

# OUR SCHOOL

Produced by pupils of Mowbray Primary School, Northumberland

## » A grand day out

ON 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, Year 6 had a grand day out to the Hirsle Estate; 3000 acres of farmland in Coldstream, on the Scottish Borders. On arrival, we were taken into a farm building to learn about the activities and which jobs the estate offered.

We split into two groups; one would be cooking and the other would be using mapping skills, to explore the Hirsle.

The healthy pizzas were made from: wholemeal dough, (of course), tomato sauce and vegetables, which were grown on the estate, for the toppings and finally, cheese.

Using our mapping skills, we located different points and locations on the map, holding compasses so we knew which direction we were going in, finding clues along the way. Luckily, we found our way back to Mowbray after a rainy, yet wonderfully brilliant, day out!

By Sophie Curry Year 6

## » Tudor wife visits Mowbray

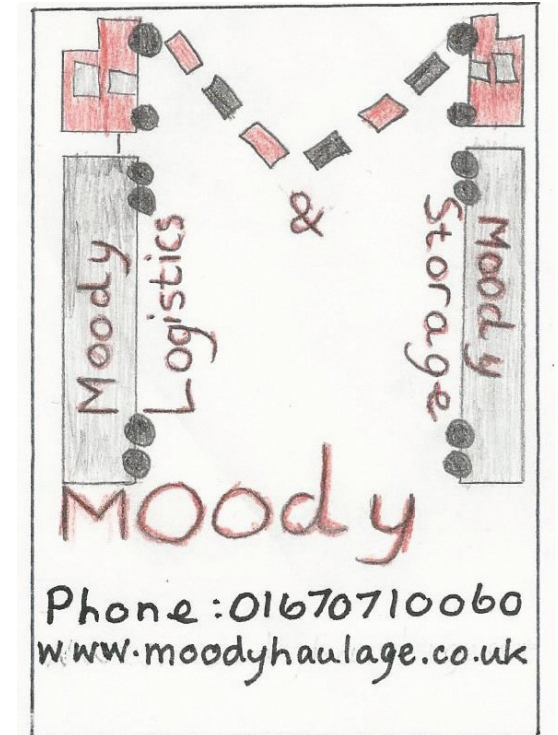
YEAR 3 AND 4 were lucky enough to have a living-history visit from Mistress Sabine, who arrived as a Tudor merchant's wife and told us about rich and poor Tudors.

Two children, were chosen to wear Tudor clothes. Cara wore bloomers a long dress and had her head covered in a cotton cap. Mistress Sabine explained the importance of ladies having their heads covered as a sign of respectability. Dan wore huge shorts, gold leggings and a jacket. Super smart.

Sabine brought some artefacts in to show us: money (which was smooth), chamber pots, a reading horn (used for learning to read), shoes and clogs. Parish (9), stated: "I liked feeling the clogs, because, surprisingly, they were really smooth."

The pupils really enjoyed the visit and we hope to see her again.

By Amelia Turnbull and Daisy Davison Year 4



Designed by Chelsea Greaves, Year 6

## The precious Pearl of Africa



Pearls and pupils performing for parents

ON 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, when we arrived at school, the most amazing thing ever happened! The 'Pearl of Africa' was in our school, for a whole day. Who are they you ask? The name actually comes from a famous quote by Winston Churchill, who adored Uganda, its variety of life and colour. This 'Pearl of Africa' is a talented group of children, who are part of a charity to raise money for children in Uganda, so they can go to school and work hard. They tour schools in the UK and use special hand-made instruments made from animal skin and plants such as snake skin, trees and leather,

to accompany their fantastic drumming, singing and dancing.

Each class had some time during the day to spend time with the group after their spectacular assembly. Some of us played their special instruments while others sang songs in a Ugandan language, followed by a 10 minute question session.

"I think The Pearl of Africa was extremely entertaining and I would love to see them again. I enjoyed their jazzy, lively and cheerful spirits and it was fascinating to hear what it was like living in Uganda," said a pupil, Kai Sample.

£760.23 was raised by a Parent's evening concert and a gift shop, with products the pupils had made themselves in Uganda.

Overall, we feel very privileged and delighted that we were able to experience the 'Pearl of Africa', as they only choose certain schools to visit, but we are disappointed that they only came for 1 day.

If you are a teacher reading this article and want to book it for your school, look on to the internet for the Pearl of Africa choir. You won't be disappointed.

By Hayan Wazir Year 6



Castle Quests; fun fighting

## Quests at Alnwick Castle

YEAR 1 AND 2 went to Alnwick Castle for our Castles topic. When we arrived, we went to Dragon's Quest. It was really cool, had a skeleton tunnel you had to walk through and a mirror maze that twisted around in a circle. People kept bumping into the mirrors.

Next came the Knight's Quest. It was super fun because you could dress up in medieval clothes and fight with swords and plastic balls in a battle with England against Scotland. In the quest, we called Ellis 'Sir Penguin.' It was hilarious.

In the State Rooms, there were real swords and other interesting things, like a library with 16000 books! The Duke and Duchess of Northumberland live in the castle after it closes in October. They also allowed Harry Potter to be filmed there.

We enjoyed our visit to a real castle.

