

Kittilä's secondary school's 9th graders' digital magazine

spring 2021



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Activities in Levi

Levi is the largest year-round ski and tourist centre in Finland. It's located in Lapland, in the municipality of Kittilä. Levi is a fell in the village of Sirkka. Usually, however, Sirkka is known as Levi. Levi is home to about 890 people but is filled by more than half a million tourists all year round. Versatile doing attracts a lot of people here.

Top 10 things to do in Levi

1. Go downhill skiing, snowboarding and skiing
2. Go to reindeer and husky safaris
3. See the northern lights and other natural beauties
4. Go snowmobiling and snowshoeing
5. Experience fat biking and hiking
6. Go golfing and mini golfing
7. Go to the adventure park
8. Visit the spa and bowling
9. Visit different restaurants
10. Try saunas and ice baths

With Levi being a year-round ski and tourist centre, it obviously has a lot of different slopes. If you are a beginner, we would recommend downhill skiing in the South slopes. We think it is best because it is not too steep and there is plenty of space to ski. Also, if you have children there are two different slopes for children to practise and ski. If you do not have your own equipment, you can rent all the winter sports equipment that you need at Zero Point or South Point. Such equipment like downhill skis, snowboards, skis and snowshoes.

In Lapland there are a lot of places you can see reindeer. Such places like the sides of the road or reindeer safaris. In Lapland there are also a lot of husky safaris. We would recommend going to the Polar Light Tours. There you can sit back and enjoy the snowy views!

The northern lights are at their best when it is frost and the sky is clear. Also remember you can see them better when it is dark.

Snowshoeing and snowmobiling are a relaxing way to enjoy the winter landscapes at Levi and experience the perfect natural peace. You can rent snowmobiles in many places such as Levi Pro Shop. Snowshoes you can rent from example Zero Point.

Fat bikes you can rent from Hill Ski Rent or many more different places. Levi offers many kinds of environment for fat biking or hiking, such as wide roads, fast tracks and technical rock and stub trails.

Mini golfing you can do at the Activity Park. It is a full-size mini golf course that consists of 18 fairways. It is open from 29.5. to 24.10.2021. You can go golfing at Levi golf and country club. There is also a golf range where you can practise even if you don't have a green card. It is a full-size course with 18 holes.

The Adventure Park is located at the Gondola area. In the adventure park you will find a total of 63 different tasks as well as the 888-meter-long Santa's Zipline wire sliding marathon.

The Levi Spa is quite new and modern. It has many inside and outside pools and nine saunas. We think the spa is a perfect place to relax in the middle of your holiday. Levi used to have two bowling alleys but nowadays there are only one. The bowling alley is a great place to go with family or friends to hang out and have fun.

Levi has a good selection of different restaurants. We would recommend going to eat to gastro K, Colorado, Pihvipirtti, Ämmilä, Pannukakkutalo and Rennä.

When you are visiting Levi, we recommend trying a sauna. You can find saunas in such places like your hotel room or the local spa. Saunas are a perfect way to relax on your holiday. Ice baths can be intimidating at first, but it will make you feel fresh and awake.

Pessi: Artist

Amalia: Writer

Pihla: researcher

Lähteet: <https://www.gofinland.fi/en/skiresorts/levi/activities>

<https://fi.wikipedia.org/wiki/Levi>

<https://www.levi.fi/>

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Levi

Levi has plenty to count for beginners and experienced skiers, as there alternatives to steep black slopes in as many as 43 ski resorts.

In December, lift ticket sales at Levi ski resort rose by 7.9 per cent compared to the previous year. The ski resort instructed its customers to buy lift passes online and people acted as hoped, as e-commerce accounted for 43 per cent of total ticket sales this year. The share of e-commerce grew by 41 per cent compared to 2019. The ski area also set up ticket offices out and they worked well. In this way, there were fewer people indoors.

