

HUMANITIES / CYMRAEG / EXPRESSIVE ARTS · ALL YEARS

Dydd Gŵyl Dewi Sant

St David's Day — 1 March

Who was St David (Dewi Sant)?

1

Dewi Sant (c.500–589 CE)

The patron saint of Wales. A Welsh monk and bishop, founder of the monastery at Mynyw (now St Davids, Pembrokeshire) — the only city on the Pembrokeshire Coast. Made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

2

His famous last words

'Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things.' ('Gwnewch y pethau bychain mewn bywyd') — still quoted in Wales today. The 'little things' phrase is written on walls and mugs across Wales.

3

National Day

1 March — St David's feast day. Welsh national day. School children wear national costume (or red and green). Eisteddfod competitions. Parades in Cardiff.

4

Daffodil and leek

Both are Welsh national symbols. Daffodil: the spring flower, associated with 1 March. Leek: associated with a legend that Welsh soldiers wore leeks in their caps to identify each other in battle against the Saxons.

St David's Day classroom activities

- Learn a Welsh song — 'Calon Lân' (Clean Heart) or 'Sosban Fach' for older pupils
- Make a daffodil from tissue paper and pipe cleaners
- Draw the Welsh dragon — a red dragon (Y Ddraig Goch) on a white and green flag
- Listen to a Welsh male voice choir recording



- Read a story about St David or Welsh mythology
- Display 'Gwnewch y pethau bychain' — discuss what 'little things' mean
- Make traditional Welsh cakes (picau ar y maen) if cooking facilities available

