

Outcomes:

- To explore the reconstructed buildings of an original Anglo-Saxon village.
- To view the archaeological remains in the museum.
- Look at the rare breeds of livestock.



Description of trip:

Today class Meerkats went on a trip to West Stow to explore what an Anglo-Saxon village would have been like.

First, we went into the museum. We were able to look at finds that were excavated in 1965-72 by Dr Stanley West. There was a large section that displayed fashion items such as jewellery, bone antler combs and knives.

After this we saw some livestock including pigs with old English names. We then watched a short film explaining early Anglo-Saxon life.

Finally, we went into the reconstructed village that was built using traditional skills and archaeological evidence. We went in all 8 buildings but we all really enjoyed the oldest house as they are letting that structure come down by itself to see how it will look and to relate it to their excavations.

Quotes:

"They look like bullet buttons"

EM

"Are the bowls made out of clay or wood?"

BS2

"That's a funny name for a pig"

EM

How did they live?

- During the periods of building, the group members lived in one of the Wideham Cottages opposite, but that had fairly basic facilities.
- Many of the group members managed to get part time employment locally to help with the finances.
- The core members of the group were assisted by friends and helpers. Some stayed throughout, whilst some left and others started.

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