

Educational Trips to Enhance Learning

December 2019

Year 7 Trip to Enhance Learning – *Kidzania*

On Wednesday 18th December, Year 7s went on a visit to *Kidzania* as part of their Trips to Enhance Learning. The objectives of the trip fit in line with the national curriculum as an opportunity for pupils to realise their ambitions and to begin thinking about what they would like to consider as careers in the future. Pupils were able to test of some of the different careers which may one day be available to them and to experiment with the different skillsets required for different job roles in the world of work.

Pupils were bustling before arriving at the venue as they discussed the jobs that they were considering constructively and economically and planning out their timing for the day to ensure efficiency: both vital skills in the world of work!

Once we arrived at the venue, the year 7s had the independence to discover and explore a wide range of jobs. Popular careers such as medicine, policing and firefighting were the first stops for most. In these stations, pupils were stimulated to apply practical skills required to perform life-saving work daily in the appropriate settings and the *Kidzania* team were quizzing the future professionals in the skills and training they would need to enter these careers.

The year 7s with a creative outlook were excited to discover the world of gaming and professions in the *Pokemon Creative Studio* where they were introduced to digital creative jobs such as 'Animator'. In the studio, pupils adopted the roles of designers to use game design software to print their own trading cards and they were able to take their creations home after their hard day at work!

After lunch, the pupils returned to activities and to spend their hard earned money before we left to return to school at 2pm. The career activities at *Kidzania* inspired our pupils to learn, earn and spend their money wisely whilst experiencing an array of jobs that are available for them to begin thinking about. For some, they started considering the choices at GCSE by creating a link between the subjects and careers; all whilst counting their money vigilantly on the train!













Year 8 Trip to Enhance Learning – *Museum of London*

A fantastic experience was had by all on Wednesday as year 8 visited the *Museum of London*, and their fascinating new exhibition on *The Clash*, in honour of the 40th anniversary of the release of their seminal 1979 album; '*London calling*'. The children were mostly unaware of this rich chapter of music history in the capital and delighted in looking through smashed guitars and shocked news articles documenting the rise of punk rock in the city.

The museum is an excellent institution which houses several galleries, with an extensive amount of interactive exhibits on the history of London, from pre settlement prehistoric times up to a celebration of the current cultural diversity in the 21st century. This included an engaging and well researched exhibit on the history and cultural significance of hair through the years, particularly within the afro Caribbean community. However the highlight of the trip was undoubtedly the original cauldron from the 2012 Olympic Games opening ceremony designed by Thomas Heatherwick, which captivated both the pupils and staff. Alongside the impressive Olympic centrepiece were videos and information on the entire design process, a fascinating and useful insight for the children into the dedication, teamwork, and planning necessary for these projects.





Year 8 Trip to Enhance Learning – *the Saatchi Gallery*

“A man has two deaths. The first one is when the soul leaves the body, the second one is when the last person who says their name dies”- Ancient Egyptian proverb

On Wednesday 18th December, the History department took thirty-two year 8 pupils to the Saatchi Gallery to view the *Tutankhamun: Treasures of the Golden Pharaoh exhibition*. The exhibition commemorates the 100th anniversary of the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb, and is the final chance to see these glittering world heritage artefacts before they return to Egypt forever. London is one of only 10 cities which will host the artefacts. The trip allowed pupils to deepen their understanding of another culture and enhance their enthusiasm and understanding of History.

The pupils found the exhibition to be simply fascinating and developed new knowledge on different areas of history. It also built on their substantive knowledge from this term through analysing concepts such as monarchy, succession crisis, civil war and religion. This knowledge was further supported by the evidential thinking that we have covered in class this term.



