Castles and Victorians

Year One Donaldson

Spring Term 2026

Key Areas of Learning

As **historians**, we will investigate what life was like behind the castle wall and learn about the lives of people who lived behind them. We will take a step back in time and look at life as a Victorian child and compare it to our life today.

As **geographers**, we will be exploring where you find castles in the United Kingdom and think about why they are situated there. We will be able to answer the questions; Are castles the same all around the world? What are the differences between a castle and a palace? We will be looking at how London has changed from the Victorian era to now.

As **scientists**, we will compare different materials from the past and modern day and think about its purpose. We will then be able to discuss which material was better for its particular purpose. Throughout this topic we will read, spell and pronounce scientific and topic vocabulary correctly.

English

As **readers**, we will continue to develop our reading fluency and answer questions about the text that we have read. Throughout the term, we will develop our inference skills and we will blend the best friends we know to read words.

As **writers**, we will write using the correct letter formation and ensure that the letters we write are sat on the writing line. We will apply the phonics sounds (graphemes, digraphs, trigraphs and split digraphs) we know to spell words. We will write sentences ensuring that we have used: finger spaces, capital letters and full stops.

Maths

As mathematicians we will solve problems and reason mathematical.

We will develop our knowledge of place value for numbers between 20 and 50. We will use numbers within 20 to add and subtract, focusing on using teen numbers.

We will measure the length and height of objects using standard and non-standard units of measure and we will explore weight and volume.

Throughout the term, we will develop our mathematical fluency so we can recall number facts quickly and accurately.

Computing

In **computing**, we are learning to be painters and we will use technology to create digital images. We will also become collectors and we will find images using the web.

PSHE

We will learn about our dreams and goals. We will think about our aspirations and how we could achieve our goals discussing some of the feelings we may have. We will also think about how we can keep ourselves safe and healthy.

PE

In **Physical Education**, we will be learning new skills in gymnastics moving safely around, over and under apparatus. We will develop our ball skills and play a range of ball games. We will play some Victorian games.

Art and DT

In **Design and Technology**, we will be learning about different structures to make our own windmill. In **Art**, we will be looking at sculptures.We will learn how we can transform materials around us into sculptures.

RE

In **Religious Education**, we will be learning about the religion Judaism and what Jewish people believe about who God is. We will also learn about why Easter is an important time of the year for Christians.

Music

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In our topic 'In the groove' we will learn songs from different genres. We will learn to keep a steady beat and accompany songs using instruments. We will compose a simple melody.

Experiences

Castle project- children to make a castle at home and talk about the various parts they have included.
Banquet and Victorian day in school (Dates TBC)
Victorian kitchen trip at Gunnersbury Park (TBC)

Whole School Events and Themes

Number Day 6th February
World Book Day 5th March
Parents Evenings Tuesday 24th February and Thursday 26th February
Spring Clubs Start- WB 12/01- Ends- WB 23/03/26

SPRING GROVE
PRIMARY SCHOOL