

Heritage for Schools



TEACHING RESOURCE FOR KEY STAGE 2 PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS



These resources are available
in Welsh and English.
[CLICK HERE FOR WELSH >](#)

Our pupils' heritage – their very own history

These resources have been created as a result of a Schools' Heritage Project funded by LEADER and The Heritage Lottery and delivered by Canolfan Tywi, Llandeilo.

The aim of the project is to provide teaching resources for Key Stage 2 primary school teachers to support their work in delivering the increasingly important task of teaching pupils about their own heritage, including historical characters and key events as well as Wales' rich and valuable built heritage.

This resource provides you with a range of generic teaching resources, many of which can be edited to suit any your own historical themes in your local or contracting area. It includes powerpoints, printable timelines, lesson plans, worksheets and teachers' notes within the following two sections:

Buildings in your area

Historical characters and events in your area

Also included are [case studies](#) of projects with 10 schools in Carmarthenshire which illustrate how the resources can be used.



How to use: To navigate scroll the pages or click on arrows < > Click on [links](#) to access and download the resources.

Inspire your pupils about the historical buildings in your area

In Wales, we are blessed with a wealth of historical buildings which not only include castles and country houses but also an array of town and country dwellings which can sometimes be taken for granted as part of our everyday landscape.

In order to protect our heritage for future generations, it is key that pupils begin to understand how history has shaped the buildings around us and value their significance and importance for future generations.

These resources are generic and can be amended in order that teachers can use them for their own locality and themes.

Click on the links below to access the relevant resources, or scroll down to read further.



> Timeline

A timeline of Welsh buildings from the Celtic Roundhouse to a 21st century eco building. Two printable formats are available, i.e. landscape timeline for classroom display and A4 format which can be used as a classroom activity



> Gallery

Here you will find photographs of the buildings used in our timeline together with photographs of other buildings, examples of windows, doors and roofs.



> Teaching resources

Here are a number of lesson plans including curricular links and worksheets to help your pupils understand how buildings have developed over the centuries and how we can ensure that we protect them for future generations.

Inspire your pupils about historical events and characters

There has never been a more important time for pupils in Wales to understand the country's rich heritage including the characters and events that have shaped Wales over the centuries, to strengthen their own identity and sense of belonging. This part of the resource is designed to provide teachers with a platform which provides some key information about specific characters and events in Wales but which will also inspire you with generic ideas for teaching your pupils about the characters and events that shaped the history of your own locality. Each village, town, city and county has its own story to tell which can inspire pupils to contribute as citizens of the future.

Click on the links below to access the relevant resources, or scroll down to read further.



> Timeline

This is a printable timeline for your classroom which includes many key characters and events that have shaped Wales. You will find further resources and options of how you can use this timeline in the Teaching Resources section. Why not add your local key events and characters to this timeline.



> Teaching resources

In this section you will find generic teaching resources, lesson plans and a powerpoint you can use in the classroom. Each resource is in a format which you can amend to use with any of the historical characters and events of Wales and/or with historical characters and events in your own locality.

Case studies

During this year long project we have worked with ten schools in Carmarthenshire.

Through a series of events, re-enactments, working with artists, heritage tours and drama, we have seen pupils teachers and schools' wider community embrace their local built and cultural heritage.

Within each case study you will find background information for teachers, powerpoints, lesson plans and ideas for further classroom activities

These case studies are designed to be used either for schools to follow the same theme, if practical, or alternatively why not browse our case studies for inspiration to create similar projects within your own area.



Sir William Paxton at the National Botanic Garden of Wales

In order to bring a part of their local history to life for the pupils of **Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Nantgaredig** and **Ysgol Gynradd Wirfoddol Llanddarog**, pupils, dressed as servants, travelled back in time to the end of the 18th century to learn about a key local figure and the contribution he made to the local area.

