

Report by Coco, Frank, Jay, Lola, Pierre, Zac and Edie on our visit to the Houses of Parliament

November 2015

We all went on the bus to Finsbury Park. There was some writing on the window of the bus. We noticed this because we came back on the same bus and the writing was still there!

We got to the tube station and we went through the busy corridors and steps onto the platform and got on the train.

We changed onto the jubilee line and went straight through to Westminster.

We came up the stairs and saw Big Ben. That is the bell that is inside the Elizabeth Tower.



We walked into Westminster and got scanned like at an airport. Our things were put in a box and it went into a scanner.

We were given a lanyard to say that we were visitors.

We arrived at the Great hall or Westminster hall. Henry 8th used to play tennis there. They found tennis balls up in the roof!

Chris (Maddie's Dad) got us into the underground church in the Great Hall. We saw lots of gold leaf and there were lots of security guards there. People are christened there and Oliver Cromwell kept his horses down there in the old times.



We went back up and we got told lots of things by Ali, our tour guide.

Here are some of the facts that we learned:

1. The Great Hall was the coldest part
2. The House of Commons is green and the House of Lords is red
3. There are 100 staircases
4. The Queen is NEVER allowed in the Hof C5.
5. The seats in the Hof C were 2 sword lengths apart (on the opposite sides) in order during an argument that they didn't hurt each other
6. When the Queen comes they cover the floor with blue (a royal colour) at the State Opening of Parliament in the spring
7. When the votes are even the speaker makes the choice about who wins the debate
8. The MPs meet on Mon, Wed Thurs and some Fridays

9. There were paintings of the French being defeated and they cover it with red curtains so as not to upset the French
10. We saw pictures of the Spanish Armada
11. The division chamber is for contents and not contents' in House of Lords
12. The division chamber in the House of Commons is yes and no
13. We saw lots of pictures of the Kings and Queens of England

We saw the MPs pigeon holes. We saw the MPs reservation places. There were gashes in the door where the Black Rod had knocked to come in

We then had lunch at the jubilee cafe. We had to wait for our hot food and the soup was really nice!

Then we went to the shop. We started to walk back to the tube station

We heard Big Ben strike when we came back at 2pm. We all got back to school safely and in good time for the end of the day.

We all had a great time and enjoyed our visit. It was REALLY interesting.

