Lauderdale



Mad, Bad and Dangerous to Know: the Tudors

A project with Lauderdale House and Parliament Hill School

An exciting and innovative project that engaged young people in their local history and the Tudors through drama, costumes, beat boxing, lyric writing and art.

Over the summer term 2018, Parliament Hill year 7 students learnt about the English Reformation and its impact on people from vagrants to royalty, including the residents of Lauderdale House, in this unique project.

> The whole of year 7 visited Lauderdale House then took part in sessions back in the History lessons at school led by specialist artists.

A visit to Landerdale House

Students were called to Lauderdale House to offer their help: Queen Elizabeth I was visiting and there was no entertainment!

Elizabeth I asked Dorcas Martin, Tudor resident of Lauderdale House, to perform a play about her father, but the pages of her book on Henry VIII were missing!

Young people helped by completing a treasure hunt to find the missing pages of the history book, learning a song to perform for the Queen, creating their own Tudor costumes and becoming a theatre troop to perform a play about her beloved father, Henry VIII.



In the beautiful grounds of Lauderdale House, students participated in a series of workshops run by specialist artists to become a Tudor theatre troop for the day and put on a performance for the Queen.

Through investigating the history of the House, they discovered the story of Henry VIII's life and created a play to tell the story.

They created their own Tudor costumes and learnt a song about the Reformation.

Back at School

In their History lessons back at school, students continued their exploration of the Tudor world with specialist theatre and beat boxing practitioners leading exciting sessions.

Off with their heads

Crime and punishment were pretty gory in Tudor times. Students wrote and starred in their own play about a Tudor criminal and dealt out their own Tudor punishment.

Get Up Stand Up

The Reformation caused peasant revolts throughout the country. Students used these to explore protest and create their own protest posters.



Reform, Reform

Working with Beatboxer, Actor and Writer Conrad Murray students wrote and performed their own rap based on characters from the Reformation.

Let me entertain the Tudors

Students explored what the Tudors liked to do in their free time, finding out about bear baiting, early football and jousting! They then explored the world of Tudor theatre and created scenery for the popular Tudor play - A Midsummer Night's Dream.

What students and teachers had to say

"I think I speak for the whole of year seven when I say that you made the last few history lessons the best."

"I liked that we had a range of activities"

"It was interactive and informative"

"I enjoyed learning about all of the strange and cool things about the history of the local area because I feel more educated on history close to me" This has been a fantastic experience for students, but perhaps more importantly it has really helped inspire the teachers of year 7 and has already influenced the way in which we are teaching students across the key stages.

Teacher







JOHN LYON'S CHARITY