

Year 7 visit to the Houses of Parliament

To further develop Year 7's understanding of our British Values, today we enjoyed a privileged visit to one of the United Kingdom's most significant institutions. There was an undeniable thrill as we arrived at the entrance to **The Houses of Parliament**. How can there not be, knowing that we were entering the home of 900 years of history?

Understanding the process of law-making in the House of Commons was made all the more exciting by seeing the debating area of our 650 MP's. We saw the seat of the Speaker of the House and the Prime Minister. We moved onto the **House of Lords**, the second chamber of the UK Parliament and learnt how it shares the task of making and shaping laws and checking and challenging the government's work. Our guide then explained some of the old traditions involved in The **Queen's** speech to open **Parliament**, which still today include a search for gunpowder!

We also managed to squeeze in a visit to 10 Downing Street, Horse Guards Parade and even climbed the 312 steps to the top of Monument.

A full and busy day but I think we'd all agree that the **Houses of Parliament** remains one of our favourite buildings; its elegance and beauty, unrivalled.

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