

Year 4 have enjoyed a successful summer term with many highlights.

Having worked hard to learn about the Romans, and their role in our history, the children were very excited to go on our school trip to Verulamium Museum. The children enjoyed looking at the mosaics, the artefact and the real Roman skeletons. They also enjoyed engaging in a Roman market workshop where they went 'shopping' for a list of items from the museum's collection.



At the Roman theatre, the children imagined what it would have looked like during Roman times and were lucky to be some of the first people to touch a newly excavated oyster shell, the Roman's favourite fast food! Spotting the ruins of the Roman wall, within the park, was also another highlight as was finishing the day with a roll down the hill! The Museum staff praised Year 4 for their excellent behaviour.

Back in the classroom we have been working hard. Tying together our science learning, about the changing states of materials and focus on explanation texts in English, the children have written an explanation text about the water cycle. We have also engaged in several scientific experiments, observing how water changes state, developing our skills to take accurate measurements and spending a very soggy day in the rain gathering data for an investigation using rain gauges. We are especially grateful to Mrs Parsell who got incredibly wet while taking different groups to check the gauges.

Our Olympic week was very memorable, like the rest of the school we were enthralled by the opening ceremony complete with fire pit and flag ceremony. During the week we focussed on Italy, enjoying food tasting, making clay medals, writing information leaflets about Italy and using the topic for our guided reading. In addition, we used our explanation text skills to write about The Olympics, sorting facts into groups to write in paragraphs, using a range of fronted adverbials to start sentences and linking ideas with a range of conjunctions.



In maths, we have worked incredibly hard to learn our times tables and persevered through the Year 4 times tables check. Following daily rehearsal in the classroom and lots of hard work at home, we made excellent progress in retaining the facts up to 12 x 12. Other topics we have covered in maths lessons include fractions, time, including duration, perimeter, decimal numbers as well as regular practise of our calculation skills in fluency sessions.

We have enjoyed reading The Butterfly Lion as a class guided reading text, thinking carefully about our predictions and how these changed as we read the text, different viewpoints about characters and events and researching unfamiliar vocabulary. Each time we read more of the text, we wrote a summary of the events and during comprehension focus lessons we answered questions about the text using inference and retrieval skills. In addition to this, we have been pleased to make use of the library and read widely from our favourite authors. Particular favourites in our class this term have

been: J K Rowling, Lemony Snicket (Daniel Handler), Michael Morpurgo, Jacqueline Wilson and David Walliams.



Earlier in the term, the children researched the lives of Roman soldiers. They pretended to be Roman soldiers, who had recently arrived in Britain, and wrote a letter home telling their parents all about the strange country they had come to and how hard their lives were. The children made fantastic Roman shields, as part of their home learning, and used them to re-enact Roman soldier formations.

Thank you for being a great year group. We wish you all the best in year 5.