

Year 5

Hawk Class

Our first topic in Year 5 was the Smashing Saxons. We had a visit from Paul Ulson (a historian and Saxon expert) who spoke to us about everyday Saxon life and we were able to get up close with some real Saxon artefacts while sketching them. Paul also taught us battle tactics, which we then put into use to stage a mock Saxon battle (both groups claim that they won!) We pretended we were Anglo Saxon settlers and decided on the best place to live using our geography knowledge. We also read *Beowulf* (the first ever horror story) and had a go at writing our own versions.



During the second half of the Autumn Term, we looked at our Solar System. During our science lessons, we investigated how the movement of the Earth around the Sun affects our seasons, weather and days on Earth and in English we invented a new Mars Rover. We were also lucky enough to be able to handle some real life space rocks thanks to Borrow the Moon (part of UK Research and Innovation) It was amazing to think that what we were holding in our hands had once been up in space and it really was a once in a lifetime experience! Towards the end of our Space topic, we enjoyed a stargazing evening, where we were able to identify star constellations in our night sky.



Space The Final Frontier



During the first half of the Spring Term, we got to investigate the sinking of the 'Terrifying Titanic'. We began our learning journey by measuring out how long the Titanic really was, and comparing it to modern day cruise ships. We had a fantastic day when we went to the Sea City Museum in Southampton. We were able to do some fascinating experiments as to why the Titanic sank and to also have a go at using Morse code. When we got back to school we used the knowledge we had learnt to write diary entries as if we were on board the Titanic. We also learnt more about what life was like for people during this time period. We learnt more about jazz music and even learnt the Charleston! We pulled all of this together at the end of the half term with a Titanic Day, where we dressed up as passengers and experienced what it must have been like to be in first, second and third class passengers embarking on the Titanic for its maiden voyage.



We were all very excited for our new topic in the second half of the Spring Term, as it involved one of our favourite things - chocolate! We were able to taste lots of different types of chocolate, deciding which ones we liked best and using these to design and make our own chocolates. In history, we found out about the Maya Civilisation and their links to chocolate and linked this into our work on *The Explorer* in guided reading. We also worked alongside some conservation charities to create mallard nesting tubes which were then put into the waters around Thorney Island to support the local wildlife.



Our first topic in the Summer Term was all about rivers. We started our work by learning all about river features and creating some very large rivers using cardboard and papier-mâché. In English, we used our new knowledge about rivers to write persuasive pieces of writing talking about the positives and negatives of hydro-electric power. As part of this watery topic, we spent a day with the Chichester Harbour Conservancy Education Team. We created our own rivers in sand trays and labelled their different features, picked the best place to build a settlement and investigated a real life river. We had a lot of fun getting into the river to conduct our experiments!



This was the topic that a lot of us had been waiting for as we found out about Funfairs! In science, we investigated how forces enable rollercoasters and other rides to be exciting whilst also being safe. This learning was put to use in our DT lessons, as we became fairground designers and designed our own fairground rides and then programmed them in computing. To link our learning to the real world, we had an amazing day at Paulton's Park to experience how different forces made us feel. We also had fun exploring the work of Roy Lichtenstein in art and creating our own pop art inspired pieces.

