



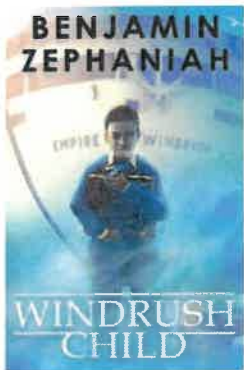
Newchurch Newsletter

October 2023



Black History Month 2023

Throughout the month of October, our Newchurch robins have been recognising Black History Month and understanding how they must know about the past in order to shape the future.



In assembly, the children learned about the Windrush generation; how people from the Caribbean arrived on Empire Windrush hoping for a better future only to be treated with disrespect and victims of inequality, racism and discrimination. This book by Benjamin Zephaniah was

shared with the children in case they wanted to find out more.

This year's theme was 'celebrating our sisters, saluting our sisters and honouring matriarchs of movements'. As part of this, the children learned about Dame Jocelyn Brown, a British



educationalist, community activist, and the first Black woman to be a governor of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). She was also a pioneer in the Windrush generation. To find out more about her visit:

<https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/bhm-firsts/windrush-pioneer-dame-jocelyn-barrow/>



The children have also had access to our lovely reading barrow which has showcased many books which celebrate black culture and significant people in history.

Pumpkin Assembly

The children were treated to a visit from the farmers at Bates Farm who talked to the children about their daily life on the farm and how they harvest the pumpkins.



Mr Hughes and Mrs Parkinson entered into the spirit of things, having to hold a pumpkin over their head until the children could answer the questions correctly.

It was great to have members of our local community sharing their work with our Newchurch robins.

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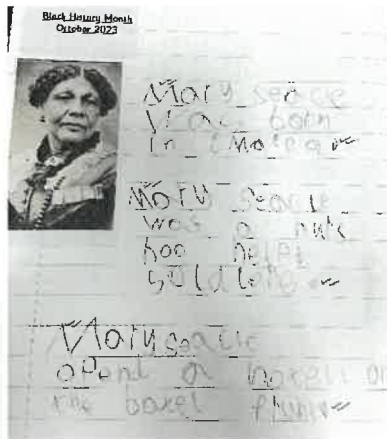
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Year 1

October 2023

Black History Month 2023

Year 1 have spent time this month learning about Mary Seacole. Children learnt why she is a significant individual and how she did good things for lots of people. Children reflected on how she used her own time and money to go above and beyond to help people that needed her assistance. Children reflected on what they had learnt and could use their writing skills to share what they had learnt.



Spoilt for choice!

This month Year 1 have enjoyed choosing a variety of challenges in their provision areas. Children have been able to apply their learning from subjects like art, mathematics, English and history into the provision in the classroom. Some children even combined their knowledge of science materials to create a spooky witches hat! Children have enjoyed applying their learning of the Great Fire of

London when choosing to play in our Fire Station.

Aria: I love choosing creative tasks to create new things.

Muqadasa: I liked creating a picture of the Great Fire of London.



My Happy Mind

Year 1 have enjoyed their first topic of My Happy Minds this half-term where children have learnt about the three parts of the brain, the hippocampus, amygdala and prefrontal Cortex. Children call them Team H-A-P to help them remember them easily! Children have shown true reflection when taking part in the sessions and have been able to spent some of their own time reflecting in their personal journals whilst also consolidating their learning.

Arthur: I now know that my brain weighs the same as three tins of beans!



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Black History Month - Marcus Rashford

To celebrate Black History Month, Year 2 researched the Manchester United star, Marcus Rashford.



They created fact files writing about his early life and family, his football career and how he was an inspirationally supported families and children during the COVID pandemic to make sure that children received food packages.

Besty - We learnt that Marcus Rashford has been playing football for a long time and he helped lots of people during Covid to make sure they did not go hungry.

Oscar - He worked really hard by asking the government to make sure the children have enough food.

Geography - Would you rather live in a hot or cold country?



This term, we are looking at the enquiry question of would you rather live in a hot or cold country? So far, we have learnt the 7

continents that make up our world by learning a song.

From this, we have looked and explored which of these continents are hot and which ones are cold. Most recently we have learnt all about the equator and where the different continents sit in relation to the equator.

Luna - We have learnt where and what the equator is and where the different continents are.

My Happy Minds



This year we have introduced a new whole school programme which focuses on helping each child build lifelong confidence and resilience within themselves. Our first unit has focused on meeting our brain. We have learnt about the three key parts of their brain; which is the Hippocampus, Amygdala and Prefrontal Cortex. We call them Team H-A-P for short.

Olive - We have been learning about how to keep my minds safe, happy and healthy.

Pippa - We have been thinking about the 3 parts of the brain and how sometimes we go into flight or fright mode.

