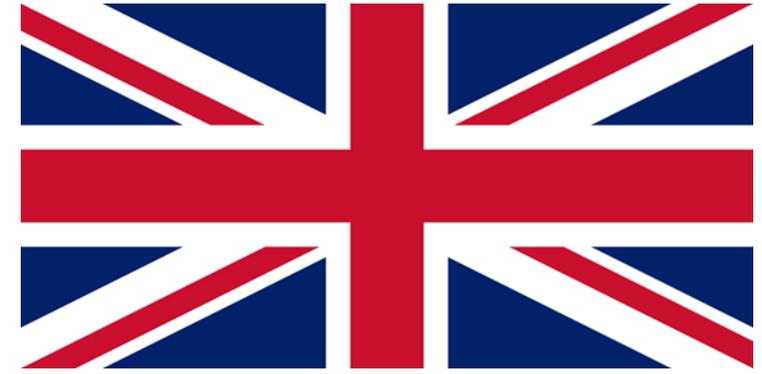


## British Values



**27th January – 2nd February**

### **Democracy**

When important decisions need to be reached, sometimes a big vote or referendum takes place, this gives everyone an opportunity to have a voice and share their opinion.

# Why is Big Ben Important?

The tower was completed in 1859. At the time, Big Ben was the largest bell in the UK.

The Elizabeth Tower houses four other bells. These are called quarter bells that chime at 15, 30 and 45 minutes past the hour.



Since 2017, the bell has remained silent whilst repairs are made except for pre-planned important events such as New Year's Eve and Remembrance Day.

Big Ben Facts Weight:  
13.7 tonnes Height:  
2.2 metres Diameter:  
2.7 metres

**Here is the Elizabeth Tower which is a popular and famous landmark. Inside the Elizabeth Tower is the Great Bell, whose nickname is Big Ben!**



27th January - 2nd February

# Should we celebrate the things that divide us?





# What is in the news?

## What is happening on the 31st January?

On this date at 11pm, the UK will officially leave the European Union. This follows the outcome of the UK referendum in 2016 where the UK voted to leave. The vote was very close with 51.9% voting to leave and 48.1% wanting to remain. A lot of people remain divided over the issue.

# Big Ben



**Look at this week's poster.**

Describe what you can see. Have you ever seen or heard of Big Ben? Do you know anything about Big Ben?

Big Ben is often thought to be the most famous clock in the world!

# £500,000

This is the estimated cost of enabling Big Ben to chime to signify Brexit. How much money is this? What might cost this amount? What might you be able to buy with it?

# If Big Ben rings to mark Brexit, who should pay?

It was decided in Parliament that the government would not fund it, but it was suggested that if the public wanted Big Ben to chime to mark Britain leaving the European Union, they could raise funds themselves.

Criag

I think the government should pay for Big Ben to chime when we leave the EU. It is an important moment in history and should be celebrated using our historic landmark. We spend over £2,000,000 celebrating New Year with fireworks in London so why not £500,000 on this?

Dewi

I think if the majority of people want Big Ben to bong, then maybe people who earn the most should contribute.

Tom

I don't think anyone should pay. We can find other ways to celebrate Brexit.

# Follow Up- KS1

On your whiteboard answer the following questions:

- What does the bell look like?
- How does it make its chime?
- What does it sound like?
- Do you like the sound?
- Can you count the number of times it chimes?

**Record a list of adjectives that could be used to describe Big Ben on the board. Model how to use these to write a sentence about Big Ben. Use these ideas to create a Big Ben description. Include a picture too!**



## **Follow Up- KS2**

**Discuss if you think £500,000 should be spent to celebrate/mark Brexit? Why/why not?**

**Who do you think should be responsible for funding Big Ben chiming?**

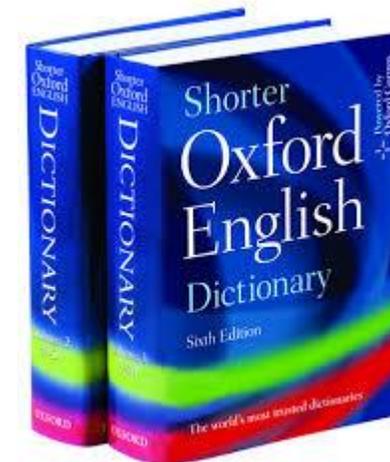
**Write your for or against point of view and present to the class.**

# Reflection



We can choose whether we want to spend money celebrating personal occasions but when an occasion impacts the whole country, we may not agree with how money is being spent. It is important to respect the choices and decisions of the majority.

# This Week's Useful Vocabulary



- **Currently** – happening at the present time.
- **Donate** – to give money or items to something or someone.
- **Occasion** – an important event, celebration or ceremony.
- **Refurbishment** – cleaning, decorating and providing something with new equipment or facilities.
- **Scheduled** – arranged or planned according to a timetable or schedule.
- **Signify** – a sign to represent something.