Pupils and staff taking part were greeted at the National Botanic Garden of Wales by 'Sir William Paxton' brilliantly played by the actor Dion Davies. Through the medium of drama, the pupils learnt about Sir William Paxton and the impressive estate he created on what today is the site of the National Botanic Garden of Wales. Many of Paxton's innovative ideas can still be seen there today, e.g. the double walled garden, the ruins of the Peach House, the stable block, Principality House – the servants' quarters and the footprint of Middleton Hall which in its time was deemed to be one of the most impressive houses in south-west Wales.

Our project coincided with an equally exciting time at the National Botanic Garden of Wales with their ambitious Paradise Regained Project where the landscape created by Sir William Paxton himself is being brought back to life.



An overview of a case study with pupils from two Carmarthenshire schools who travelled back in time to the late beginning of the 19th century to visit the National Botanic Garden of Wales.



View a collection of photos and video clips from the event days.



> Teaching resources

This section includes background information on the history of Middleton Hall, today the site of the National Botanic Garden of Wales and the man who shaped it's impressive landscape, Sir William Paxton.

Get Inspired

In almost all parts of Wales and beyond there are characters from the past that shaped our local areas and in many cases much of their legacy can still be seen to this day. To help forge a sense of place, belonging, pride together with knowledge of their very own communities, what better time to start with what your pupils' own locality offers in terms of heritage before venturing further afield.

For this particular case study, Sir William Paxton was brought back to life for Years 4 and 5 from Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Nantgaredig and Years 3 and 4 from Ysgol Gynradd Wirfoddol Llanddarog. Most pupils were familiar with Paxton's Tower, a familiar and imposing edifice in the Towy Valley and built by Paxton to honour his hero Admiral Horatio Nelson between 1806-1809.



Likewise most pupils had previously visited the National Botanic Garden of Wales but very few knew about the life of the character behind this site of international importance.

To engage pupils from the very start of their visit, a group became Sir William's servants and a further group represented the family of

Sir William Paxton's Welsh friend, and the person who introduced Paxton to the site, Mr David Williams together with their own servants.

The experience begins with Paxton introducing the pupils to images he commissioned William Horner to paint of his impressive estate back in 1815. Interestingly these images are



now being used to return some of the landscape to its original glory.

Pupils are then led on a tour of Paxton's estate while learning about the life, influences and successes of this man who left his mark on the local area. In the double walled garden, they learn about his interest in growing exotic fruit and how he



> Get inspired

> Teaching resources

CASE STUDY 1 SIR WILLIAM PAXTON AT THE NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDEN OF WALES

Get Inspired *(continued)*

cleverly improved the climate in this area in order to prolong the season for his crops. Pupils taste peaches from Paxton's 'Peach House,' ruins of which can still be seen today.

The tour continues past the stable block and Principality House, the servants' quarters. The tour ends on the footprint of Paxton's prized Middleton Hall, where props were placed to depict the various rooms. In Paxton's descriptions of the interior, e.g. wallpaper, fireplaces, children use their imagination to experience the grandeur of yesteryear.

They are then served with sorbet and reminded that the ice would have been kept in the ice house, which can still be seen today.

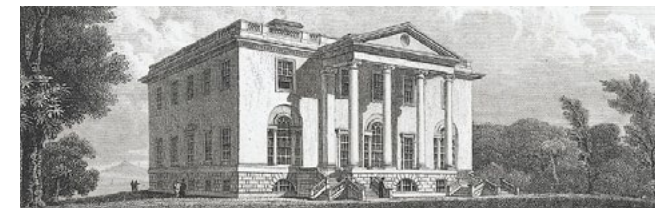
The tour ends with Paxton commissioning his servants to



sketch the landscape including Paxton's Tower.

This was designed as a sensory and interactive experience for Key Stage 2 pupils, bringing a local character back to life and learning

about his life and influences in a fun interactive way which they are more likely to remember and relate to than simply presenting facts alone in the classroom.



