

OAKHOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Spring 2 Newsletter

4th March 2019

BEECH CLASS - YEAR 3

Our Very Own Roman Army

Last half term Year 3 studied the fascinating history topic of the Romans. We jumped back 2000 years to explore the powerful Roman Empire and how the Romans invaded and settled all over Europe. One of our favourite projects was creating Roman shields in our DT lessons.

Learning and Investigating

The first thing we did was investigate drawings, photographs and carvings of Roman shields to see what they looked like 2000 years ago. We noticed that many of them had a vivid design on them. We learnt that the eagle's wings on most designs were a symbol of the Roman army. The lightning bolts represent their god, **Jupiter**.

Next we thought about what materials we should make our shields from. The Romans made their shields from wood with a round metal boss in the centre. We didn't have these materials so we experimented using different kinds of card to make our shields strong.

Designing and Making

The next step we took was to design our shields. We had to think about the measurements and how we would hold our shields.

Making the shields was really exciting. It was great to see everyone working together and helping each other create their final piece.

Tortoise formation



Eagle wings

Lightning bolts

Boss

Testing

Finally we got to try out our shields. We took them outside and marched in formation like a real Roman **century** with Miss Hert leading us as a **centurion**.

We then used our shields to create the tortoise (testudo) formation. This is where the first line of soldiers interlocked their shields to make a wall. The soldiers behind them would hold their shields over their heads to form a protective 'shell'. This was very effective against arrow attacks from the enemy!

Glossary

Jupiter: The Roman god of the sky, thunder and king of the gods.

Century: A section of the Roman army made of around 100 men.

Centurion: An officer in the Roman army and leader of a century.

OAKHOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Reception

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

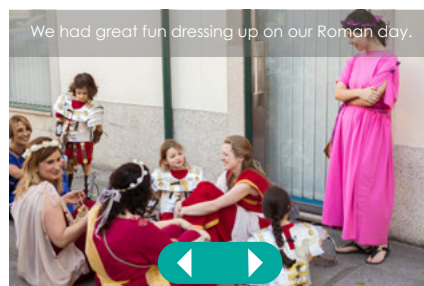
Year 6

BEECH CLASS - YEAR 3

 Search

Our Very Own Roman Army - 4th March 2019

Last half term Year 3 studied the fascinating history topic of the Romans. We jumped back 2000 years to explore the powerful Roman Empire and how the Romans invaded and settled all over Europe. One of our favourite projects was creating Roman shields also known as scutum in our DT lessons.



Learning and Investigating

The first thing we did was investigate drawings, photographs and carvings of Roman shields to see what they looked like 2000 years ago. We noticed that many of them had a vivid design on them. We learnt that the eagle's wings on most designs were a symbol of the Roman army. The lightning bolts represent their god, Jupiter. Find out more by reading our reports of Roman gods by clicking [here](#).

Next we thought about what materials we should make our shields from. The Romans made their shields from wood with a round metal boss in the centre. We didn't have these materials so we experimented using different kinds of card to make our shields strong.

Designing and Making

The next step we took was to design our shields. We had to think about the measurements and how we would hold our shields.

Making the shields was really exciting. It was great to see everyone working together and helping each other create their final piece.

Testing

Finally we got to try out our shields. We took them outside and marched in formation like a real Roman century with Miss Hert leading us as a centurion.

We then used our shields to create the tortoise (testudo) formation. This is where the first line of soldiers interlocked their shields to make a wall. The soldiers behind them would hold their shields over their heads to form a protective 'shell'. This was very effective against arrow attacks from the enemy! Scroll down to watch a video of us marching in formation.

What was your favourite part of this project? Leave us a comment!

Important dates

29th May - Summer term begins

21st June - Sports Day

27th June - Year 6 leavers disco

1st July - Author visit

3rd July - Class swap

9th July - Non-Uniform Day

Other Blog Posts

- [Year 3 Rainforests Geography](#)
- [Spring Term Disco](#)
- [Year 4 Cake Sale](#)
- [Check out what our Eco-Council are up to](#)
- [Have your say - Speak to your School Council member](#)
- [Year 6 Victorian Day](#)
- [Year 1 Teddy Bear's Picnic](#)
- [Year 2 Perfect Pizzas!](#)

Leave a comment



Miss K - 5-3-19

Wow! Your shields look great. Well done Beech Class.



Jackson - 5-3-19

My favourite part was the marching. I felt like a real Roman soldier.



Henley - 6-4-19

I didn't know that Roman shields were called scutum!

Type your comment here

Post