There are 43 ski slopes in Levi, 17 of which are illuminated. The height difference of the largest slope is 325 meters. The length of the longest slope is 2500 meters. There are 27 ski lifts and the length of the longest lift is about 1710 meters.

Levi Ski has it own skiing School it`s very popular with foreigners, but also with locals. You can find a ski school inside zero point. Zero point also has a ski tool rental.

Next to Levi's slopes you can find several food restaurants. you can eat lunches or burgers in them and other stuff. they are located all over the slope.
<https://www.levi.ski/rinteetjahissit>

You can watch <https://youtu.be/LwihxyJ4V20>



<https://www.lumipallo.fi/hiihtokeskukset/suomi/pohjois-suomi/levi/>

Laura (leader), Enni (researcher) & Niilo (writer)

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Kittilä's art galleries

Kittilä has a lot of artists and museums. Kittilä has a strong visual art tradition, and a lot of artists get inspired by nature. The artists are also a big part of Lapland's and Finland's art history.

The library in Kittilä hosts exhibitions for the artists. The art and the artists change every month to new ones to bring up new and talented artists.

There are many galleries and museums around Kittilä, such as: Gallery Raekallio, Palsa-museum, Särestöniemi museum and art museum Einari Junttila.

Raekallio's gallery has three floors, and the whole house by itself is like an art piece. They change the painting every week to new ones. Raekallio painted humans, reindeers and natural phenomena. The painting usually are humoristic and of funny situations. The gallery is open from 10.00 to 18.00.

The Palsa museum was opened 6.6.2013. After Kalervo's death his house was left abandoned, until Kauko's foundation bought Kalervo's house and renovated it. The ticket to the museum costs 5-2,50 €. Some of Kalervo's most popular paintings are named: Rauhan Paikka and Eläkeläinen muistelee. Kalervo unfortunately died in 1987, he was 40 years old.

Reidar Särestöniemi painted paintings of Lapland and it's nature. Reidar studio was built in October of 1978, he was able to live in his new house for 2.5 years because he died in his studio due to arrhythmia at 56-years old in 27.5.1981. The paintings change three times a year, and sometimes they host concerts and plays. The tickets cost 12€ for adults and for students the tickets cost 10€. Some of his most known paintings are: Ilves, Kevään helisevät värit and Huilua soittava ilves.

Einari Junttila was considered one of the most talented Finnish artists in 1930. His paintings were inspired by Kittilä's nature, such as the mountains, forest ponds, streams, swamps and rivers. The museum was established in 28.12. 1991 when he was 90 years old. Einari's daughter Terttu Junttila is now the owner of the museum. Einari painted mountains for around 60 years, and he usually walked to the place he wanted to paint. Einari Junttila has also designed the arms of Kittilä.



Särestöniemi-museum <https://www.kaukosorjosensaatio.fi/sarestoniemi-museon-esittely/>

Sources:

<http://www.kittila.fi/kuvataide-kittilassa>

<https://www.sarestoniemimuseo.com/>

<https://fi.wikipedia.org/>

Emma: writer

Jade and Dalia: researchers

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Kittilä's market

- First Kittiläs market have been held in 1778 and it usually takes around four days. In 2020 there was no Kittiläs market because of corona.
- location: Kittiläs scool yard
- The Kittilä market is usually held in July
- they are selling fendace
- they are selling many meter liquorices and beer bear shirts
- they are vending machines who scam your money, how no problem I tell you. There are no chance to win because no-one havent wonned in history.
- There are people all around the Finland and maybe from other countries.
- There have always been a clown who does everything fun in stage.



Kuvan lähde: <https://www.luoteis-lappi.fi/neoproxy/neo/neoproxy.dll?app=NeoDirect&com=3/14798/5425514496&size=512x0>

Samuli: attendee

Kalle: Artist and writer

Matias: writer

Juho: researcher

Matti: attendee

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The life of small villages

Winter

Winter lasts about six months in Lapland. During that time amazing things happen. First snow rains and reindeer are taken to the fence. Foreigner tourist arrive to Lapland in December and Finnish tourist in March. In winter tourist skiing, downhill skiing and watch the Northern Lights. Local people icefish and ride snowmobile. Arctic circle is popular destination for tourist.

