



FUN WITH **THE CELTS** **and** **THE VIKINGS**

DEADLY! IRISH HISTORY – THE VIKINGS

‘madcap, marauding, entertaining and highly informative ... all proving that Irish history isn’t boring at all ... it’s deadly!’

Fallen Star Stories

DEADLY! IRISH HISTORY – THE CELTS

‘accessible, anarchic and crammed with cartoons and wacky illustrations, this book is as deadly as Irish history gets!’

RTÉ Guide

‘Farrelly’s writing and drawings never miss a beat in this well-informed and witty account of the Celts ... Great fun!’

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John Farrelly was born and raised in a village just outside Newry, County Down. He wouldn't say his family home was small but the front and back door was the same. He enjoyed school and thinks the education system in Irelandia

is the bestest. After dropping out of art college, he worked in an amusement park. He was fired but he took them for funfair dismissal. Then he became a freelance caricature artist. It's a very secure job – no one else wants it. The O'Brien Press stupidly let him write and illustrate the first book in the **Deadly! Irish History** series about **THE VIKINGS** and now they can't get rid of him. He went on to write and illustrate his second book in the series on **THE CELTS**. And he didn't stop there. Next up are **THE NORMANS**, with their castles and all the shenanigans of medieval life. This World Book Day book is just some of the fun stuff you can find in his books.



FUN WITH
THE CELTS
and
THE VIKINGS

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JOHN FARRELLY



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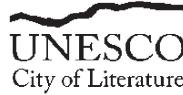
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WHO WERE THE CELTS?

The word *Celt* comes from the Greek word *Keltoi*, the name the Greeks called a group of people living in Europe nearly three thousand years ago. What *Keltoi* means we don't know, but the Celts were feared and respected by their enemies. At one time, the Celts were the most powerful people in central Europe and there were loads of Celtic tribes, who spoke a similar language. They spread outwards across Europe, making their way to France, Britain and Ireland. It's not known exactly how and when the Celts came to Ireland, but it is thought they began arriving around 700–600 BCE. Later Celtic settlers brought with them a new metal called iron, which replaced the weaker metal bronze. This is what historians call the Iron Age.



The Celts were very successful in establishing themselves in Ireland, which they did over a long period of time, not all at once. Some Celtic tribes lived peacefully alongside the native Irish, while others took what they wanted by force. Eventually, they became more or less one people, and though some historians don't like the use of the word 'Celtic', it has come to be used in a general way to describe the people, culture and art in Ireland from 700 BCE to the arrival of Christianity in the early 5th century.

Irish Celts took on a flavour of their own – they were different in lots of ways from the other Celtic tribes living in Europe and even across the Irish Sea in Britain. Even after Saint Patrick arrived on Irish soil, many pagan Celtic practices stayed the same for centuries, and Ireland still considers itself a Celtic country.

INSIDE A CELTIC ROUNDHOUSE

