



**YEAR 3**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January**

**Homework Tasks (Year 3):**

- **Reading Comprehension:** Please complete and mark the 'Iron Age Celts' tasks on the next page of this document and record your responses in your homework jotter book

*Please place your homework books in the homework box by **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January***

- **Spelling:** A spelling test, on **Spring Term 1 -Week 1 Red words** will take place on **Thursday** (see the separate spelling sheet for this term – it is split into weeks and you will be instructed which week we are currently learning). Don't forget you have access to spelling shed to help you practice too!
- **Times Tables:** Please complete - and mark- Spring Term: Workout 1 p26-27 of your CGP 10-minute weekly workout book and your weekly test on the **4x** table will be on **Friday**
- **Reading:** Please read for 45mins throughout the week.

## Iron Age Celts

The Celts is the name given to the tribes who lived across Europe during the Iron Age. It is actually a more modern name. The Romans referred to the Celts of Britain as Britons when they invaded. Britain was filled with Celtic tribes during this time. They often went to war against each other.

Celtic tribes were ruled over by chiefs or kings and queens. Most of the rest of the tribe were farmers. Iron tools meant that they could farm more land than the Bronze Age tribes that had farmed before them. This meant that Iron Age villages grew quickly. Iron weapons and tools were time-consuming to make. This made them very valuable. Cattle were also sought after, and tribes would often attack each other to steal both.

One of the ways that chiefs kept their villagers safe was to build hillforts. These structures were made of rings of piled soil and wooden walls on the side of a hill. The village was often built inside these lines of defence. Strong warriors were often rewarded with more land. They became very rich by trading the things that they grew. These were some of the most important people in Celtic tribes.

Blacksmiths were needed to forge iron. They were important members of the village and highly respected. Bards and musicians were common and would entertain people. The Celts also had a rich culture of art and craftsmanship. It was easier to make ornate jewellery from iron than it had been in bronze. Many surviving Celtic items show off their amazing skills in this area.

The Celts were pagan and their religious priests were called druids. Druids performed ceremonies and made decisions for the village. They were often trusted by the chiefs. The druids would make sacrifices to please the gods—prized possessions were thrown into the river by the druids to send them



to the gods for their approval.

Iron Age houses were simple structures built from wood or stone. A fire in the middle of the floor would heat the whole house. It was also used to cook food. Most roofs were thatched with straw. These would have to be maintained to keep them watertight. Clothes were made from wool woven on looms. The Celts loved bright colours and their clothes would have been dyed using natural colourings. Needles were made from bone at first, then bronze and iron as the metals became more common. Because iron made such detailed jewellery, the Celts often adorned their body with bracelets and rings. Chieftains and important people would have worn a torc around their neck. These were ornate neckbands made of twisted metals and showed off how important they were.

There was nowhere to chill or freeze food, so the Celts ate whatever was in season. Their diet was a mixture of vegetables and meat. They didn't have access to some of the meats we eat today, but they are a range of animals that we no longer do. Deer, wild boar, chicken and pigs were common. They also ate fox, beaver and bear meat, as well as eggs from wild birds. Celts also kept bees for their honey.

## RETRIEVAL FOCUS

1. What did the Romans refer to the Celtic tribes?
2. Why were iron tools valuable?
3. How were brave warriors often rewarded?
4. Which members of the village made sacrifices to the gods?
5. What religion were the Celts?

## VIPERS QUESTIONS

**S**

Why were iron tools better than bronze tools?

**V**

Which word tells you that bards and musicians put on performances for people.

**V**

Find and copy a word that tells you thatched roofs had to be looked after.

**I**

Why might the Celts have preferred iron jewellery to bronze?

**S**

How was the Celtic diet different to modern diets?

### Answers - Stage 3 - Iron Age Celts:

1. Britons
2. They were time-consuming to make
3. They were given land
4. Druids (accept priests)
5. Pagan

S: They were stronger and sharper

V: Entertained

V: Maintained

I: It could be made into more ornate designs for them to wear

S: They only ate food that was in season and they ate lots of meat that we don't eat today. Accept examples of the meats they ate alongside the answer.