Spring

Snow melts and the amount of light increase. Migratory birds come back such as swam and ducks. Kuukkeli are in Finland throughout the year. Flood comes in May and some houses get wet as a result. Nature comes to life. In spring houses' yards are being raked a lot.

Summer

In summer local people fish, swim and spent time in their cottages. Midsummer day is important celebration for Finns. It is celebrated in 26 June this year. People drink lot of alcohol, eat and burn midsummer bonfire. Otherwise, people spent the summer, barbecue and spent holiday.

Autumn

Berry and mushroom picking begin in autumn. Cloudberry`s are the most popular collectible berries in Lapland. Hunting time begins in early September. Elk, grouse waterfowls are most hunted. Bears and hares are hunted too. Separation of reindeer divides reindeer into live and dead. In Lapland, the most common weapons are 308 elk rifles and shotguns.

Culture

Sauna is important part of Finnish culture. Finns often go sauna and drink. Alcohol and coffee are Finns' favourite drinks. The Sámi are indigenous People of Finland. Lapland has a clean and safe environment. Tap water is suitable for drinking. skiing and ice hockey are one of Finland's most beloved sports. Finland has been in world championship gold three times.

Authors: Siiri-Liina, Paavo, Iida ja Anniina

Roles: All writers

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Secondary school in Kittilä

Almost three years ago we came to this school. Then everything was very different compared to earlier and everything what we were used to. We had new classmates from different schools, new teachers and new subjects. We were used to stay in a one classroom for every subject but now we had to change our classroom for every subject and most of the subjects were taught by the same teacher. New subjects we had were biology, geography, physics, chemistry and home economics. At first it felt very difficult and sometimes finding right class room were hard but gladly it was easy to remember the class rooms in a short time.

7th grade

First days we didn't study at all. We just were hanging out in groups. Every 7th grade also goes to the camp where they get to know each other's. After few days we started to study. Every day we had six lessons that were 45 minutes long. Between the lessons we had a 15 minutes break and also one lunch break that lasted 30 minutes.

We had to study more and take more responsibility. At 7th grade we studied sometimes in groups and also on own. We had more exams compared to middle school and we had also more essays. But don't worry there were not that much essays than people claim. We also had to read three books which we get to choose and write an essay about the book or we had questions such as "what was the most interesting plot twist?" and we had to answer to the notebook.

8th grade

At 8th grade were the most difficult grade from secondary school. Had a lot of new things to study than last year. There were even more exams than 7th grade. We had less artistic subjects. We also could choose optional subject. For example, German and Russian were new languages that were possible to study on free will. In math we got four groups. The groups were according to how good we were in math.

We were about half way done at 8th grade when we got distance learning. It lasted for a half year. The time felt like studying went faster than usually. For some people that was easier to learn at home.

9th grade

At 9th grade we didn't get much new things to study but we studied a lot. We had really much theoretical subjects and there were more like repeating the already studied things for example at 7th grade chemistry we learned about atoms and at 9th grade we learned about the parts of atoms. It was the last year in the secondary school so we had to do many works that were evaluated like exams, group works and essays. Some students were really stressed at that time and some were not at all.

We started 9th grade normally but in February we had to go back to the distance studying for about four weeks. During that time, we had lots of online classes. Some teachers had lot of online classes just because they can be sure that we actually (stu)died. Most of the students didn't focus at all to studying. Instead of that they just were on their phones.



Henri, brain of the group, AKA the leader
Nilla, interviewer, researcher
Oona-Ilona, researcher, photographer
Viivi-Amanda, writer

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A huge music spectacle is coming to Kittilä



The music afternoon is a huge spectacle that is going to happen at Kittilä's secondary school on the third of June from 12.00-13.00. There you can listen to music and chill with your classmates. It is going to be on the school's yard, so you can hopefully enjoy the sun. But what if it rains? Then the music afternoon will be moved indoors. There is music from many different genres, so you can easily find your favourite.

