Year 5

Year 5 went on a trip to the fascinating Duxford on the 10th February.

We were allowed to choose our own partners to sit with on the coach. Although we left at 9:00 and got there at 10:00, we were not allowed to enter until 10:15. Eventually, or what everybody thought was eventually, we were permitted to file in. Since there were a lot of us, we got split between four adults – Mrs Lamb, Mrs Fitton, Mrs Hoskins and Mr Denmead.

Gradually, we walked to the American section, but unfortunately it was closed, so we took a look at the Battle of Britain. As intriguing as a Roald Dahl book, were the illuminous and the less visible planes. Preferring, the bright planes were the girls. Meanwhile the boys preferred the darker planes.

Fortunately, nowhere else was closed, so we shortly proceeded to the phenomenal conservation in action section. Mending planes was what a handful of us saw in there. We think we saw a plane being checked before it was going to go on display. We all got to go on the Concorde. The majority of us thought it was breathtakingly stunning. This is not an exaggeration!

Excitedly, we arrived at the lunch hall at 12:00. We all ate our lunch quickly as we were going to have an award winning member of staff, who experienced the Blitz, talk to us during our workshop session.

There were a lot of activities to do in the workshop, for example looking at WW2 children toys and working out rations. The whole class were able to experience being in a Morrison Shelter.

Last of all, we all went to the gift shop. This will explain why children returned with badges and whistles.

It was an astounding and remarkable trip!

By Florence and Summer

Year 6

One day this term, the whole class walked down to the Sawbridgeworth Town Council offices to visit The Herts at War exhibition. When we arrived we met a historian, Mr Dan Hill, who shared with us some of his knowledge about the wars. We viewed lots of artefacts and photographs and had the opportunity to ask many questions. Afterwards, he told us that we could have a closer look at some of the items of clothing and objects.

Then we all walked outside to a full-scale trench that they had made for the exhibition. They showed us a place where soldiers would have slept. Then we when back in to the hall and we watched some very informative videos.

We learnt a lot about the story of both the county of Hertfordshire and the town of Sawbridgeworth during the Great War.

By Olivia and Louis

In science we have been learning to make circuits. A company came in to help us create an electronic quiz board. They gave us some great information about electricity and mind-blowing things you can use it for: electric cars, scooters and toasters!

They gave us some equipment to make our quiz boards. We used wire-cutters, side cutters, wire, split pins, batteries, template, cutting mat and connected bulbs to our game. We had to match the pins and it then completed the circuit.

We even got to take them home the same day to quiz our parents!

By Emily G and Alfie

Spring Term Events

Modeshift STARS

(Sustainable Travel Accreditation and Recognition)

This term, we were visited by Buster the dinosaur, having taken part in Hertfordshire's Buster's Golden Boot Challenge. Our Year 6 House Captains had led our participation in this initiative to encourage all pupils to travel to school using a sustainable method of transport. Ainslie House were the winning house, so have received a trophy from Buster.

Investor In Parents Award

Following the 'Parent2Parent Programme', which we ran last term, and in recognition of our commitment to working in partnership with parents/carers to help improve the long-term outcomes for children, Mandeville has been awarded the 'Investor in Parents' award!

Safer Internet Day

This year, Safer Internet Day took place on 9th February, with the slogan 'Play Your Part For A Better Internet'. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre the celebration saw hundreds of organisations get involved to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. At Mandeville, we had a whole school assembly linked to this theme as part of our ongoing work on e-safety.

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Mandeville Primary Link-Up

Welcome to the thirty second edition of the Mandeville Primary Link Up magazine!

This magazine is produced by the children of Mandeville Primary School to inform the local community of the work of the school and to share successes.

World Book Day Events

Mandeville celebrated World Book Day in March by taking part in various events. This included visits from the authors Pippa Goodhart and Natasha Stride. They each led an assembly and then carried out activities with every class in turn. We got to find out what it is really like to be an author and how they get their ideas!

