



The Hayfield Herald

Embracing our Shared History



Last week, when we returned from half term, the whole school really enjoyed exploring many different aspects of black history as part of the Black History Month celebrations. Each year group had a different focus that they studied and looked at key figures and events that have changed the world. In Year 1 they read the book 'Mae Among the Stars' based on the true story of Mae Jemison, Year 3 looked at Muhammad Ali as a role model for others and Year 6 explored their thoughts about racism and segregation in the past. We had a lovely email from a parent thanking us for the sensitive way this was handled with the children and how this has helped to continue these conversations at home too which was lovely to receive. We hope this will be mirrored across our whole school community, thinking of our shared value of 'Fellowship'. We believe that if we want the children grow up without prejudice then learning about Black History and understanding that everyone should be treated equally and with respect is one of the most important values we can give them.

This week we remembered those who have given their lives for our country as part of the Remembrance Day celebrations on Wednesday. The children learned about the significance of the poppy and the service men and women who have given their lives, served in the past, and continue to do so today. We observed the 2-minute silence and recorded their thoughts in their class RED books. We are sad that we weren't able to sell poppies this year in school but would encourage everyone to make a donation to the British Legion if you can to show support for this worthy charity. **'In the morning and at the going down of the sun, we will remember them'.**

This term we launched our new House Teams for Key Stage 2. The aim is to move away from individual house points for the older children to them being proud to earn them for their team instead. The new teams are based on famous British Olympians as an inspiration for the children (and also appropriate for sports day teams!). The new Teams are (Chris) Hoy, (Ellie) Simmonds, (Nicola) Adams and (Max) Whitlock. They have a weekly team total shared across KS2 and we hope will be proud to represent their teams.

Last week Year 2 had an event day where they braced the elements (rain, wind and cold!) for their 'Survival Day'. The children had a fantastic time outside completing a range of adventurous activities as an inspiration for their work in class. There are loads of photos on Twitter of their day, great job by the Year 2 team for organising such a fantastic experience.

At the end of last term, we had another special learning experience with a Design Technology week on 'moving pictures'. Each year group had a different challenge to explore, research, develop skills, test and create their own moving pictures using mechanisms. Thank you to Mrs Bosworth for organising!

Over half term we were really pleased to have the author and illustrator Dave Barrow come in and create a fabulous wall mural in the Lower School. It is based on our school vision (Joshua 1:9) and looks incredible. It absolutely exceeds all expectations and is a fantastic addition to our school. We will also be working on an Upper School mural soon too. Thank you Mr Barrow, we absolutely love it. If you would like to see the mural it is posted on our Twitter and Facebook page.

Today we are sadly saying goodbye to Miss Archer who is one of our brilliant Teaching Assistants. Miss Archer joined us over a year ago as an interim role while she explored her dream career in publishing which she had studied her degree for. A fantastic opportunity has now come up and we are super happy for her to pursue her dream. We will be really sorry to see her go though as she has been an absolutely amazing TA and a fantastic part of Team Orange; having been in Owl Class last year, this year in Y3 and also as a lunchtime supervisor. Good luck Miss Archer, we will miss you!

Craig Charteris Head Teacher

*Remember that I commanded you to be strong and brave. So don't be afraid.
The Lord your God will be with you everywhere you go³ (Joshua 1:9)*

Joy - Integrity - Fellowship