

This term, Year Six have been focussing on World War Two. The highlight was visiting the Imperial War Museum before half term. The children learned many amazing facts through interacting with a 1940's house exhibit, decoding messages sent on an Enigma machine, as well as seeing planes, tanks and weapons which had all been used during the war. Using this information, in English they wrote recounts of their trip and we enjoyed them so much that we wanted to share them with you in this newsletter.



## A trip to the Imperial War Museum

Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> of September had finally arrived. It was time for us to leave at approximately 9:15 am. 6M and 6T were going to the Imperial War Museum. It was located on Lambeth Road SE1 6HZ. We were going on this amazing trip because of our topic about World War 2. The trip was organised by the Year 6 teachers. I went with my group: Aaron, Abdelkarim, Maziyar and Wissal. Our transport was the underground train. It took us 45 minutes to get there.

We finally arrived at the Museum. As we walked through the 'Family At War' section, the first exhibition that caught my eye was the great Anderson Shelter. On the outside, it had grass planted on top of the shelter. They had to do this in order to camouflage it from the German planes and bombers. When we first stepped inside, I sat on the bed and it felt like sitting on Lego blocks. It was dark, cold and terrifying. The whole shelter was very uncomfortable. It was also very disgusting as the people had to use the toilet in front of each other. Our whole group had butterflies in their stomachs.

Behind the corner there was a wall that had little screens. When you pressed the buttons (which were below the screens) a light would come up. You could see a model of the food eaten in World War 2. One of them was a model of a can with some words on it saying '12 Pure Powdered Eggs'. Just looking at it made me feel weird and sick because dried and powdered eggs sound disgusting and horrible. They served food in cans so it could last longer. The food was rationed by the Government.

Later on, my group and I found a row of interesting posters. They were called 'Propaganda Posters.' These were used to encourage and inspire people during the War to do more things like save food, grow food and

recycle. Recently in school in art, we have been studying and drawing propaganda posters. My favourite one was, 'Doctor Carrot, the children's best friend.' The one I made up in my group (in class) was, 'Say bye to plastic, it makes the world drastic!'

In my opinion, I really enjoyed this trip because I learnt so much about World War 2. I really recommend this trip to Year 5 because they will really like it and it shall be an unforgettable experience.

By Elma Sistek 6T





On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2017, Y6 travelled to the Imperial War Museum in Central London. We took off at Colindale station, taking around 45-50 minutes for arrival. The reason why we took our time in Year 6 to visit the IWM was because of our topic, WW2. My group and I really enjoyed each other's company, it was a once in a life time opportunity. We found so much valuable information that could help us back at school!

When we entered the building, we were immediately grouped and given one clipboard per group. The most fascinating fact I had found at the time was about a German ship, in other words the SS San Demetrio. A ship that attacked a British convoy in the Atlantic just when WW2 was official (5<sup>th</sup> November 1940). In matters of seconds, my whole class (6M) were scattered around in groups discussing the hard work before them. I really liked my group, No fussing just working.

About 10 minutes later, we were instructed to leave the



room so other school children could take a look. I honestly didn't mind as I was quite satisfied with the first facts I had found, the other

school was noisy and weren't setting a good example. As soon as we entered the new room we were all big eyed, our mouths wide. The slide show I had found really explained how it felt to be separated from your family, I felt really emotional. It must have really pained families, sometimes I just wish everyone would be peaceful and understand others. I ended up spilling some tears, emotional ones.

In conclusion I really enjoyed this trip. It taught me about my birth place's past and helped me understand what our past soldiers risked for our bright future, all I can say is *thank you*. My absolute favourite part of this trip was when we learnt about the Allison family, a family who were a documented family. The fact I will never forget is about the SS San Demetrio. It was very interesting as it explained the Germans first attack on a British convoy. I would recommend everyone over 9 years to visit this Museum, I hope everyone who reads this appreciates the millions of soldiers who died for our country.

**By Ayesha Aslam, 6M.**



On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October my class went on a trip to the Imperial War Museum. As soon as we arrived we saw four humungous aeroplanes that might have been used in World War Two. We gathered into our groups and followed our group leaders.

My group went to the first floor to explore the museum. Moments later, we came upon the colossal aeroplanes that we saw downstairs; but there was only half of them.

Soon after, we found a wooden shelf that held pictures of people who died in the war, some of them were really young and that made me feel sorry for them.

Next, we went to an underground shelter, you could even hear the sound of bombs and Germans from there. In the tiny shelter, it was impossible to even breathe or to hear another sound as you could only hear bombs being dropped by the Germans. I was thinking that if a fake shelter was scary, then a real one must have been terrifying.