Black History Month

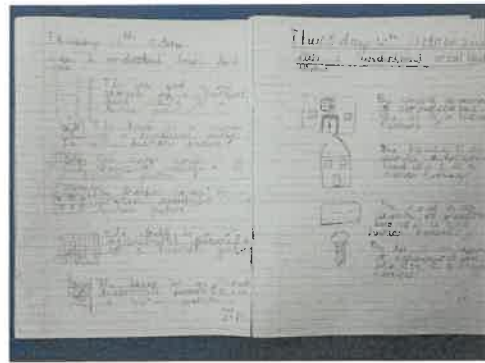


To celebrate Black History Month this October, Year 3 have learnt about the incredible athlete Jesse Owens. They focused on how he overcame adversity within his career, and created vibrant information posters to inform others about his life. One of the children also created a fantastic page in their reading scrapbook about him, using a non-fiction book to find information.

"I chose to research Marcus Rashford as he is one of my favourite footballers and an important black person." - **Cruz**

Geography

Through this month, Year 3 have focused on settlements. They have researched to learn the difference between linear, nucleated and dispersed settlements, and considered different types of land use (residential, commercial, agricultural, transport and recreational) and sorted real-life examples into these categories. They are gearing up to an exciting piece of fieldwork in the local area, where they will use OS maps to assist them in finding features that show types of land use.



"I enjoyed drawing and writing about the different features in our local area like the park, the roads, and the shops." - **Pandora**

My Happy Mind

Year 3 have adopted our 'MyHappyMind' scheme brilliantly. Every Monday morning, they have begun their week with reflection on how they feel, and what they can do to make sure their mental wellbeing is where it needs to be. They love the journals as they allow them to express their learning however works best for us - in pictures, sentences, or lists.



"I enjoyed taking part in the Happy Breathing as it made me feel calm and relaxed." - **Florence L**

"I enjoyed learning about team H-A-P: hippocampus, amygdala and prefrontal cortex." - **Jack**

Where does our food come from?

What an intriguing enquiry the children have delved into in Geography this half term! It definitely took some of the children by surprise how some of their food has been on an extremely long, varied journey before it lands on their plates. Year 4 sorted through food packaging to discover where it came from, tracked the food miles, explored fair trade and looked at the process of how chocolate is made! They have enjoyed a sneaky nibble too- just for quality control! Next they will be zooming in on their school dinners and interviewing some of our very own kitchen staff.



Megan: I have enjoyed learning where food comes from and using the atlases. Last week, we had to make the story of the cocoa bean and what happened to it.

Luca: We learned about Theo the Cocoa bean. We got to write and draw about him; we then got a chocolate button! Luca

This half term Year 4 have met their brain! Yes, they have found out about the parts of the brain and what job they do. The children have discussed, reasoned and worked together to apply the scientific knowledge of how our brain processes things every day. They have thought about ways to help themselves when they need their brain to re-focus or help them to feel a different way. Happy breathing has been helpful to lots of children; many children also found it useful to create a happy place in their mind.



Oscar: I have enjoyed learning about how my brain works.

Black History Month

Across the school and country, children have been learning about Black History this month. Within Year 4, the children focussed on a significant person- Martin Luther King. Before collaborating on a stunning piece of Art work, the children learned about his life and the reason he is known for helping Black people across the world.



Darcey: I liked using bright colours to create our picture. I am so happy with the end result.

Black History Month

Year 5 have marked the annual Black History Month celebrations by finding out about significant individuals throughout history. Linking to their studies of space and our solar system, the children looked at the amazing Katherine Johnson and how she helped Apollo 11 reach the moon and return safely with her mind-blowing mathematics and terrific



trajectories. The children used their computing unit, which focused on vlogging and green screen technology, to create their own

biographies of the pioneering calculator. The children also used their homework comprehension studies to find out about the founding of Black History month, how black civil rights activists fought for equality and the plans for the future.

Noah: We learned all about the life of Katherine Johnson, including how difficult it was for her to be a black woman in the 1950s.

Enterprise

The sun was shining and the suds flowing this month as Year 5 took part in their annual enterprise activity raising money for their Arete trip next year. The children managed to raise an amazing £202.20 through their tireless effort. It was great to watch the teamwork and resilience along with the wonderful support of the Newchurch community, who left with 'shiny' cars.



Geography

Some of us dream of sun and sand but Year 5 have been learning all about the snow-capped peaks of the Alps this month. Finding out about the location of the mountain range, from picturesque Italy to tiny Lichtenstein, the children looked at the features of the Alps and how they vary from their own location. They have begun to investigate what life is like for those who live there and the role that tourism plays in the local economy.



Oscar: I enjoyed learning all about the Alps. I now know all about the climate and the different countries that the Alps cover. We used a n atlas to help us locate the different countries.

My Happy Mind

Getting to know ourselves and what affects our emotions can lead to improved wellbeing and prepare us for the challenges we face in

our lives. Year 5 have been getting to know their own brains this half term and developing their awareness of the effects which negative emotions have upon them. This has included the make-up of the brain, the role of different part of the major organ and how the body reacts in various situations.



Beatrice: I've learned how our bodies and minds work. It's interesting to know that our brains give our bodies messages like when to feel scared.

Arete

Our trip to Arete was, without doubt, one of the most amazing experiences our Year 6 robins could have wished for! As soon as they arrived, they were immersed into the great outdoors and before they knew it, the children were kitted out and rafting across the picturesque Llyn Padarn.