The whole school also took part in a Vocabulary Parade on 3rd March. Each class took a turn on the 'catwalk' to show off their impressive costumes. There were two winners from every class and an overall winner from EYFS, KS1 and KS2. Winning words and costumes included: antagonise, absorb, seasonal, blizzard, arctophile, mechanical, polyglot, wraith, treasure, recycle, valuable, subtropical, astronomy, extraterrestrial, jurisdiction, espionage, eye-catching, abecedarian, sanitize and nephologist. Miss Hales said, "I was so impressed by the children's unusual word choices and the level of creativity. What a wonderful way to enrich vocabulary and promote so much discussion about words and their meanings!"

We also took part in a sponsored 'reading for pleasure challenge', a 'guess the staff member's favourite children's book quiz' and a 'book swap event'. It certainly has been busy!

Overall, it was brilliant week and we really enjoyed taking part in all of the different events.

By Poppy and Emily M

Science Days

Mandeville held two Science Days in March. We were very excited about these as we really enjoy this subject and like using the learning power 'be curious'.

The days had the theme 'Light' and the skills of planning, predicting, observing, recording, explaining and evaluating were used in every class. There was also a visit from Setpoint, a company that specialises in science and technology workshops. They held two practical workshops – 'Light and Dark' and 'Lighting It Up'.

"I enjoyed making a periscope. It helped us look over things!"
Year 1 Pupil

"I liked measuring my friends' shadow. I found out when the earth moves so does the shadow."
Year 2 Pupil

"I really liked it because I learnt a lot more about science."
Year 3 Pupil

"I enjoyed looking into two tents, one in the dark and one in the light. You had to look for things in them!"
Year 4 Pupil

"I liked making the circuit game because it was a challenge and it was fun."
Year 5 Pupil

"The most exciting part for me was drawing a diagram of the eye."
Year 6 Pupil

The EYFS staff also held a 'Stay and Play' session for children and parents/carers with the theme 'Super Science and Interesting Investigations'. This involved lots of hands-on and messy activities!

At the end of our Science Days, we all went home with something we had made and new knowledge of science.

By Lucy and Corin

Early Years Foundation Stage

On Tuesday 23rd February, the children in the EYFS visited the Gruffalo Trail at Thorndon Country Park. They had a fabulous day and got very, very muddy! They even managed to find the characters from the story.

The children in Reception wrote recounts of their visit.

"First we got on the bus. Next we went to the forest. Then we saw the mouse. Finally we had lunch."
Isabelle

"First we went to the Gruffalo Trail. Next we saw the snake and we went in the woods. After we saw the Gruffalo. Finally we had lunch."
Elijah

Nursery children told staff about the trip.

"I like the Gruffalo best because his claws were sharp."
Elodie

"I liked the Gruffalo. I saw him really, big, big, big, this tall."
Amelia

"I loved the purple prickles on his back."
Tommy

"I loved the muddy puddles. The Gruffalo was scary."
Nathan

Year 1

Maltings

On Friday 12th February, Year 1 went on a trip to Science Alive. The children made rockets and used a pump to blast them in to space. They also made Balloon Buggies.

"The pump made the air pressure to help the rockets fly."
Olivia

"We used straws, sticks, and card to make our Balloon Buggies. We had to blow up the balloon to make it move."
Aidan

"The air escaped from the balloon and pushed the Balloon Buggy."
Ronnie and Hannah

We learned about air pressure, friction and 'push and pull'. We looked at bikes and how they have changed over time.

"Friction a force that stops things from moving and slows things down."
Dolcie and Sophia

"You pedal the wheels to make the bike move. The force we use for bikes to move is push."
George

"One of the bikes was called a Penny Farthing, because of the shape of the wheels. They looked like a big penny and a small penny."
Archie

Rivers

On Friday 12th February, we went to The Bishop's Stortford College to see Kes Gray at the Literacy Festival. He showed us his book 'Oi Frog!' and then he showed us his new book 'Oi Dog!' It hasn't even been published yet! It was really funny.