In my opinion we all had a great time visiting the Imperial War Museum and learning about all of the people who lived in those days and how they survived. I also enjoyed seeing all of the weapons and uniforms that the Germans used in the war. Although I liked everything, my favourite thing was the air raid shelter because we could feel the same way the people from the war did and experience the sounds they could hear.

I really hope we will go on another trip like this one so we can learn even more!



### ***The Imperial War Museum***

Last month, our class had the chance to go to the Imperial War Museum, located in South London. We were taken there in order to learn more about the Second World War. Though I don't always enjoy history, I think this was an enjoyable experience. Despite the length of the long journey, it was definitely worth it. As well as being free, my recommendation is for everyone to go, old or young.

Entering the museum, my eyes were caught by the two humungous cannons, both towering over me. They must have been at least as big as two double-decker buses! As well as that, my mind was blown away by the hanging planes, which I thought were actually flying. It was unbelievable how many exhibits there were, though there were even more facts.



Seeing some of the mind-blowing artefacts included in the museum, I especially favoured the audios, which were teaching me a lot about the war. Rationing was a really interesting topic, as I had never known about bananas being in short supply. Now I know that, due to war, importing ships were bombed by the Axis. A rather cunning weapon I had seen was a knife hidden in a pencil and it must have been for spies! During the visit, our class had watched a short introduction to espionage. Another fact I learnt was that MI6 and MI5, a covert business, worked abroad and in Britain. I also learnt a lot when we were told (by a worker) about how a cart (pulled by six horses) was used for shooting ammunition. Personally, the propaganda posters amazed me the most, with their persuasive messages.

Have you ever seen real weapons and buildings? Guns and gizmos covered the whole weaponry area, with all sorts of gadgets. When visiting as part of our study for the topic, I found out that the vast V2 was unbelievably faster than sound! There was also a Doodlebug, which would whistle when dropped, hung on the ceiling as if it was flying. To my surprise, a tank was much larger than I thought! Rifles, grenades and much more were displayed in cabinets; we could experience the weapons they would use to attack opponents. In one area, the Morrison Shelter was shown on the ground and it could have fitted around two people. Saving the best until last, I must inform you about the one-person shelter; it was very safe so no-one in it would be bombed.

In conclusion, I suggest that you go and visit the museum. It's thrilling to learn about the World War Two when exploring about the place. Our class was extremely lucky to go there. Even if you don't enjoy history, you should go because you will increase your knowledge of the war.

**By Xiang Li, in 6M.**

The day had finally come! My class and another year six class were travelling to the Imperial War Museum, as our topic this term is World War Two. We hopped into a train and journeyed for forty-five minutes. By the time we had arrived, I hoped that I wouldn't regret this. At the main entrance, there was a humungous cannon, double the size of a fully grown elephant! I felt like a miniscule ant in comparison to it! Next, we dropped off all our coats and lunches and set off to the first room.

This exhibition was about survival in the war and according to all the information, life was as hard as can be. The surroundings made me feel emotional. All objects that could be rationed were, including food, clothes and petrol. A family of ten had to suffer as they lost three children to war. They had an Anderson shelter in their garden in case of an air raid and a Morrison shelter was for people who had no garden. My mind was overloaded with facts and information. After spending an hour in the first room, we made our way to the second gallery.

When we arrived at the spies room I didn't know what to assume, but I knew it was something special. In the first room, we watched a mini clip of what to expect, which was old and black and white. We walked to the next section and I was so excited that I thought I'd burst! Everywhere I looked there were gadgets and stories of people who had lost their lives for their country. It was such a wonder how engineers could craft these gizmos, that no-one would ever imagine making.

After glaring at the wondrous devices, we took a flight of stairs to the next display. This World War One gallery was ten times the size of the first and second rooms and took up the first floor and ground floor of the museum! It was dark, gloomy and made my heart weep, but when I saw the glove of a child in a glass container, I smiled to myself. To my relief, we didn't need to learn a vast amount of facts as this wasn't our topic.

Nearer to the end of the first floor, we spotted a life sized model of the trenches. I imagined how hard it was to move around in this confined environment.

Next, we trooped back down the stairs and started to examine the tanks. They towered over us like sky scrapers. Soldiers had risked their lives by using them, as they were bulky and dragged. We soon realised that time was ticking by and we only had a few minutes to get our bags and coats before the train arrives; but we did get back to school on time.

In my opinion, this trip was educational, fun and wonderful to learn about; I recommend this trip to all people that have a strong adoration for planes, war and spies. All visitors were attracted to the artefacts and they will definitely attract you too!

**By Selen Kaplan, 6T**