



Spring 1: Castles, Knights & Dragons

Welcome to the Spring Term! Children will continue with their daily phonics, maths, English and handwriting sessions, alongside plenty of time spent in COOL (Choose Our Own Learning). Now that children have become more confident with word reading, they will move on from sound blending books and will begin to bring home phonics sheets or books containing simple sentences. Please continue to spend time with your child reading these as often as possible. Children will continue to consolidate the Set 1 sounds they already know and will practise using these sounds in longer words and with increasing fluency. This half term, our learning will focus on the topic of **castles, knights and dragons**. Through stories, role play, creative activities and hands-on exploration, children will learn about life in castles, brave knights and mythical dragons. This topic will inspire rich vocabulary, imaginative play and opportunities for speaking, listening, reading and writing across the curriculum.

Communication and Language	PSED	Physical Development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect one idea or action to another using a range of connectives. Make simple predictions about what will happen next. Retell the story, once they have developed a deep familiarity with the text. Listen carefully to rhymes and songs, paying attention to how they sound Learn rhymes, poems and songs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listen to stories that include brave and not so brave knights. Talk about what it means to be brave. Identify times they or people they know have been brave. Work with a friend to plan how to carry out a challenge e.g. catch, trap or hunt for a dragon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balance bikes Use large outdoor construction equipment to build their own castle. Master writing all individual letters and numbers correctly Make playdough or salt dough dragons. Make dragons' teeth. Moving dragon's eggs from a nest using tweezers. Tear and shape tin foil to create an armour for small world toys. Make jewelry for a princess by threading beads or coloured pasta.
Understanding of the world	Expressive art and design	Literacy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare pictures of Charles III and Elizabeth II with images of historic kings and queens. What is similar/ different between the modern day and historic kings and queens? Find out more about an historical figure who lived in a castle, the people who worked in castles through books and online learning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> make dragon pictures, creating texture using different techniques including wax rubbing over textured surfaces and making textured paint. Use some accurate vocabulary to describe the textures created. Create castle using large equipment outside or with building blocks in the construction area. Role-play or use small world toys to retell stories they have heard or create their own knight and dragon stories. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read, Write Inc Phonics; Enjoy a variety of stories and songs Explore literacy skills using 'Pathways to Write' literacy scheme using the text, 'The Naughty Bus'.
Maths	Religious Education & HRSE	

- Power maths & Mastering number
- increase confidence in subitising by continuing to explore patterns within 5
- continue to develop verbal counting to 20 and beyond
- continue to explore the composition of 5 and practise recalling 'missing' or 'hidden' parts for
- Spatial awareness

- Jesus' birth is celebrated at Christmas
- The wise men visited Jesus in the stable
- Jesus welcomes the little children
- Jesus was born for everyone
- We are called to help the poor, hungry & vulnerable.
- Jesus and the feeding of the five thousand.