> **Get inspired**

> **Teaching resources**

CASE STUDY 1 SIR WILLIAM PAXTON AT THE NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDEN OF WALES

Gallery



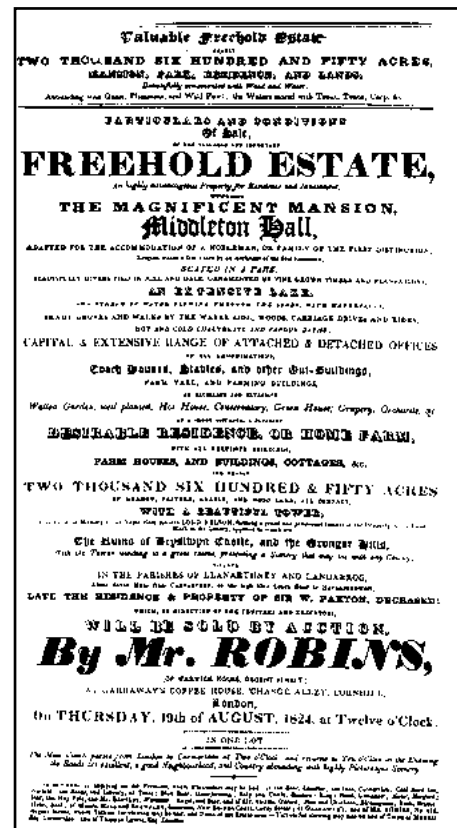
A maid serves peaches grown in Paxton's Peach House.



Mr and Mrs David Williams, Paxton's dear friends, enjoy his hospitality.



The double walled garden created by Sir William Paxton.



An advert for Middleton Hall following Sir William Paxton's death on Tuesday 10th February 1824.



> Video



> Gallery



> Teaching resources

Celts, Romans, Drovers and more

We worked with Year 5 and 6 pupils at Ysgol Gymraeg Teilo Sant, Llandeilo with a view to bringing more meaning to familiar sites and buildings in their own locality including the town itself in order to give them a greater understanding of the rich heritage on their own doorstep.

From the Celts and Romans of Garn Goch, an Iron Age fort situated near the village of Bethlehem approximately 4 miles from the school, to the rich built heritage of Llandeilo town itself, pupils began to think about their surroundings in terms of what it could tell them about the past.



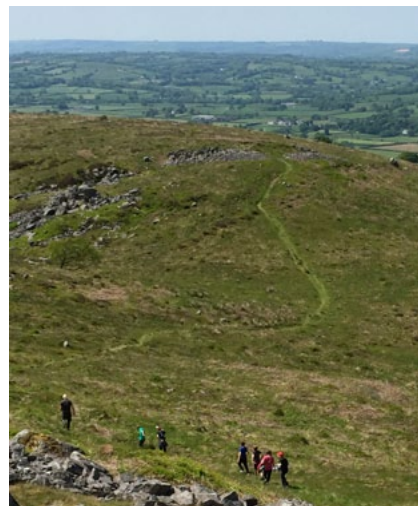
> Teaching resources

In this section you can browse background notes for teachers, suggested lesson plans and resources together with a powerpoint presentation.

Get Inspired

Our motivation for this work lies with our desire for pupils to look closely at historical sites and buildings in their own area and use these buildings to build a picture of life in the past. Why was it built? Who lived there? What were their lives like? What was our town like in the past? How and why has it developed into what we see today? Many of us are guilty of passing the same places each day without really looking carefully at them in a different light and using them to inform us of our past and the legacy of those who preceeded us.

Working with pupils in Year 5 and 6 at Ysgol Teilo Sant, we shuttled groups of 12 pupils together with staff members in a mini bus (the roads are not suitable for larger



buses) to the iron age hillfort and ancient monument of Garn Goch.

The Garn Fach (the smallest of the two iron forts) can be reached in approximately a 20 minute walk from the car park and information board. Pupils then continued on a further 10 minute walk to the Garn Fawr, the largest of the fortifications. One



group were given Celtic costumes to wear and adorned their faces with the familiar blue paint of a battling Celt whilst others were dressed as Romans. These costumes are available for schools to borrow from Carmarthen Museum.