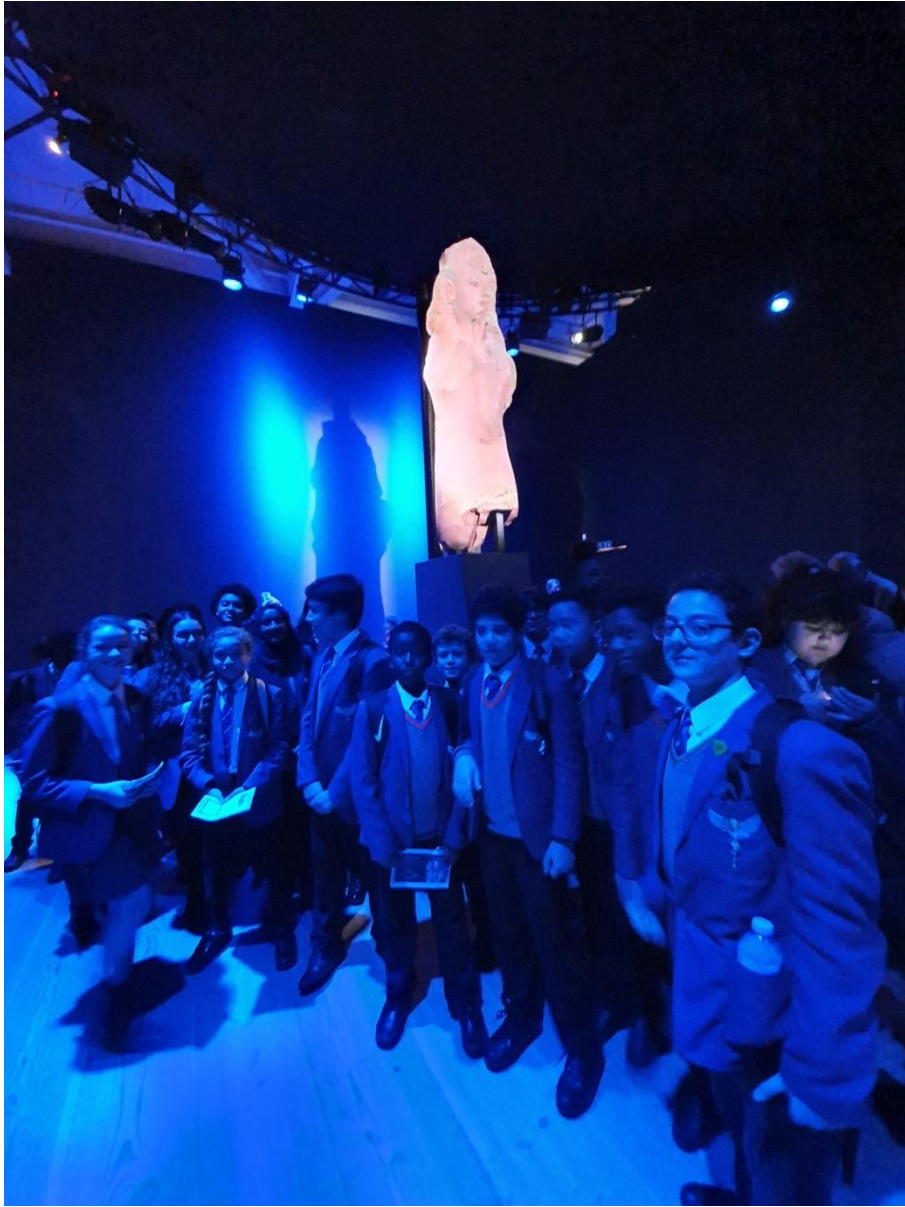


**Sandals from
Tutankhamun**

These sandals were made of gold and leather. They were found in the tomb of Tutankhamun and are now in the collection of the British Museum.

Tutankhamun 1332-1323 B.C.
Egyptian Museum
London





Year 9 Trips to Enhance Learning – Tate Britain

Year 9 Art and Design pupils visited the Tate Britain on the 18th December. Pupils explored and discovered a range of artworks from 18th century masters like William Blake to contemporary installations and sculptures from artists such as Sarah Lucas.

Pupils discussed, debated and studied the artwork through a range of written analysis and observational drawing tasks to gain evidence for their projects at school. Experienced art experts gave the pupils informative and interesting talks about the artworks and pupils asked intelligent informed questions to broaden their horizons.

At Platanos College pupils are exposed and enriched with a wide range of creative and Arts based opportunities of which this is just one. We believe in the Arts and how important it is for our young people's futures.

One of the exhibitions the pupils visited was the Steve McQueen year 3 exhibition, McQueen said in a recent interview:

“We need a level cultural playing field for all children because we want and need visually literate adults. There should be fair access to arts in line with the offer to pupils in Scotland and Wales where the arts are already a core commitment.”

“The curriculum needs to be big enough to include all subjects and be all for all children. Art and creativity are so important to science, to maths or to any other academic venture. Cutting arts education means you cut off inventiveness, which impacts on being creative.

“We have many great artists, great thinkers and inventors in the UK and this has come through a sense of possibility. Arts education gives that sense of possibility.”

Steve McQueen





