

Water

Our topic this term has been...

This term, learners in Years 3 and 4 have immersed themselves in the theme of Water, exploring it through a wide range of creative, scientific, historical, and wellbeing-focused activities. The topic has provided rich opportunities for pupils to develop their knowledge, skills, and understanding across all Areas of Learning and Experience, while supporting their progress as curious, confident, and ethical learners.

In Expressive Arts, pupils explored a variety of creative techniques, materials, and tools to express their ideas. They learned about the work of Welsh artist

Susan Gathercole and created their own artwork inspired by her style. A highlight of the term was a live paint-along session with the Waterfront Museum, where children experimented with techniques used in painting seascapes. In music, pupils continued their lessons with the NPT Music Service, using Chrome Lab to create digital compositions. They also developed their instrumental skills, with a focus on glockenspiels, while Year 4 pupils began learning to play brass instruments.

In Humanities, learners explored deep questions in RVE such as "Why do Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday'?" and "What kind of world did Jesus want?" They also learned about Islam and the significance of pilgrimages, helping them to understand different beliefs and perspectives. As part of their local history studies, pupils went on a boat trip aboard the Copper Jack to learn about Swansea's naval history and how the area's location influenced its industrial development. A visit to the Waterfront Museum further deepened their understanding of the history of boats and the importance of Neath during the Industrial Revolution.

In Health and Well-being, pupils took part in regular physical activity through weekly PE sessions, which included Welsh dance, hockey, bat and ball games, and athletics. They also worked with Ospreys in the Community to develop their rugby skills. Digital safety remained a key focus, with regular lessons on internet safety and responsible device use. This term's core values were Generosity and Respect, and pupils explored how small acts of kindness and compassion can positively impact others. They also took part in a workshop with the RNLI to learn how to stay safe in and around water, and participated in a bike and scooter safety session led by the local road safety team.

In Science and Technology, pupils investigated the properties of water through hands-on experiments. They explored floating and sinking, experimented with melting ice using salt, and observed the effects of freezing toys in ice to simulate winter conditions. These activities helped them develop their ability to ask questions, make predictions, and draw conclusions. Pupils also carried out a fair test investigation to compare how far different amounts of water would travel. As part of their Leonardo Effect work, they engaged in rich, cross-curricular scientific experiences, including dissecting a fish, creating detailed observational drawings of a real crab, and examining fish scales under a microscope. In digital learning, pupils developed their understanding of digital citizenship and e-safety, and used databases to organise and present information.

Throughout the term, learners have shown curiosity, creativity, and growing independence in their learning. They have developed their ability to work collaboratively, reflect on their progress, and apply their learning in meaningful contexts.

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