The performers are students both from Kittilä's secondary school and Kittilä's college. They have been practising for a while, and they are ready to show off their skills. We interviewed Venla Wunderink who is one of the performers, and asked her how she feels about the show. We also asked how and when she found music.



Venla is fifteen years old, she is in 9th grade and she is studying music as an optional subject. Venla has played the bass for almost two years. The bass is sort of like a guitar but it has four thick strings and a lower sound. Music has always been a huge part of her life. Venla thinks that performing isn't scary because she has performed in front of an audience before. According to Venla, the performers have been practising for the show during their music classes and alone at home. Venla is slightly excited about the event and she can't wait to play the bass and see other groups perform. Venla's group is going to play two songs during the music afternoon. Venla says that the songs are going to be a surprise.

We also interviewed our music teacher Iida-Maria Palosaari. She has taught the performers and has been a part of organizing the show. Iida-Maria said that the reason why the show is outside is because of covid-19 restrictions. The audience will stay with their own classes, so we can avoid using masks and everyone can be safe. Everyone will have a lot of space on the yard so coronavirus won't spread around.

Iida-Maria Palosaari told us that there will be music from the 80s and the 90s, pop and rhythmic instrumental music. The music has been collected from many different music classes and courses. According to Iida-Maria, the music afternoon will have twenty to thirty performers from Kittilä's high school and secondary school.

Music afternoon will be a nice and friendly show. It's very unique because something like that has never been organized in Kittilä. There you can hang out with your friends and classmates. It will last 45 minutes to one hour. Please remember safe distancing and hand sanitiser so everyone can be safe during the music afternoon. The show is going to be a great start for summer vacation, so make sure that you will be there.

Sources: Pictures: Saana Salo, Anna Ruotsala

Interviewers: Saana Salo, Anna Ruotsala, Venla Wunderink

Interviewees: Venla Wunderink, Iida-Maria Palosaari

Writers: Anna Ruotsala, Saana Salo, Venla Wunderink

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The Mystery Of The Coffee Machine

Two months ago, we got a coffee machine at our school. The students were eager and excited for this, because it would help them get through the day more easily. They had waited for a possibility to drink coffee and other beverages at school for this very reason. The student council worked together with Nuorisoleader to make this happen.

Why was the coffee machine bought?

“Buying the coffee machine had been awaited for a long time, because the school didn’t have the necessary money. With the support of the Nuorisoleader, we finally had the money to get it.”

How was it made ready for use?

“The coffee machine came from a previous owner, so it had to be washed. After that, the machine had to be programmed to the correct settings.”

What drinks can you get from it and when? What are the prices of the drinks?

“You can get coffee, espresso, cocoa, cappuccino and hot water. Tea will also be available on the machine soon. Drinks can be purchased during breaks and before school starts. Drinks cost 50-70 cents depending on the size.”

How well has it worked? Are the students satisfied?

“Sometimes the machine can claim to be out of cocoa even if in reality it isn’t. However, the fault can be easily rectified. Students find it quite nice to have these drinks offered at school so they don’t have to go outside of the school area to get their own.”

The coffee machine has to be under 24/7 surveillance via a security camera to stop any vandalizing or harmful behaviour to the machine. It is also guarded by at least 2 people when it is used. Maintenance and refilling are usually done by Aapo when it is needed.

Hygiene is also very well taken care of. Always before you can buy coffee, someone who is guarding the machine will give you hand disinfection. There can’t be more than 5 people at a time in the line, others will have to wait outside.

Now we are going to talk about our experiences and thoughts about the machine.

Samu



The coffee machine offers all kinds of drinks for a fairly cheap price, which is good for a lot of people. I have bought some cocoa from the machine and to my surprise it was pretty good. The only downside I have experienced is how hot the drinks can get. Sometimes you might not even be able to drink all of it during the 15-minute break without the risk of burning your tongue! Otherwise, I really like the available drinks.

