

Platanos College News

October 2017

KS3 Trips to Enhance Learning

Year 7 – RAF Museum

On Friday 20th October 2017, a group of 43 pupils from 7A and 7B attended the Royal Air Force Museum.

The pupils were led on a self-guided tour. They were keen to begin their worksheets and had fun discovering the names of the various aircrafts. They also did some Maths, working out various calculations relating to the aircrafts. They were amazed by the sizes of the aircrafts and were surprised that the aircrafts had been used during the war.

They learnt about WW1 and key figures that played a major role from the U.K e.g. The Wright brothers, who completed the first ever flight in a powered aircraft, through the Second World War, up to the modern age of flight and today's jet engines.

It was a very informative day which combined History and Maths.





Year 7 – The Royal Observatory, Greenwich

Our trip started with a long uphill, scenic walk from Greenwich station to the Royal Observatory; when the pupils had an opportunity to catch their breath, it provided them with a stunning and picturesque view of the city.

We had a thoroughly enjoyable day and the pupils were constantly challenged to think about the Solar system, Galaxy, and Universe. Pupils were encouraged to provide some context as to why things have come into existence.



There was an 'Out of this World' master class session where pupils explored possible career pathways to becoming a physicist. Another session about 'Exoplanets' was quite challenging for some pupils whilst others embraced and thrived on what they learnt by measuring light illumination and orbital activity through a number of practical activities.



The one session that stood out was the planetarium where pupils learnt about stars, planets and the impact of gravity as well as the process of spaghettification; which was familiar to a couple of our pupils. Aaron White (7W) showed real enthusiasm and knowledge about our solar system and asked intriguing questions.

The trip superseded our expectation of enhancing the learning of our pupils; they left the Royal Observatory excited and re-telling others of their experiences.





Year 7 – Science Museum

At the Science Museum, Year 7 pupils were given the freedom to explore the entire museum and try the hands-on exhibits. In particular, the Information Age exhibit which was all about celebrating over 200 years of innovation in information and communication technologies. Once there, pupils were able to re-live remarkable moments in history, told through the eyes of those who invented, operated or were affected by the new wave of technology, from the first BBC radio broadcast in 1922 to the dawn of digital TV.

Many pupils also went to the 'Mathematics: Winton' exhibit which examined the fundamental role of mathematicians and how their tools and ideas have played in building the world we live in. From this exhibit, it was revealed to pupils how mathematics connects to every aspect of our lives.

From conversations with pupils on the journey back to school, it seems that most pupils enjoyed the Tomorrow's world exhibit the most. This exhibit showed pupils how today's scientific discoveries shape tomorrow's world, from sprays that can be used to heal skin, to vests that will help Astronauts

get to Mars.

This trip proved to be beneficial to pupils as the whole experience had certainly sparked interests in many judging from the discussions on the tube back to school!

Year 8 – Imperial War Museum

Our Year 8 pupils had the opportunity to discover the story of the First World War through the eyes of the British people and the Empire, both on the home front and the fighting front. They gained an understanding of how the war started, why it continued, how the Allies won and its global impact. Pupils saw over 1,300 objects ranging from weapons, uniforms and equipment to diaries and letters, keepsakes and trinkets, photographs, film and art.

Furthermore, they witnessed the award-winning Holocaust exhibition which traces the Nazi persecution and murder of Jewish people in Europe from 1933-1945. Pupils were humbled by this moving and eye-opening exhibition.





Year 9 – Design Museum

Year 9 pupils explored the Design Museum to gain an understanding of today's designed world and look at the development of modern design. The museum features almost 1000 items of twentieth and twenty-first century design viewed through the angles of the designer, manufacturer and user, including a crowdsourced wall.

The exhibition covers a broad range of design disciplines, from architecture and engineering, to the digital world, fashion and graphics. The pupils were fascinated by some of the late twentieth century designs such as the first mobile phones and computers. Furthermore, they enjoyed asking the teachers how they survived with such primitive technology! They got involved with the interactive displays and marvelled at some of the design aesthetics.





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**Attitude
Determines
Altitude**
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