On this particular occasion, the pupils were greeted by Cefin



Campbell, a partner in the heritage project and a keen historian. The pupils were given a lively insight into the lives of the Celts that resided there in the past. They learnt about their houses, farming, cooking and pupils considered the reasons why it was built there. They were asked to imagine how the landscape had changed over the last 2000 years



> Get inspired

> Teaching resources

CASE STUDY 2 CELTS, ROMANS, DROVERS AND MORE

Get Inspired *(continued)*

whilst looking from what is arguably one of the best vantage points in the Towy Valley.

Children were asked to close their eyes, and think about the sounds, smells and sights they would have experienced on this very site in the past.



Back at Ysgol Teilo Sant, groups also took part in a workshop building their very own Celtic Roundhouse on the school grounds using the exact same methods and materials which would have been used by the Celts themselves.

At a later date, pupils were also taken in groups around Llandeilo town under the leadership of Sarah Rees of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust. To encourage pupils to look closer and more carefully at the buildings, they were given close-up pictures of certain features on a range of buildings. This encouraged pupils to look at the buildings in ways which they hadn't looked at them before. (See Teaching Resources)

Detailed information on the tour can be found in the 'Teaching Resources' section.



> **Get inspired**

> **Teaching resources**

Gallery



> Video 1



> Gallery



> Teaching resources

Re-enactment of a scene from the Miners' Strike 1984-85

Year 5 and 6 pupils at Ysgol y Bedol embarked on the theme of 'Coal Mining.' The school organised a visit to Big Pit, Blaenavon and looked at the history of coal mining and how their village of Garnant and surrounding villages had developed as a direct result of the coal and tin plate industry. The project would culminate in a re-enactment of a scene from the year long miners' strike of 1984-85. Pupils began to ask family members about their memories of these difficult times and slowly began to get a better understanding of events at this time.



Guest speakers, who played key roles during the strike visited the school to share their own experiences of the miners' strike and also showcased many

mining artefacts, including an extensive collection of posters and newspaper articles which appeared at this time.

A day of workshops were held giving the pupils the opportunity to prepare and contribute to the organisation of the re-enactment, including creating props, auditioning for a drama and learning more about the effects of the strike on the local community.

The preparations and the re-enactment were filmed by Tinopolis for S4C's 'Heno' programme.



> Teaching resources

CASE STUDY 3 RE-ENACTMENT OF A SCENE FROM THE MINERS' STRIKE 1984-85

Get Inspired

Whilst the effects of the Miners' Strike of 1984-85 deeply affected many parts of industrial Britain, 90 pupils from year 5 and 6 at Ysgol y Bedol learnt what these times meant for members of their own families and their own community. This thematic work on the coal industry began with a site visit to Big Pit National Coal Museum at Blaenafon – a hands on and sensory experience as an introduction to coal mining.

They considered how their village and neighbouring villages had developed during the Industrial Revolution and the reason behind the terraced housing built by mine owners for their workers to this day form a part of the area's built heritage.



The day of the re-enactment saw pupils dressed either in 80s attire, some as police officers and riot police officers. The demonstration march set off from Y Twyn, a location



approximately a 15 minute walk from the school. Led by members of the Crwbin Silver Band, pupils marched back towards the school brandishing placards and chanting slogans.

Letters had been distributed to local residents along the route the previous day, many of which had lined the route to witness the spectacle.



> Get inspired

> Teaching resources

CASE STUDY 3 RE-ENACTMENT OF A SCENE FROM THE MINERS' STRIKE 1984-85

Get Inspired

(continued)

Back at the school, school governors and members of the community watched a three act drama depicting some of the issues that arose during the strike in 1984-85. The first scene sees a mum with her two sons, one a miner and the other a police officer and the conflict this causes. The second scene sees a speech made at a rally and the third a clash with riot police as a but carrying 'scabs' try to drive to their work.

The pupils were interviewed about their experiences for S4C's Heno magazine programme.



