



# Moor House School News and Events

## 3H visit 1066 Country

9th July 2008

9th July 2008 was officially the wettest day of the year so far, with a month's worth of rain falling in just one day, but it did not stop Class 3H having a wonderful day exploring 1066 country, a part of southern England that saw a lot of action in medieval times - especially in the year 1066.

After our journey down to the Saxon Shore, our first stop was at Pevensey Bay beach. This is where Duke William of Normandy and his ships arrived in England in September 1066 as their invasion of England began. It is said that when William arrived on the shore, he tripped and fell - but he saved himself from being embarrassed by pretending he had planned it. He picked up some of the English soil, and told his men that soon the land he was holding would belong to them. Steven did a fantastic recreation of this moment!

After returning to the van, we moved on to Pevensey Castle. Pevensey Castle was built starting in 1066, as it was Duke William's first base after he arrived in England. However, it was built inside the ruins of an old Roman fort dating from the 3rd century. It was also used to defend the country in Tudor times, against possible invasion by the Spanish Armada (Will became very interested at this point), and also during World War II when American and Canadian soldiers were based there.

All the 3H students went down into the dungeon for common people, even though it was a bit scary going underground down a narrow and winding spiral staircase! Matthew H. was very pleased that there were no prisoners chained to the wall when we visited. We also saw another dungeon, reserved for more important 'guests' who were held to ransom - including the future King James of Scotland! Angus was outraged that a fellow Scot had been kept in such conditions!

We stood underneath 'murder holes' and thanked our lucky stars that hot sand or boiling oil was not poured on our heads, and touched giant stone balls that had been flung by trebuchets (a kind of catapult) during the four sieges of Pevensey Castle.

We continued our journey on to Battle Abbey, in the town of Battle - named after the Battle of Hastings which happened on the hill there in the year 1066. The ridge at the top of Senlac Hill was where the English army formed their shield wall against the Norman invaders - an excellent defensive position - which may have worked had the English soldiers followed orders and not fallen into the trap of chasing the Normans down the hill, which ultimately resulted in the death of King Harold Godwinson of England, and the crowning of King William The Conqueror.

We had brought along our own shields and used them to form our own shield wall in almost exactly the same spot, and recreated the battle scenes with a charge up the very same hillside that saw bloody warfare nearly 1000 years ago. Due to the heavy rain, the washable paint came running off the shields leaving everyone looking like they had been in a real battle, with red, blue and brown paint over faces, arms and legs! Thankfully there were no real casualties in our recreation although we may have frightened away some tourists with our impressive war cries.

Finally we ended up at Bodiam Castle, a beautiful moated castle built near the end of medieval times. After a tasty lunch and some hot drinks we crossed the bridge into the castle to explore the ruins. All

the students climbed the south tower and immediately noticed the relative comfort that this castle would have provided to its guests, with nearly all the rooms having a garderobe (toilet) and fireplace. We investigated all areas of the castle, from the sunken well near the kitchen right up to the top of the three towers, which afforded wonderful views of the surrounding countryside.

Finally it was time for eight very soggy students and three equally soaked staff to return to the minibus and start our journey home, which was made additionally fun due to the rain-inspired soundtrack which we all sang along to. Thanks go to Miss Smith and Mrs. Bull for their unfailing support throughout a very long day.

Scroll down for the photos from our trip in Comic Book format!

# CLASS 3H GO TO 1066 COUNTRY

ON 9TH JULY, CLASS 3H VISITED 1066 COUNTRY. LOTS OF IMPORTANT THINGS HAPPENED HERE IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF ENGLAND IN MEDIEVAL TIMES - ESPECIALLY IN 1066.

WE LEFT SCHOOL EARLY, AT 8 O'CLOCK.



OUR FIRST VISIT WAS TO PEVENSEY BEACH.



DUKE WILLIAM OF NORMANDY'S SHIPS ARRIVED HERE FROM FRANCE IN 1066.



I NEED AN UMBRELLA!

WAS IT RAINING WHEN DUKE WILLIAM ARRIVED?



DUKE WILLIAM FELL WHEN GETTING OFF HIS SHIP, BUT HE MADE UP FOR IT BY SAYING:

MEN! THIS LAND WILL SOON BE OURS!



WE KEPT ON SMILING!

WE TRIED SKIMMING STONES ACROSS THE WATER.



THEN IT WAS TIME TO SET OFF FOR OUR NEXT PLACE.

