

# Tales & Turrets

Spring 2026

## Why Am I Learning This?

In Progression Step 2, children begin to understand more about where they live and how their community fits into the wider story of Wales. Learning about our locality helps them recognise familiar places, understand how their environment has developed and feel a sense of belonging and responsibility.

Exploring Wales deepens their understanding of Welsh culture, language and identity. It helps them see how people, places and events shape our nation today. Studying castles gives children real and meaningful examples of life in the past, helping them understand how Wales has changed over time. These historic buildings allow them to think like young historians by asking questions, looking for evidence and making connections.

Learning about dragons brings Welsh myths and legends to life. It encourages imagination and creativity while helping children understand the symbols and stories that are important to Wales.

Together, these themes help learners build a clear sense of identity, develop curiosity about the world around them and understand how the past and present are linked.



## Essential Questions

Why were castles built in Wales, and what do they tell us about life long ago?

What types of castles were built in Wales and why?

How did people in castles defend themselves from attacks in medieval times?

What Welsh legends feature dragons, and why are they important to our culture?

What materials were used to build castles, and why were they chosen?

How do the design and structure of a castle keep people safe?

Why do people tell stories about dragons? What messages do these stories share?

How can we describe a castle so someone can imagine it without seeing it?

## Learning Journey

During this topic, learners will explore what castles are, why they were built and how they have changed over time. Pupils will investigate the different parts of a castle and consider how these features helped people stay safe in the past. They will learn about the lives of people who lived and worked in castles, comparing daily life in medieval Wales with life today.

Children will use maps, photos and digital resources to locate castles in Wales and understand why they were built in certain places. They will ask and answer questions like young historians, using evidence from buildings, artefacts and stories to make sense of historical events.

As part of their study, learners may visit or explore a local castle, helping them connect their learning to real places in their community. Throughout the topic, they will develop skills in enquiry, interpretation, sequencing events and understanding cause and effect.

### Art

Helen Elliott focusing on drawing skills, tones and the impact of colour. Develop a 3D draw eye using clay adding colours and dimension.

### Digital Competency

How do we stay safe online? Why it is important? How to make a presentation. Exploring Coding and debugging. Finding out information about a given topic.

## Literacy and Numeracy

**Books drivers every fortnight focusing on Traditional Tales and Dragons.**

Exploring myth, imagination and symbolism. Comparing modern storytelling with classic poetry. Exploring capitals and full stops, question marks, using words for effect.

**Reading** - Focus on developing reading skills and strategies, through individual and group reading.

**Handwriting** - Develop a consistent size and good letter formation including cursive handwriting.

**Welsh** - Work on Y1 sentence patterns, developing oracy and confidence.

**Numeracy** - Place value of numbers to 20, One more, one less than a given number, Tens and ones, Partitioning numbers, Writing numbers to 20, Numbers in words, Addition and Subtraction to 20, Place value within 50, Length and Height, Weight and volume.