By Olivia Moore and Jared Gordon

## Mrs Moffat's 10/10



Max Moffat with Erin Bullimore

Teaching Assistant, Mrs Moffat

1. Mrs Moffat, how long have you worked at our school?

Nearly 3 years

2. What is different about your job at Mowbray Primary, to everyone else's?

I have a guide-dog called Max, as I'm partially sighted. I sometimes need help with displays.

3. What do the children have to know about Max, when he is in the classroom or outdoors?

When Max is wearing his harness, pupils aren't allowed to stroke, speak to or feed Max, as he's working.

4. Which part of your job is the most difficult with Max?

Schools trips and Forest School, as Max likes to roll in poo!

5. What special arrangements do you have to make for Max, in a normal day?

Max has a quiet area, with his bowl of water and mat. We go home at lunch time for walks and Max's toilet trips!

6. Which other jobs have you had, before you worked in schools?

I worked as chemical laboratory technician.

7. What has Mowbray Primary School done to raise awareness of the Guide Dog Society?

Year 5 researched Guide Dogs, organised a stall at the Summer Fayre and raised money for the Association.

8. What do you like best about working with children at Mowbray Primary School?

I like supporting pupils in Maths and Science especially when they can't understand something at the start of a lesson and then by the end they can do it.

9. Have there been any highlights or stand-out moments for you in your time at Mowbray Primary School?

I've enjoyed and cried at special assemblies for people who have left, where we sang 'Thank you for the Music'.

10. Which is your favourite event of the school year?

The final of 'Mowbray's Got Talent'.

By Erin Bullimore Year 5

## Fabulous Forest School



The Tudor house that Jack built at Forest School

LAST HALF TERM, Years 3 and 4 took our topic 'The Tudors' outdoors and transported ourselves back in time, at Mowbray Primary Forest School. We designed and built Tudor houses in groups, using lots of different sized pieces of wood and tarpaulins in our building area. The nobles designed houses and employed peasants to build them.

Everyone had to listen to Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth I and be very respectful to them including bowing whenever they went past. The cooks make a wonderful pottage in our fire pit and had to serve the whole kingdom, before they were allowed to eat. William Shakespeare wrote a brand new play and his actors performed for us in the grass circle. We even had court jesters to entertain us during our feast.

We attend Forest School every week, which is just at the back of our school. Forest School has been running for nearly four years now and it is a big part of our learning at Mowbray. We started with a small patch of rough grass and planted some saplings. It has grown so much that our apple trees are producing fruit and the saplings are taller than the teachers! We have planted lots of daffodil and tulip bulbs and are very excited to see these flowers in the spring. The skills we learn in our indoor lessons, we then use outside in lots of exciting ways. We learn how to be safe when building and when inside the fire pit, by following a set of rules. It is really important that we follow these rules because we take lots of risks at Forest School and the rules are there to keep us safe. We all love Forest School at Mowbray.

By Owen Basnett and Lucy Tully

## » Year 5 bowled over in Blyth

ON OCTOBER 20<sup>TH</sup> 12 pupils (boys and girls), were chosen to go to 'New Age Bowling', at Blyth Leisure Centre. Each team had to play 8 games in total.

The aim of the game is to use a foam ball (a bit bigger than a tennis ball) to hit or get as close to, the yellow jack. Teams of 6, which we kept swapping around, had to win two games to get through to the semi-finals and brilliantly for us, we flew through to the final.

Unfortunately, we just missed the chance to bring a silver trophy back with us on the coach, losing out to New Delaval Primary School. Better luck next year.

By Bailey Porter Year 5

## » From 'Bikeability' to bike sheds

FOR THE LAST two summers, Year 5 and 6 have taken part in Bikeability, organised by the Department of Transport. This is a cycle training programme which provides children with the practical skills and understanding needed for cycling on today's busy roads. The pupils loved cycling on roads around school, with the instructors. This prompted lots more pupils to come to school on bikes (and scooters), throughout the school. However, this then raised the issue of where to park the bikes, so that they were safe and also dry, in bad weather.

The brilliant PTA came to our rescue, who applied to the Council Community Chest Fund for a grant of £8000 to build much-needed bike sheds, so that we can continue to promote Fitness and Health and Safety, combined with secure storage.

We are now looking forward to the sheds being built in Spring 2017.

By Sophie Curry

## » Bear in EYFS playground



Fun with Bessie

IN THE EARLY YEARS Playground, a huge bear answering to the name of Bessie has been spotted... Don't worry though, it's only a wooden sculpture created by sculptor Rachael Smith, who carved the magnificent monument from a dead tree in our garden, with Elysia winning the competition to name her.

All the Early Years children love Bessie; they jump on her, chase each other around her and use their imagination to make up stories and games. Caitlyn and Ava said: "It's a hedgehog's home and we play tag around it," while Jacob, Ste and Oscar quoted: "We say 'hello, how are you?', while we play monsters and hide and seek around her."

Not only the children love Bessie, but the teachers are really fond of her too. Mrs Baldwin says: "All the children love Bessie. They tell her stories and make her mud pies."

By Katie Lee, Year 5

Next week:

**The Royal Grammar School, Newcastle**

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