I HAVE THE UMBRELLA! HOORAY!

LET'S GO TO PEVENSEY CASTLE!



SEE MORE ON PAGE 2...



DUKE WILLIAM MADE HIS FIRST BASE HERE, AND STARTED BUILDING PEVENSEY CASTLE.



PEVENSEY CASTLE WAS BUILT INSIDE THE WALLS OF AN OLD ROMAN FORT. CAN YOU SEE THE OUTER ROMAN WALL? IT WAS BUILT IN THE YEAR 300.

THE CASTLE HAD GOOD DEFENCES - A GATE, A DRAWBRIDGE, AND 'MURDER HOLES'...



A MURDER HOLE WAS A HOLE IN THE ROOF TO POUR BOILING WATER ONTO ATTACKERS.



IT HAD 2 DUNGEONS, FOR PRISONERS.



WE WENT DOWN TO LOOK.

IN THE DUNGEON IT WAS COLD AND DAMP.



PRISONERS WERE CHAINED TO THE WALL, AND LEFT IN THE DARK - SCARY!

WE EXPLORED THE TOWERS.



PEVENSEY CASTLE WAS USED IN MEDIEVAL TIMES, TUDOR TIMES, AND EVEN WORLD WAR 2.



SLIT WINDOWS WERE NARROW.



ARCHERS COULD DEFEND WELL.

WE VISITED THE CASTLE MUSEUM.



THE SECOND DUNGEON WAS DOWN A HOLE.



WE WENT UP TO THE TOP.



A 'CURTAIN WALL' GOES ROUND THE CASTLEEDGE.



WE FOUND A CANNON FROM TUDOR TIMES.



LUCKILY, IT DID NOT FIRE!

WE GOT BACK IN THE MINIBUS FOR A SNACK, AND TO GO TO THE NEXT PLACE ON OUR JOURNEY... BATTLE ABBEY...



KEEP READING TO FIND OUT MORE...

THE TOWN OF BATTLE IS NAMED AFTER THE BATTLE OF HASTINGS.



BATTLE ABBEY, A MONASTERY, WAS BUILT HERE TO REMEMBER THE BIG BATTLE AND THE PEOPLE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN IT.

HEAVY!



FIRST WE WENT TO THE MUSEUM.

WE PLAYED HISTORY COMPUTER GAMES...



HELD NORMAN SWORDS & SHIELDS...



HIS EYE!  
NOOO!



AND WATCHED A FILM ABOUT THE BATTLE OF HASTINGS.

WE MARCHED TO THE TOP OF SENLAC HILL...



AND MADE A SHIELD WALL WITH OUR SHIELDS.

DON'T WORRY... IT'S NOT BLOOD!



CHARGE!

IT'S PAINT THAT CAME OFF MY SHIELD!

WE ALL GOT COVERED IN PAINT FROM OUR SHIELDS!





KING HAROLD GODWINSON OF ENGLAND DIED ON THIS SPOT, HISTORIANS THINK.



PRINCESSES DON'T NORMALLY FIGHT, BUT THIS ONE TOOK ON TWO BOYS AT ONCE!



WE GOT TO USE SOME MEDIEVAL PROPS FROM THE EDUCATION CENTRE.



BACK TO THE MINIBUS...

...AND OFF TO BODIAM CASTLE.

WE HAD LUNCH, AND WARMED UP WITH FROTHY HOT CHOCOLATE.

THE SPIRAL STAIRCASES WERE WINDY...



BUT WE ALL WENT UP THE TOWER SAFELY!



HO-HO-HO!

WHERE ARE YOU SANTA!?

WHERE'S THE LOO ROLL?

BODIAM CASTLE, BUILT IN 1385, WAS A COMFORTABLE CASTLE - FOR MEDIEVAL TIMES. IT HAD LOTS OF FIREPLACES FOR WARMTH... AND EVEN TOILETS, CALLED 'GARDEROBES'!

WE HAD A GREAT VIEW FROM THE TOP OF THE TOWER.



CAN YOU SPOT WHO IT IS, DOWN BELOW?



AND THEY SAW US, HIGH UP!



I'D LIKE A SWIM!

CAN YOU SEE THE BATTLEMENTS?



WE WERE VERY HIGH UP.

FINALLY IT WAS TIME TO COME HOME. WE SANG "LET IT RAIN" ON THE WAY!