Alisa

I’ve bought coffee from the machine a couple of times. The taste surprised me in a good way. I thought it was going to taste like filter coffee but it didn’t. The taste was a lot silkier. In my opinion the coffee machine

has worked very well. There is one thing about the prices though: I don't think it's fair that hot water costs the same amount of money with the other drinks. The ingredients of the other drinks make them cost, but water is nothing else than itself.

Ronja

I have only used the machine two times. The first time I bought a coffee for myself. I had heard many kinds of opinions on it, so I didn't really know what to expect. Luckily, it was good. Pretty basic, but I liked it. The second time I bought a hot cocoa for my friend. I took a little sip from it and it was good too, even though it was a little bit too sweet for me. I like how the prices are low and there's always someone willing to help. I think the whole coffee machine thing in general is really well executed.

Source: Aapo Asikainen

Picture source: Alisa Uotila

Written by: Alisa, writer and photographer; Ronja, writer; and Samu, writer, interviewer and artist

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British food traditions and other cuisines

The great history of British food origins

The indigenous people of Britain also known as the Celts (Scottish) were known for their advanced agriculture and animal breeding. They developed stewing techniques for savoury herbs and meat. The Norman conquest reintroduced spices and continental influences back into the Great Britain in the Middle Ages. Britain became a major contributor in the transcontinental spice for many centuries after. In the 1800s and 1900s centuries British cuisine was heavily influenced by India's elaborate food tradition of strong penetrating spices and herbs.

Specials

Christmas dinner

A traditional British dinner includes roast turkey, roast potatoes, stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, vegetables and brussels sprouts. Popular Christmas desserts are trifle, mince pies, Christmas cake and yule log.



[https://www.pinterest.fr/pin/788130003514320101/?amp_client_id=CLIENT_ID\(\)&mweb_unauth_id=&mp_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pinterest.fr%2F&mpin%2F788130003514320101%2F&from_amp_pin_page=true](https://www.pinterest.fr/pin/788130003514320101/?amp_client_id=CLIENT_ID()&mweb_unauth_id=&mp_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pinterest.fr%2F&mpin%2F788130003514320101%2F&from_amp_pin_page=true)

Varieties

Welsh cuisine

Welsh cuisine has influenced, and been influenced by English, Scottish and Irish cuisine. Wales is best known for its sheep, and thus lamb is the meat traditionally associated with Welsh cooking. Also, both beef and dairy cattle are raised widely.

Scottish cuisine

Scottish cuisine is the specific set of cooking traditions and practices associated with Scotland. It shares much with English cuisine, but has distinctive attributes and recipes of its own. Traditional Scottish dishes such as haggis and shortbread exist alongside international foodstuffs brought about by migration. Scotland is known for the high quality of its beef, lamb, potatoes, oats, and sea foods. In addition to foodstuffs, Scotland produces a variety of whiskies.



<https://reseptitavas.fi/reseptit/fish-and-chips/>

Fish and chips

Fish and chips are traditional British food. They contain usually cod as the fish and chips means French fries. They are also served in newspapers. The fish is fried, and the chips are also. They are served in all kinds of events, they are very usual food. They are eaten near the ocean. They are sold in almost every city in Britain. Also in almost every country that speaks English or knows about British culture.

Sources

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_cuisine
https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christmas_dinner
https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fish_and_chips

lisko: Searched and wrote text.

Konsta: Searched and wrote text.

Miska: Searched and wrote text.

Nelli: Made notes.

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Brexit a.k.a. Britain leaving the EU

Brexit is the nickname for “British exit” or Britain leaving the EU. Brexit started in 2016 when the prime minister of U.K (David Cameron) held election on whether Britain should stay in the EU or not. 52-percent of British people voted for leaving the EU. Most pro-Brexit voters were older, working-class residents of England's countryside. They didn't like the idea of free movement of immigrants and refugees and were afraid of poorer countries citizens taking jobs and benefits from British people.

