesontheweb.com>

<http://www.dkfindout.com/uk/history/castles/>

Books:

Places to Visit:

Our local area! There are many castles to be found. Can you find any?

Newcastle Castle Keep www.newcastlecastle.co.uk/

Warkworth Castle <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/warkworth-castle-and-hermitage/>

Bamburgh Castle <http://www.bamburghcastle.com/>

Challenges for Home:

Practise doing up zips and tying shoes!

Can you help to cook/bake at home by carefully counting and weighing ingredients?

Please tweet us using the hashtags below if you see your child showing any of our Archibald qualities.

We will continue to teach the children how to make the right choices and be **#ResponsibleCitizens**

Through our creative curriculum, we will be **#HavingFun** whilst learning.

We will continue to inspire and develop **#ConfidentIndividuals**

Having fun, achieving excellence.

Successful learners. **Confident individuals.** Responsible citizens.

Key Dates and Reminders:

Class 3 and 4 will now have PE on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please send your children to school in their PE kit on these days. They no longer need kit on a Friday.

Literacy

As 'Castles and Knights' is our main focus, the children will create reports about the features of a castle and those who lived in medieval times. We will share a variety of texts that link to our topic and celebrate World Book Week. We will also investigate how to become a knight! This half term we will use Saint George as our inspiration, retelling his legend and writing in role.

Towards the end of this half term, we will take inspiration from the seasonal changes and create some spring poetry, focusing on using our senses.

Please continue to read daily. We encourage the reading of any books at home, as well as our online services. When reading with your child, please try to discuss what has happened and how characters are feeling. It would be great if you could predict what may happen and encourage expression. Thank you for your support!

Numeracy

This half term, we will be focusing on measurement. We will look at length and height, as well as weight and volume. Measurement can be a very hands on area of maths, so it would be great if you could encourage your children to physically measure things. For example they could measure in centimetres using a ruler, or by calculating how many cubes long/tall an item is. At bath-time, they could investigate 'full', 'empty', etc. using cups.

We will follow along with White Rose Maths and follow our Mastery approach, to enable the children to deepen their understanding of mathematical areas. They will use all of their skills from earlier strands, such as addition and subtraction, to tackle a variety of problems.

PE *Having fun, keeping healthy and learning new skills...*

Year 1 will continue to work on agility, balance and coordination skills by playing a variety of games, as well as exploring other areas of the curriculum, such as dance & gymnastics.

PSHE *What jobs do people do?*

We will celebrate our differences and consider that everyone has different strengths and interests in life; these strengths and interests are needed to do different jobs. We will think about different jobs and about people whose job it is to help us in the community. We will continue to share our No Outsiders books and stories that encourage us to be the best person we can be.

RE *Developing respect, tolerance, understanding and knowledge...*

This half term, we will explore the Christian celebration of Easter. We will begin with the first Easter day stories and explore the Christian beliefs that Jesus brings new life and is God's gift to the world.

Music—*listening, appreciating, interpreting, playing, developing...*

We will explore a variety of activities that will allow the children to develop their understanding of rhythm, pulse and pitch. We will explore untuned instruments.

Computing

We will use a variety of programmes this half term and use them to create pieces linked to our topic. We will code on Scratch Jr, we will use 2animate to make a moving image, and we will tinker and code the beebots so that they can travel around a castle!

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Science

Science will continue to be taught weekly in Year 1. We will work scientifically this half term to complete a variety of tasks from the Year 1 curriculum. We will also help a special princess to learn about healthy eating and animals.

As the seasons change, we will begin to make **observations over time** and seek for patterns in day length. We will observe and comment on how the world around us is changing. We will begin to think about why this is happening.

Observation over time, Identifying and Classifying, Researching, Fair Testing, Pattern seeking

Art/Design Technology

This half term we will learn about the artist Paul Klee, particularly his creation 'Castle and Sun.'

We will design and make our very own trebuchets for attacking castles, and we will explore joining materials to create a castle. Within this project, we will learn about levers and pulleys to create a working drawbridge.

We also hope to plan and make our very own banquet.

Castles & Knights

What if the Normans never invaded England?

History

Have you ever wondered what life was like long ago? This half term, we will learn all about castles and knights! We will learn about Motte and Bailey castles, and compare wooden, stone and concentric castles. This will help us to understand **chronology** and **change over time**. We will also think about how a castle was both attacked and defended. The children will explore life as a knight and what it was like to live in castle. We will bring our learning to life by acting out **significant events** like the Battle of Hastings and learning all about local knight, Harry Hotspur! We will think about **cause and consequence**, so as to answer our enquiry question, 'What if the Normans never invaded England?'

Chronology, Cause and Consequence, Historical Significance, Continuity and Change

Geography

We will locate castles within our region, as well as beyond. As we explore the Normans and how they invaded England, we will look at maps to find the countries connected to this historic event. We will **locate** different countries on a map and plot the possible journeys taken.

We will look at **planning and decision making** this half term, by thinking about the strategic position of castles. Where should we build a castle and why? We will look at the geographical features that castles use to protect themselves, such as hills and rivers, and take inspiration from our longstanding local castles to help us decide. This will allow us to think about our previous learning on rural, coastal and urban places.

Location and Place, Cause and Effect, Planning and Decision Making, Change

Key Vocabulary

History

- Castle
- Knight
- Motte and Bailey
- Concentric
- Parts of a castle: battlements, drawbridge, tower, etc.

Geography

- Atlas
- Map
- Human features
- Physical features
- Key

Science

- Earth
- Axis
- Sun
- Season
- Year

Literacy

Please discuss the following, how they look, and when to use them:

- Noun (person, place, thing—naming word)
- Suffix (-ed, -er, -est, -ing)
- Punctuation

Numeracy

- Centimetres, metres
- Grams, kilograms
- Millilitres, litres
- Full, empty, nearly, half, etc.

Key Stage 1

- *Can you read these words with a grown up and talk about what they mean?*
- *Do you know any similar words?*

Key Stage 2

- *Use a dictionary to find out the meanings of these words.*
- *Have you ever come across the words before in a different topic?*
- *Can you think of alternative words to use?*

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