



West End Academy

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Year 3 Visit

As part of their historical study on the Vikings, the children in Year 3 visited York last week. I was pleased to hear that all the children behaved exceptionally well. The children took part in an excavation workshop where they had to dig to discover historical artefacts from 2,000 years ago. The class also went on a rollercoaster to experience life as a Viking and took in the sights and smells of Britain at that time. Afterwards, Eliza told me, "I really enjoyed the ride which went through a Viking street. We saw a Viking in his boat and some other people in their houses. Inside one of the houses, many of the people were sick because of the poor conditions they were living in." I look forward to seeing the follow-up work that the children will do in their history lessons.

After-School Clubs

This term, we have continued to look to offer new after-school clubs. Years 5 and 6 have had the opportunity to learn karate. The children have been practising some of the fundamental techniques of the martial art, such as "kihon" and "kumite". After a recent session, Eve said, "I have never done it before but it is lots of fun. Every week, we learn something new." Harriet added, "I like how we have homework each week where we have to remember a word linked to a new stance or action. The word is often in Japanese!" Years 3 and 4 have had the chance to take part in a drama club. The children created elaborate stories as individuals and as a group while exploring characterisation and improvisation. At the end of the six weeks, Natalie Bellingham, who taught the group, said, "The children were enthusiastic, well-behaved and incredibly creative!" We will announce more after-school clubs in the spring term.

Tesco Visit

Last week, Year 1 had a special visitor from Tesco who showed the children lots of different types of food. The children learnt which part of a plant the food comes from. After the lesson, Jaxson said, "We learnt that you can eat some flowers and you can put them in a salad. The visitor also kindly left us some tomato seeds that we can grow in school."

Tropical World

Well done to all the children in Upper Foundation stage who went on their first trip this year. All the children behaved excellently and they had a great time. Afterwards, Lennon told me, "We saw lots of fish, a piranha with sharp teeth and even a snake-necked turtle." I was also really impressed with the writing that the children did about their visit.

Free School Meals

If you think your child may be eligible for free school meals, please come and get a form from the office. There are many benefits which your child could be missing out on if you don't apply.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr C Johnson
Headteacher