**Year 5 Trip to the Houses of Parliament**

**Tuesday 2nd October 2018**

Last week, year five went to the Houses of Parliament in London for their school trip. We had a very funny bus driver called Andrew who gave us a tour of London on the way. When we got to the Houses of Parliament, our guide (called Damian) showed us where Guy Fawkes was found and put into prison. We also went into Westminster Hall which was amazing. Apparently, when doing some construction work, they found tennis balls made of dog hair stuck in the ceiling, which dated back to the Tudor age! We also saw many statues of famous prime ministers, as well as being able to stand exactly where Nelson Mandela and Queen Elizabeth stood to give speeches! The suffragettes’ exhibition was very interesting. We saw the chains that they used to tie themselves to statues during protests and also found out about a place called ‘The Cage’ where women could watch debates in the House of Commons, but weren’t allowed to speak.

Then, we went to the education centre and watched a video about the history of the Houses of Parliament, followed by a workshop where we came up with campaigns: help the homeless and increasing teachers’ pay! At the end of the day, we were given badges saying ‘I love Parliament’ to take home. We had such a fun and interesting day and came back to school feeling inspired to petition for the things we believe in!

By Hope Weston (Kestrel)