> Get inspired

> Teaching resources

CASE STUDY 3 RE-ENACTMENT OF A SCENE FROM THE MINERS' STRIKE 1984-85

Gallery



> Gallery

> Teaching resources

The Woollen Industry and Drefach Felindre

Key Stage 2 pupils at Ysgol Wirfoddol Penboyr embarked on a heritage project to learn about the importance of the Woollen Industry in their locality and how the success of the industry during the second half of the 19th Century shaped the village of Drefach Felindre.

The pupils visited the National Wool Museum in Drefach Felindre in order to gain an understanding of the process undertaken to transform a fleece to fabric. They learnt why the Teifi Valley became one of the most prolific wool producing places in the UK – from sorting, scouring and willowing to carding, spinning and winding before warping, weaving and finishing – the complexities.

Cefin Campbell of Sbectrwm Consultancy, a partner in the project, led pupils on a heritage tour of the village visiting redundant woollen mills and drawing attention to owners' houses and gardens as well as workers' cottages. Many were buildings that the pupils pass every single day on their way to school. It is hoped that this experience would encourage them to appreciate the importance of the valuable built heritage on their own doorstep.



[**> Additional resources**](#)

Local history in and around Pencader

Year 3 and 4 pupils at Ysgol Gymunedol Cae'r Felin began their project by creating a mind map to demonstrate what they knew about their local history, including significant buildings, characters and events.

They then followed a heritage trail around the village, taking photographs, making observations and considering how the village has changed over the years. (Details of the heritage walk and others can be found in the resources section below). They considered the significant impact the opening of the railway had on the village and the key part that the woollen industry played in the very development of the village.

Pupils learnt the significance of their school logo which displays a waterwheel and made drawings of the redundant corn mill, now a private residence, which adjoins the playing field.

Pupils also enjoyed learning about the Rebecca Rioters who were very



active in and around their area. To celebrate their wealth of local heritage and to underline how important this is to the school and its community, the pupils worked with Rhiannon of Rhiannon Art to create a mural to be displayed in the school reception area.

Twm Siôn Cati

Twm Siôn Cati's story appeals to children of all ages. The numerous stories about him stealing money and property from the wealthy to give to the poor and needy have fired the imagination of generations and his link with the Tywi Valley makes him a perfect subject for a presentation to primary school children.

The show was held in four primary schools between 8-10th January, 2019 - Ysgol Rhys Prichard (Llandovery), Ysgol Llangadog, Ysgol Ffair-fach and Ysgol Cwrt Henri. Around 200 children in total from Key Stage 2 classes came to see the show which drew a very good response from all who attended.

In order to distinguish between the real history and mythological stories that have grown around Wales' Robin Hood, the show used different techniques to reflect this disparity. One of the cast acted as a narrator presenting historical facts relating to Twm while the other portrayed his character by



recreating some of his most daring and memorable adventures. With this combination of methods the show was able to include elements of both the serious and amusing aspects of his life.

The show starts with a schoolboy named Twm Siôn, who had heard that someone of the same name had been a highwayman in the Tregaron area back in the 16th century who used to hide in a cave at the top of the Tywi Valley! Of course, he is eager to know more about this interesting and colourful character. At this point the narrator

presents some factual information about Twm – for example, when and where he was born and what kind of society existed in Wales at that time.

Following this, Twm re-creates some of the most amusing escapades associated with his hero, where he swindles local aristocrats and businessmen like Jasper Tyler and Elis Richards out of their money and belongings. The children love the high jinks that happen on stage as children and teachers play leading roles in some of the scenes!

Towards the end of the show more historical facts are presented about Twm and how in his old age he became a highly respected member of society by marrying the daughter of Sir John Price of Brecon and later becoming Sheriff of Carmarthenshire, a Justice of the Peace and a historian of great repute.

The show finishes with the schoolboy marveling with great pride that a character who shared the same name as him had successfully transformed himself from being a lovable rogue who was almost hanged for theft to becoming a respectable and wealthy man. Funny old world he thought!

From the beginning to the end the show lasts for about an hour but because worksheets have already been prepared it is possible for the children to enjoy a workshop for another half hour if time allows which would give them an opportunity to further explore the history of Twm and his adventures.

> Additional resources