

## Willow Class blog for the first half term of autumn 2018



This term we are learning about The Tudors. We have been thinking about a variety of points linking to this topic. Some of our class love the Horrible Histories series and have been able to share their knowledge of Tudors with the rest of the class.

In our Tudor work we have learnt quite a bit about Henry VIII. We drew a portrait of him in our art lessons and wrote a description of him in our English lessons. We learnt about his 6 wives! We liked the rhyme divorced, beheaded, died, divorced, beheaded, survived. We chose one of the wives to learn a little more about. For example, we learnt that Jane Seymour was Henry's favourite wife, perhaps because she gave him a son. After she died giving birth to Edward she died and Henry became sad, never really getting back to his happy and boisterous self.

We also learnt about the style of houses that the Tudors lived in. We learnt that they were often black and white. The black parts were the timber frame and the white part was called daub which was made from animal waste and straw. The houses had a particular style, it was called 'Jettying', this is where the first floor of a house is larger than the ground floor and so there is an overhang. When we learnt about this style of design we drew a Tudor style house and then made a clay tile version of it. We are just completing them by painting them black and white.



We learnt about the 'Kingmaker' – Richard Neville who worked to make the Tudors the ruling family. To link with this learning, just before half term holiday, we went to Warwick Castle. It was a great trip, although we were a bit sad that the combination of rain and then bright sunlight meant that we couldn't watch the Trebuchet working. We had to make do with watching a video when we came back

to school. We did really enjoy watching a Bird of Prey display. The birds were enormous and flew only centimetres above our heads! The man who was working with the birds told us lots of interesting information so that we could imagine the Tudors using them to hunt.



There was an archer who told us how to shoot and when to aim (at the nose) and when we would be too far away to be accurate and it would be better to let the arrows 'rain down' on our enemies and not to try and aim at all!

We think our school is great because our learning is fun! Other subjects that we have enjoyed this half-term has been, cooking, we made ratatouille, which we were able to take home to eat. In PE we learnt the beginnings of how to play Lacrosse. We worked hard on throwing and catching. It was difficult to manage the ball in the stick but some of us managed to progress onto having small group 'matches'. In Science we learnt about 'states of matter', we had fun looking at condensation, melting ice cubes, melting chocolate and watching popcorn popping. Our RE teacher makes all our RE lessons fun, we have been thinking about the Trinity and this links to some of our assemblies too.