Brilliant Betsi





Who was Betsi Cadwaladr? Why was she so important? It's time to find out about this national heroine and her contribution to medical practice!

During this half term, we'll receive a visit from a health professional who will read us the story of Welsh nurse, Betsi Cadwaladr, and talk to us about their job. We'll use globes, maps and atlases to identify where Betsi was born and where she travelled. Once we are more familiar with her life, we'll report on the challenging conditions she faced while working in the Crimean War and compare her heroism to that of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. We'll use fabric and other materials to make peg dolls of the famous nurses and soldiers. We'll learn some emergency first aid, examine the school's first aid equipment, measure out small volumes of liquids and use thermometers to measure temperature. We'll create a poster about the dangers of medicines and write a set of instructions to explain how effective handwashing stops the spread of germs.

At the end of the project, we'll reflect on the challenges of running a field hospital and celebrate Betsi's work and life through poetry and song.

Language, literacy and communication	Asking, answering and writing questions, retelling stories, newspaper reports
Mathematical development	Capacity and measures
Personal and social development,	Emotions and feelings, health and hygiene, medicine safety, reflecting
well-being and cultural diversity	and remembering
Knowledge and understanding of the	Crimean War, using maps and atlases, hygiene, Victorian hospitals,
world	emergency services
Physical development	First aid
Creative development	Making peg dolls

Help your child prepare for their project

Betsi Cadwaladr was an incredible heroine. Why not design a monument to help others remember her life and work? You could also research transport from the 1800s together and discuss what Betsi's journey to Crimea might have been like. Alternatively, work together to write an acrostic poem using the letters of Betsi's full name.