We interviewed Natalie Heppell, a British person on what she thought about Brexit. We asked her how she thinks Brexit has affected her. She said that the change was so sudden and it happened so quickly that people didn't have time to adapt. Mrs. Heppell told us that she lives in Finland and has a dual nationality so Brexit didn't affect her that much. Because of that, it is easier for her to travel in Europe and go back to England if she wants to. However, if she and her family wanted to go back to England, her husband couldn't go since he only has Finnish nationality. Now it's more difficult to get the nationality of England for foreign people and vice versa. Also if British people were staying out of country without nationality, they didn't know where to go since the global pandemic Covid-19. They couldn't go back to England and they couldn't stay in the country they were currently at. She told us that the only good thing about Brexit is that Britain could get the Covid-19 vaccines outside the European Union's contract for the Covid-19 vaccines.

Due to Brexit, the European Union's population has decreased by 13%. Also the EU's and Britain's relations have suffered and it has affected U.K's economic growth. Brexit hasn't really affected Finland directly, other than our international citizens and our trips to the U.K. In addition, if you decide to order something from the Britain, the delivery will take much longer than it used to and it will cost you more too.



The current Prime minister of the U.K, Boris Johnson

Sources:

<https://www.thebalance.com/brexit-consequences-4062999>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brexit>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/number10gov/49691181968>

Liina (interviewer), Ella (writer) and Aleksii (attende)

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School uniforms in the United Kingdom



90% of the schools in the United Kingdom use school uniforms. The history of school uniforms starts in the 16th century. School uniforms aren't just comfortable clothing that indicate the belonging to a certain school for students, but also unites certain state traditions. A student's belonging to a state with just a school uniform is entirely possible. But why do school uniforms divide opinions?

History

Boys had to wear uniforms earlier than girls. The first recorded school uniforms were worn in the year 1222. In the 16th century uniforms started to appear in schools. The first school uniforms were coloured russet, but they changed the colour to shades of blue after one year.

Present day

In the present the girls school uniforms consist of a dress or a skirt, a collared shirt, shoes and sometimes a blazer, a sweater or a sweater vest. The boys school uniforms on the other hand consist of trousers, a collared shirt, a tie, shoes and a blazer, a sweater or a sweater vest. There are restrictions for hairstyles and -colours. While you are at school, you can't wear makeup or nail polish. Some schools make their students wear uniforms during PE. Usually a PE uniform consists of a t-shirt and shorts.

The dark side of school uniforms

There are many bad things about school uniforms. Uniforms can be costly especially for a growing child, who constantly needs new uniforms due to growing out of their last ones. School uniforms are clearly more expensive compared to normal clothes. They can cause additional stress to students and parents because they are in charge of washing their kids uniforms and making sure the uniforms fit comfortably. With school uniforms kids can have trouble expressing themselves and their cultures. Uniforms don't give kids the freedom of being themselves and that may cause mental disabilities. School uniforms are sexist in some ways. Girls are required to wear short skirts even in the cold winter while boys get to wear warm, long pants.

The bright side of school uniforms

School uniforms bring equality and unity. Most importantly they are easier for parents, who don't have to worry about what clothes their kids are going to wear to school. School uniforms can prevent bullying and inequality because everyone dresses the same. Uniforms help school administrators identify who is a student and who is not.

Opinions

People have many opinions about school uniforms. People like that school uniforms prevent bullying, but at the same time people don't like the fact that uniforms look different on everyone because that can also cause bullying. Teachers usually like school uniforms because they eliminate duties related to dress code violations and remove distractions related to inappropriate or provocative apparel. Parents don't like school uniforms because they have to buy them at a certain shop at a high price. The students themselves don't like school uniforms because they don't get to choose how they dress or express themselves through fashion.



