

Roman Day

Year 3 & 4 had an amazing Roman Day when Michael and Paddy from The Outreach Team of Durham University's Oriental Museum joined us.

The children all made a fantastic effort with their Roman costumes and certainly looked the part. Thank you to all our parents who helped design, make or bought their children's costumes, they looked amazing.

Our day started when Paddy led an introduction activity where the children learned about the Roman Empire and how the Romans fought the Celts when they invaded Britannia in 61AD. The children were asked to look at a picture of Rome in Roman times and they had to identify places or buildings. They discovered what the Coliseum was used for and that Romans loved chariot racing. They saw how the Romans transported their water with their cleverly designed aqueducts and they could see the type of houses that rich Romans lived in, they were called villas.



After the introduction the children split up into different groups. Y4 learned all about mosaic making. They were given traditional Roman patterns and then asked to use small coloured clay tiles to design and make their own mosaic. The children were fascinated by the fact that you could still see some of the Roman mosaics today in the churches in Ravenna and in villas of Pompeii.

Then the children acted out the first invasion to Britain led by Julius Caesar. The children loved acting out the parts of the Roman soldiers and Celts and learned a great deal about Julius Caesar, Emperor Caligula and Emperor Claudius.

In the afternoon, Y4 learned all about how the Roman army was made up of Cohorts, cavalry and officers. They learned about the different weapons a soldier would have to carry and use and about their equipment and clothes. The children had many fascinating questions which were all answered in great detail.

Later in the afternoon, Michael led an activity which allowed the children to handle real and replica Roman artefacts. Some of these artefacts were 2,000 years old so the children had to be very careful! The activity allowed the children to describe the objects in great detail, saying what they thought they were made from and what they thought they would have been used for in Roman times. The children had to justify their thinking and use evidence that they had previously learned to back up their theories.

We had a fascinating day and learned so much about the Romans.