He told us about when he was little and the comics and the TV programmes he used to watch. He wanted to be Captain Scarlet or a cowboy. He also told us a story about a very naughty baby called Ickle Pickle, who smashed the TV with a building brick and weed on the neighbours. We found it VERY FUNNY! He gave us a signed copy of 'Eat Your Peas' to bring back to school.

It was so exciting to meet a real author because it was the first time we had met one. We have met another one since!

Shared Writing

Respect for All, Learners for Life

Year 2

Year Two arrived at Bishop's Stortford College on Wednesday 10th February. Everyone was excited about finding out who the winner was in the picture book competition. There were many other people from different schools and we could hear lots of excitement.

Once everyone was silent the lights went down like a theatre. The first author that spoke was Lauren Child, she wrote Charlie and Lola. The other authors all had a chance to read their books and make a speech before the votes were counted.

We liked Al Murphy the author of Kitchen Disco, he was funny because he was late and he didn't think he was going to win. Thomas and Helen Docherty wrote a great book called Abracazebra. Thomas was the illustrator taught us how to draw the character Abracazebra. It was very interesting.

Finally the winner was announced it was Kitchen Disco! We were very pleased because our class voted for that book, it was also the favourite of all the books at Mandeville. At the end we could buy books and meet the authors so they could sign them. It was a fantastic afternoon.

By Betty and Cecily

Year 3

The whole of Year Three had been looking forward to Wednesday 9th March because we were expecting the most fantastic day! This was to be our Roman Day.

We all arrived at school dressed in our awesome Roman costumes, it was very exciting! Even our teacher and LSA dressed up too.

After register, we all went into the hall and there standing in front of us was a really scary 'Roman'! He confused us at first because he spoke in Latin and we didn't understand. Then he introduced himself in English as Marcus and taught us some Latin words.

Marcus explained how the Romans invaded lots of countries including Brittania and then we did an interesting quiz where we learned lots of fascinating facts. Next he showed us a number of incredible artefacts and we were amazed to hear that the Romans had invented a frying pan with a folding handle for their marching soldiers to carry! We were disgusted to learn that the Romans made a sauce from fish guts that they even served on puddings! Even more horrifying was what he told us about Roman toilets, they sat on long benches with holes, all sitting on the toilet together with no separation! To wipe themselves afterwards the Romans used a sponge on a stick that was rinsed and put into vinegar ready for the next person!

The Roman soldiers marched for 18 miles before lunch then built a fort to keep them safe overnight. We learnt to march like the soldiers – but not for 18 miles!

The coolest part of the day was when we re-enacted the Boudicca story and the Romans won; and four of our classmates fought as gladiators with Julius Caesar deciding their fate! It was the best, most incredible, mind-blowing action day in Year 3 so far….

By George, Stanley, Jemima and Thomas

Year 4

On Thursday the 11th February, Year 4 went to Hatfield Forest. First we got onto a coach and we arrived 15 minutes later.

We were split into five groups and set off to do orienteering. We had to use a compass to navigate around the forest. Hector fell over into the sticky mud, Isobel and Olivia nearly fell into the pond and Ben got his welly stuck in the mud! It was very eventful. Miss Braund's group were first back and Mrs Clark's group were the last by 20 minutes. Over all we walked more than 3000 steps!

Later on in the day we made habitats for an imaginary animal we were given. We found a place in the forest to build it then we had to use natural materials to make it camouflage. We put in a chandelier, a sofa and a shower. We also put some food storage in. Then we added a fence around the edge. The best group was Miss Braund's group.

After that we had to figure out what to call our habitat and name the address, post code and come up with phone number.

We had an awesome time. It was really fun.

By Hector, Olivia A, Ben and Isobel