

## Year 3 Trip To The Chiltern Open Air Museum

On the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of November year 3 classes attended an exciting trip to the Chiltern Open Air Museum. This formed the introduction to our topic on the Celts. After a winding coach trip we arrived in the beautiful countryside setting of the museum. We were greeted by a Celtic tribesman who kindly showed us around his roundhouse home.



We learned that in some ways his home wasn't so different from ours. He had a kitchen, living room, bedroom and dining room, just like us, but his were all within the same room. His toilet on the other hand was rather draughty, as it was the hedgerows outside the roundhouse!



We had great fun learning how to make butter using bound sticks and cream mixed in a clay pot. We also had a go at making our own clay crockery.



Inside the house, we worked hard to grind corn with a millstone before making our own bread. We sat around the fire watching the dough cook whilst listening to tales of Celtic life. It was far better than any TV programme!



Outside, some children learned how to apply war paint, made from natural dyes found around the settlement. The Celts were fierce warriors so used this as a means to intimidate their enemies.



In the old barn we discovered what it was like to be an archaeologist; we learned that you can tell an awful lot about people by looking at their rubbish! We were lucky enough to handle some ancient pottery, dating back to Roman times, and worked in teams to order artefacts on a time line. The highlight for most was the archaeological dig; we uncovered, bones, pottery and fragments of jewellery, all of which helped us to build up a clear picture of the lives people past.



We discovered that the life of an archaeologist is not necessarily a glamorous one when we searched through fake poo to find out about the Celtic diet. Disgusting but goodness, we did discover a lot of evidence!



All in all it was a fabulous trip and a great way to start our topic. The children were enthusiastic and well behaved throughout, a credit to Loughton School. A big thank you goes out to Mrs Kemp for all her hard work in organising the trip and also to the year 3 staff and to all the parent volunteers who came along and made the trip so such a successful one 😊