

Upper 5 visit to Eburacum (Roman York)



To finish the Latin GCSE on a high and, as one pupil put it, “to learn about the different aspects of Roman culture and broaden our knowledge” about the Romans who lived nearby, Upper 5 recently took a trip to this iconic city.

We started our tour at Marygate, quickly coming across the original Roman stone fortifications in the Museum gardens, now protecting what was once the largest medieval hospital in the north. Following the line of the Roman fortifications, we arrived at the Roman HQ, buried under York Minster. We decided to explore the whole of the site, not just the ancient ruins in the crypt, and came away with a great impression of the chapter house, quire and the tower. After this, we continued along the circuit of the wall until we found the intact portcullis at Monk Bar. From here, we delved underground once more to see the remains of a Roman bath house. This little museum also furnished us with the somewhat heavy armour that a Roman soldier might don. Of course, we had to try it on! We finished our tour of the circuit of the walls by ascending via the barbican guard house. As we finished, it was time to have a quick stop at Bettys Tea Room. Ok, perhaps this was not all that Roman, but how could we not!?

Lucy Sherman said:

“We had the most amazing day in York. Taking on the tower climbing challenge of 275 steps was difficult but so worth it when we reached the top and could see the beautiful city from the highest point. One of my favourite parts was seeing the ruins of the Roman baths and getting to try on Roman chain mail and armour, which was much heavier than expected!”

Mr Joshua Crosby