

This week....reception had a fabulous visit to Arbeia where we saw reconstructed roman houses and barracks and explored the ruins of this ancient granary at the end of Hadrian's Wall. It was fascinating to see how the Romans would have lived in Britain and to gain an understanding of archaeology through our workshop, which was a mini archaeological dig. All the Splash children made us proud with their excellent behaviour and good manners. Our nursery children stayed at school to have fun in the sun and enjoy being out of doors with Mrs Hammond and Miss Pringle. They had an explore all around the school and Josie made them a special picnic lunch for a treat.



This is model of the Gatehouse and the site. The children enjoyed looking at all the stone pillars that had supported the granaries and kept them raised above ground and free from damp.





These different bedrooms were for the soldiers and their families. We found lots of things which were the same as our bedrooms and lots that were different. For example this bunk bed would have held our whole class for a sleep over!!!



The Roman villa where the rich generals lived was stunning and we practised lying on big sofas to eat in a roman dining room and explored the courtyard and the other beautifully decorated rooms in the house. This is the reconstruction used in BBC's bite size tour of a roman villa so you can google it and have a guided tour if you want to see more.



After lunch we enjoyed some archaeology, finding lots of roman remains.

Literacy and Phonics

We have had a fantastic free writing week, where the children were free to write during their literacy time about any subject in the classroom. Some children watched the chicks and wrote about what they were doing, some found out more information about the romans and some did some research and writing about creatures which hatch out of eggs. Some of our nursery children are brilliant little writers and have enjoyed all these tasks.

Mathematics

We did lots of fun chicken maths this week involving counting in twos, laying eggs all the way to woodland workshop and back and finding chickens' beaks, legs and wings. All the children enjoyed using their maths for practical challenges and they are making good progress. We also continued our weighing activities and played in the water tray to develop our language of capacity, e.g. full, half full and empty. We looked at containers that held more and less water and their labels.



We had to take away one or two every time our hen laid some eggs on the way over the fields.



Then on the way back we worked out how many chicks hatched out of our eggs from the number of feet, beaks or wings they had. We had to decide whether to count in twos or ones. There was some brilliant hard thinking and some great working out.