



St Michael's Catholic Grammar School

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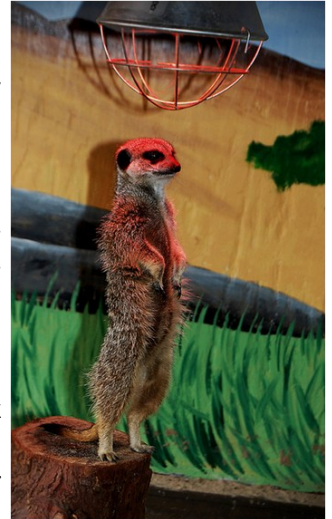
OCTOBER 2011

Year 7 Visit to Lea Valley Farm

On 5th October, Year 7 went on a farm visit to Lea Valley Farms in Essex. The two farms are called Holyfield Hall and Hayes Hill. We first went to Hayes Hill. This was a small farm which had farm animals, some of which are rare breeds. We were lucky enough to meet some piglets and a loveable meerkat family. Some of us even had the chance to play in the adventure playground.



Holyfield Farm is a commercial farm which sells the milk the cows produce to a dairy company. Our tour guide Simon



taught us many interesting facts about the life of a dairy cow and what crops are grown. We learned that farmers no longer use scarecrows but use loudspeakers to scare the birds away and protect the wheat and maize.

Overall we thoroughly enjoyed experiencing what happens on a real farm and learned lots of new information, which will help us in our lessons.

By Zahra, Sofia and Katy 7T

Year 11 Italian Exchange

In late September, most of our Italian class went on a week-long exchange to Turin, Italy. We had a fantastic time! The weather was great and we did lots of sight-seeing. We visited Milan, Il Duomo, cathedrals, the museum of cinema and numerous shopping centres.

All of our exchange families were lovely and fed us insane amounts of food!

The trip was a great opportunity for us to improve our spoken language, as well as learning about Italian culture. We'd recommend it to everyone.

Monique 11H



Year 8 Visit Hatfield House

Throughout our day at Hatfield House, we saw the rich history of the manor and the grand estate. Hatfield House is an exquisite country house with a large, beautiful domain surrounding it. The estate is called the Great Park. However, our trip began by exploring the turf. We visited the great kitchen where we met the Royal steward. He told us many fascinating details about the kitchen lifestyle in the many various rooms all decorated with furniture typical of the time. The next part of the tour included our unexpected meeting with Queen Victoria and Sir Robert Cecil. It was to our delight, that we had to curtsy in front of her. Our tour concluded with a song from the Mikado opera. After lunch, we found out about the ever famous oak tree of Queen Elizabeth I and the rest of the time we were occupied by roaming the luxurious grounds of the Great Park.

Phoebe and Zofia 8M



Whilst they were sitting under the oak tree, the girls were asked to write a poem about how Elizabeth must have felt when she was told she was to become Queen.

*She sat under the tree,
No knowing what was to be.
Some men came up to her
And cloaked her in fur.
She knew she'd become queen
Not the girl she had previously
been.*

*Her sister had died
But she hadn't cried.
Many would mourn
But a new queen was born.*

*Author Unknown (suspected to be in
8S!)*



*Years of hiding out and dodging
shadows.
The sweetest news I heard today.
So near the pews, yet so far away.*

*My hearts desire—my previous
birthright.
My hearts fire is now in sight.*

*I never thought I would see this day.
I have definitely sought to feel this
way.*

*Years of hiding out and dodging shad-
ows.
Makes me want to shout out into the
beautiful meadows.*

*My sister is dead, but my heart is alive.
My fear has fled and I know I will sur-
vive.*

Tea-Anya 8T