The history of school uniforms is long and it has sparked much debate. School uniforms have many good and bad sides to them that divide opinions. People look at uniforms from different perspectives. For example a poorer person may not be able to afford normal clothes and uniform can cover that up by making the person look like everyone else. A richer person might want to show off their expensive clothes and not wear a uniform.

Group members + roles:

Minea : writer

Sanni : researcher

Ville : researcher

Samuli : attendant

Pictures:

<https://pixabay.com/fi/photos/koulun-tytt%C3%B6jen-hymy-tyt%C3%B6t-6104326/>

<https://pixabay.com/fi/photos/poika-opiskelija-koulupuku-hymy-6168779/>

Information:

<https://www.nordangliaeducation.com/our-schools/warsaw/our-students/student-life/school-uniforms>

<https://www.unr.edu/nevada-today/news/2013/school-uniform-study>

<https://aitiydenihme.fi/kasvatus/koulupukujen-hyodyt-ja-haitat/>

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British secondary school

Years 7 and 8 are the first two years of secondary school education in the UK. All students study English, Maths, Sciences, a Humanity and a Modern Language. Besides these subjects, each school has a list with optional subjects (Art, Music, Drama, Latin, Sport Science, Design Technology, Computer Science), and students may choose a few subjects that interest them. In some schools, students sit Common Entrance Exam in year 7. There are 3 examination sessions, in November, January and May/June.

Year 9 is a very important year in the British school system, as most of the students make the transition from Junior School to Senior School. Students study English, Maths, Sciences, Humanity and Languages. In addition, students choose a few subjects from the optional subject list offered by each school. They use school uniforms. The schools are very big and fancy.

Secondary education in the UK normally starts for most students at the age of 11 years old. Though not common, in some parts of the UK there are middle schools which run up to 12 or 13 years old. For international students coming into the UK for secondary education, it is common to either enter at the age of 11 or wait until the age of 13 and have one year in school before starting the two-year GCSE program, which will run from 14 to 16 years old.



Image source : Theknowledgereview.com

Nea, Veera ja Unna

Written by Veera, Nea

Search for information by Nea, Veera and Unna

Text is by internet, we don't remember the sources.

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The history of the British monarchy

The British royal family may seem boring nowadays, but that hasn't always been the case. The British have seen their fair share of crazy kings and queens, power struggles, war, complicated relationships, coups and executions. In this article we'll be talking about some of the interesting people and events that have happened in the British royal family. Keep in mind that we have only picked interesting people to talk about in this article and we will skip over some of the more normal (and boring) rulers.

Let's start the story with Henry VIII (1491-1547), the splitter of churches (and women). (He wasn't the first ruler, but for the sake of keeping things short we'll start with him). Henry VIII had six wives: He divorced his first wife, Catherine, in 1533. He executed his second wife, Anne, in 1536. Henry then got engaged to his third wife, Jane, the very next day. She died in 1537 of natural causes. Henry married his fourth wife, Anne, in 1540 and divorced six months later (still in 1540). His fifth wife, another Catherine, was executed in 1542. His sixth and final wife, once again called Catherine, survived as Henry died in 1547. Henry had three legitimate children (and lots of stillborn or short-lived kids).

After his death, Henry's and Jane's son Edward VI (1547-1553) was crowned when he was just 9 years old. But his reign was cut short after he died at the age of 15 from tuberculosis. After Edward's death, his cousin Lady Jane agreed to take the throne. She ruled only for nine days, because the English people largely supported Edward VI's half sister Mary I (Tudor) (the rightful heir by Henry VIII's will).

Mary I (1553-1558) was the oldest daughter of Henry VIII and Catherine (first wife). Mary I is also known as "Bloody Mary" (you might know the game called Bloody Mary). She got the name Bloody Mary, because she wanted to return England to Catholicism and by doing so, she burned nearly 300 protestants at the stake. Mary I was suspicious that her half sister Elizabeth I would try to seize her power, so she placed her under constant surveillance, tried to remove her from the line of succession and even jailed her. But after Mary I during an influenza epidemic Elizabeth I was crowned to be the queen.

