



Year R Curriculum Report – Summer Term A

We are going to use 'Castles' as the stimulus for our learning for the next half term. This will involve exploring castles throughout history and moving on to castles in fiction, including thinking about traditional tales involving knights and dragons. We are looking forward to our trip to Arundel Castle on 18 May.

Here is an outline of the key objectives we will be covering in each area of learning:

Personal, social and emotional development: We will be focusing on consolidating our understanding of our feelings and the feelings of others, focusing on ways to be kind to our friends. We will be exploring the concept of bullying and helping children to understand what this is, how it feels and why it is unacceptable. We will also be encouraging children to take risks in their learning and exploring ways to be healthy and safe.

Physical Development: As always, this is a big focus for all of our children. We are continuing to explore forming letters correctly and it would help them considerably if you were to continue practising this at home as well. Alongside this, we will be working on our gross motor development, including exploring ways to change the shape of our bodies in PE. The PE days have changed this term with Wagtails on a Monday, Robins on a Tuesday and Kingfishers on a Wednesday. Please remember to send your child's PE kit into school if you have not already done so.

Communication and Language: We will be focusing on "narratives" this half term. We will tell stories, both fiction and non-fiction, about castles and will also think about retelling our trip to Arundel Castle. Please continue to support your child's language development by asking them to tell you stories at home!

Literacy: In literacy sessions we will be continuing to develop the children's phonic knowledge through daily group sessions. We are also focusing on reading and writing simple sentences with the tricky words that we know (I, like, the, to, you, was) as well as learning the new words 'we', 'they', 'when' and 'have'. Please challenge your child to write you a sentence using one or more of these words, along with any other words they are learning on their teddy cards.

Mathematics: This half term we will be thinking about different measurements, including measuring time, distance, weight and capacity. We will also be consolidating our understanding of addition and subtraction and introducing the concept of doubling and halving. There are lots of fun things that you can play at home to reinforce this learning, including measuring out ingredients for cooking, playing dominoes and finding the total of the doubles and playing addition/subtraction games with toys or sweets!

Understanding of the world: We are going to think about Special Places as part of our RE learning this half term, focusing on why castles were special and comparing them to special places of our own. Alongside this, we will be comparing the lives of people who lived in old castles to our own, and talking about what has changed. We will also continue to focus on using technology for a range of different purposes. Remember that this half term is our second Forest Schools – Kingfishers are on Monday, Robins on a Wednesday and Wagtails on a Friday. Please send your child in with appropriate clothing as, despite the improving weather, the forest is still muddy!

Expressive Arts and Design: We have set up a variety of role-plays including a castle ballroom and a banquet hall. The children will also have the opportunity to create a sculpture using different media, and we will continue to develop their fine drawing skills.

Home learning challenge:

This half term, our home learning challenges are:

1. Take or draw a picture of a place that is special to you, and explain why it is so important.
2. Make a model of a castle using a resource of your choice. Photograph it or bring it in to show the class.
3. Use the computer to do something new – this may be typing a sentence, researching on the internet, making a simple presentation about something that interests you, or something else!



Reminders

Learning Journey

Thank you to the parents who are already contributing to their child's Learning Journey through Tapestry. It would be great for more parents to add their contributions about what your child has learnt at home – this could be cooking, painting, reading or amazing you with their knowledge of the world!

Reading

If anyone is able to help listen to readers (it doesn't have to be every week) for even just half an hour please let your child's class teacher know. It is so important that children are able to practise these skills regularly and any extra help will make a huge difference to the children.

Coats and Jumpers

Your child must have a coat in school every day, even when the weather starts to improve. They go out to play outside every day, even when it's a little damp and raining! We also ask that coats and jumpers are all named so we can help ensure they come home with your child.