

# Year 2 Knowledge Organiser - Castle Diary - The journal of Tobias Burgess

## Important information

What was it really like to live in a castle? Step back to the Middle Ages with *Castle Diary: The Journal of Tobias Burgess*.

Eleven-year-old Toby's vivid diary entries offer an insider's view of day-to-day castle life, including tips on etiquette (where do you spit at a feast?) and exciting descriptions of hunting, jousting, and harvesting.

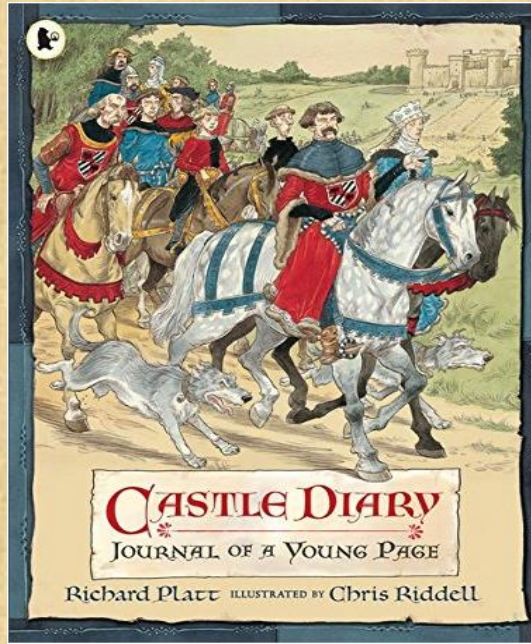
Complete with glossary, index, and detailed endnotes, this is a rich look at medieval life that informs as much as it entertains.

**Themes:** Daily life in a Medieval castle

**Setting:** Set in the year 1285. Castle diary chronicles the adventures of Toby Burgess as he discovers the triumphs and tribulations of life as a page in his uncle's castle.

## Characters

Toby Burgess	An 11 year old little boy sent to his uncle's castle as a page to learn the skills and duties to become a squire.
David	His friend, who is captured and locked in a cell.



'Come along as Toby spends 12 months exploring the castle and learning to become a proper member of medieval society- one who hunts boar (disastrously), practises archery (worse) and makes friends with a poacher (secretly)'

**Context** Richard Platt has written numerous books for children on a wide range of topics. Some of his most popular works have been collaborations with illustrator Stephen Biesty on the "Cross-Sections" series and some have won prizes: Pirate Diary (Walker Books) won a Smarties silver prize, and a Blue Peter award. Three other books reached the Aventis science prize shortlist. His favourite subject however is castles and all things Medieval. He lives in England (though sadly not in a castle) with his wife Mary, a cat called Rabbit and three speckled hens.

**Name of book:** Castle Dairy-The journal of Tobias Burgess

**Date Published:** 1999

**Author:** Richard Platt

**Illustrator:** Chris Riddell

**Writing genres covered (cross-curricular with Topic)**

- Acrostic poem
- Diary entry
- Instructions
- Explanation
- Information leaflet

## Key Vocabulary

<b>Armour</b>	Garments that protected the body and skin from wounds, cuts and bruises.
<b>Crossbow</b>	a weapon for shooting quarrels and stones that consists chiefly of a short bow mounted crosswise near the end of a stock.
<b>Dungeon</b>	a strong underground prison cell, especially in a castle.