Elizabeth I (also known as the Virgin queen) ruled to the day of her death (1558-1603). She was the daughter of Henry VIII and Anne (second wife) She is one of the most popular queens of England and achieved many things during her rein. Most of the time she had a good relationship with Parliament and she had a big influence on art. Even though she was mostly loved by the people, Catholics weren't happy that she restored England to Protestantism.

Let's skip ahead 5 decades to 1653 and Richard and Oliver Cromwell. During this time England didn't have a king but instead the Cromwells called themselves "Lord protectors" (which was basically the same thing as a king but with a different name).

In 1689 queen Mary II started her reign together with her husband William III. She reigned 1694 until she died of smallpox. Her husband, William, continued ruling until 1702 when he died of pneumonia. Next comes queen Ann, starting her reign in 1702 and ruling until her death in 1714. In 1707 Scotland and England united into a single kingdom with queen Ann ruling it all.

From 1714 to 1830 there was a streak of kings with uncreative names: George I, George II, George III and George IV.

In 1837 Queen Victoria became the queen of Great Britain, just barely ruling into the 20th century and dying in 1901. Her reign was the longest up until that point (almost 64 years). During this time Britain underwent the industrial revolution and the British empire grew vastly.

In 1952 Elizabeth II became the queen of Great Britain and she's still the queen until this very day.

This was a brief history of the more interesting British monarchs. We apologize for skipping some people, but to be honest, they were too normal and boring to include.

Sources: Wikipedia

Aapo, team lead, writer

Petra, researcher, writer

Meral, writer

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Windsor Castle - the largest occupied castle in the world

Windsor Castle is covering an area that is almost 53,000 square metres. In the castle there are 1,000 rooms. The original idea for building was that it would be a defensive castle. It has successfully hold out sieges that have lasted many months in the past. Nowadays the castle is owned by Queen Elisabeth II. Every year many hundreds of thousands of tourists visit there because the castle is open for public throughout the year.



The castle is located in the historic city of Windsor in United Kingdom near the River Thames. William the Conqueror chose the place for the castle and started to build a wood castle in 1070. There are still some original parts that have lasted from that time. Because of the location, it was an ideal place for the royal family to live.

In Windsor Castle there are two types of apartments, state apartments and private residences. In state apartments visitors can explore different kind of historical rooms, which has been used by royal family. There are three large yards: Lower Ward, Middle Ward and Upper Ward. In the area there is St George's Chapel next to the Lower Ward. The Queen's husband, Prince Philip's funeral was held there.

Over the years, the castle has been there during different disasters. In the First Barons' War, 1215-1217, 60 knights survived by being in the castle during it was besieged. Lower Ward got severe damage for the structure because of it, but Henry III repaired them. In English Civil War, 1642-1651, the castle was a military headquarters, and Charles I was there in prison. During the Second World War the royal family was there on a safeguard.

In 1992 there happened a huge fire accident, the main fire lasted for 12 hours. Many rooms were destroyed in the fire and one fifth of the castle was severely damaged. The fire started accidentally from a workman's spotlight in Queen Victoria's Private Chapel. There was a debate about who should pay for the expensive £36.5 million repairs after the accident. Eventually it solved by Queen's choice to open Buckingham Palace to the public for the first time in history and the Queen herself paid £2 million. The restoration project took five years.

If you ever get a change to visit the Windsor Castle, it will sure be amazing history experience. In the Castle's astounding past it has been home for 39 monarchs. And of course, besides great history visitors will also be impressed just about the large green yards and refreshing gardens. You can see Queen Mary's Dolls' House, built between 1921-1924, what is the largest most beautiful and famous dolls' house in the world. Almost every day happening changing of the guard is very traditional event what is also highly recommended to reserve some time for it.

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This article is done by:

Eveliina – writer

Vernerri – searcher, in charge of the image and caption

Katriina – leader, searcher

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