Cwmfelin Primary School

Tradition Detectives

Autumn Term 2 – Year 4

How has life in the Llynfi Valley changed over time?

Exploring our past, celebrating our present and shaping our future.

Our Learning

This inquiry-based unit invites learners to explore the social, cultural and economic history of the Llynfi Valley, with a focus on how traditions, industry and regeneration have shaped the community's identity.

We will develop our understanding of change and continuity, and our own place within the community. This supports the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience, especially the statements of what matters around identity, place and change over time.

Knowledge (Knowledge that)

- Why some local traditions, such as the Mari Lwyd and the Christmas Parade, have remained central to the valley's identity.
- The impact of the end of industrialisation on the community.
- The ways in which the Llynfi valley has undertaken regeneration and the effect of this on the community.

Skills (Knowledge how)

- Explain historical change and continuity in the local area.
- Explore cause and effect in social and economic development.
- Develop critical thinking through comparing past and present.

Experiences (Knowledge of)

- Build a visual timeline of key events in the valley's industrial history and its decline.
- Learn about the Mari Lwyd tradition and re-enact it through drama or puppet shows.
- Look at census returns to draw conclusions about employment opportunities.
- Plan and participate in a new Maesteg tradition.

What will we be learning about?



The Mari Lwyd
Traditions, customs and celebrations.



Industry
How the valley worked and grew.



Decline
The impact on our communities.



Regeneration
New opportunities and a brighter future.



Community
Our identity, our traditions, our place.

Welsh Words

We will be using some important Welsh vocabulary linked to our inquiry.

Traddodiad	Tradition
Diwylliant	Culture
Dathliad	Celebration
Parêd	Parade
Cymuned	Community
Cwstom	Custom
Gŵyl	Festival
Treftadaeth	Heritage
Diwydiant	Industry
Effaith	Impact
Economi	Economy
Dirywiad	Decline
Adfywio	Regeneration

Cymru, ein cartref

Cross-curricular Opportunities

Literacy / DCF

Pupils will create a short documentary or podcast about the tradition's importance to the community.

Numeracy

We will use graphs and charts to explore population changes and employment trends.

Art & Design Technology

Create and design a Mari Lwyd, costumes, props and decorations for our new tradition.

Digital Competency

Research, present and share our learning using a range of digital tools.

Immersion Activity

Pupils will become "Tradition Detectives" for the day, investigating the origins, meaning and modern-day celebration of the Mari Lwyd and other local customs.

Our Showcase

We will be holding an event for a new Maesteg Christmas tradition.

- Create a Mari Lwyd and knock on class and neighbours' doors.
- Create an outdoor nativity and carol service in our outdoor classroom.
- Christmas indoor fayre fundraiser / Parade.

Thank you for your continued support!