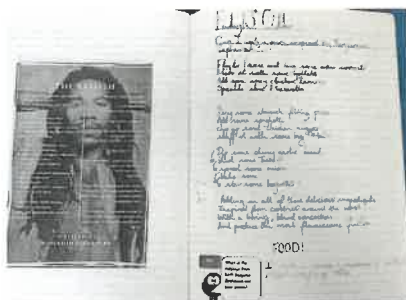
Throughout the week, the rain persisted but it didn't stop the children from having an unforgettable experience. Amongst many other activities, mining and gorge walking were real highlights and it was lovely to see the children positively beaming as they shared their experiences with each other.



Black History Month

As part of our Black History month celebrations, Year 6 children looked closely at the wonderful achievements of the famous poet, singer-songwriter, author and actor, Benjamin Zephaniah. Our robins researched Zephaniah's work and found out about his origins, education and his inspirations to want to bring change; firstly, to his community and then to a wider audience through the medium of dub poetry.

From this, they created their own politically-driven poems with ideas which had value to their own beliefs and some children even performed them to the whole



Sophia: *We learnt that Benjamin was kicked out of school for being dyslexic, yet he went on to become a famous poet, singer and songwriter. That's inspiring!*

Geography

Our geographical enquiry skills have led our Year 6 robins to explore why population changes. Through this unit, the children have already investigated push and pull factors of migration, described the causes of climate change and the impact on global population. As we continue with this topic, we will explore the population in our local area and carry out fieldwork to support our understanding.



Thomas: *We have discovered that unless humans make a change quickly, the planet will be too hot for anyone to live on.*

My Happy Minds

Understanding the significance of maintaining good mental health has never been more important and we recognise that it is fundamental for our children to be aware of the factors that can impact on their own mental health. At the start of this academic year, we introduced the 'My Happy Minds' programme and our children have been eager to find out more. Already, they have a solid understanding of key parts of the brain such as the hippocampus, amygdala and prefrontal cortex and know how they can react in certain circumstances. In addition to this, they have begun to learn some coping strategies for when they are finding things a bit tricky. These include journaling their feelings, grounding techniques and breathing exercises which we will continue to utilise throughout the year.

class!



Newchurch Newsletter

Celebrate SUCCESS

January 2023

Dancing Success

Well done to Nancy-Ann (Y2) and her dance group who were placed 4th in their recent competition.



Cycling Siblings

Congratulations to resilient siblings, George (Reception) and Finn (Y2) who have mastered the art of riding their bikes without stabilisers. Like their parents, we are very proud of them.



Our Dancing Queen

In September, Betty (Y1) attended the morris dancing championships at Pontins. Her dance troupe has competed all year collecting points toward this championship. Her troupe came 3rd over the whole year and were also placed in the final dance at the championships. As well as this, her troupe as a whole won the fancy dress. Not only that, Betty got on stage by herself in front a packed hall of people and sang her summer project song 'flowers' as part of the talent competition. A fabulous weekend was had by all. Hope Carr are currently recruiting new members in all age groups.



Super Swimmers



Well done to Betsy (Y2) who has achieved her level 3 swimming and her brother, Ralph, who completed his level 8.

Equestrian Dreams

Well done to Phoebe (Y5) who took part in her very first horse show during the summer break and came away with 4 rosettes.



Eva (Y1) qualified both of her ponies for the Horse of the Year Show 2023 and competed at the NEC in Birmingham.

Golden Boots

Congratulations to Cruz (Y3) who was asked to go to Liverpool on trial for 4 weeks in the summer holidays. The 4 weeks are now up and they have asked him to return. Well done, Cruz!



Karate Kids

Congratulations to Jayden (Y4) who passed his karate grading and is now a blue belt.

Congratulations to Ralph (Y6) who has achieved his junior

black belt in kick-boxing.



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Key Information

October 2023



We have an attendance reward system for the whole school, which is based on each class's attendance at the end of the week. The award system works as follows:

100%	Gold award	10 points
Class with the highest attendance of the week	Silver award	5 points

The class with the most points accumulated at the end of the school year gets a very special treat of a trip paid for by school. **Year 6 are currently leaders with ten points.**

Attendance since the start of the year:

EYFS	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
96%	97.51%	94.6%	96.39%	96.39%	96.27%	95.71%

Our whole school target is 97%. Currently we are at 96.1%.

Calling all Year 6!



When is it happening?	What is happening?	Who is involved?
Friday 27 th October 2023	School closes	
Monday 6 th November 2023	School Opens	
Monday 6 th November 2023 @ 3:30pm	Reception and Year 1 Phonics Workshop	Reception and Year 1 parents
Tuesday 7 th November 2023 @ 11:30am	Year 2 Loved One to Lunch	Year 2 parents
Friday 10 th November 2023	Curious Critters visit	Year 2
Friday 10 th November 2023	Fire Service visit	Year 5
w/c Monday 13 th November 2023	Anti-bullying Week	All classes
Wednesday 15 th November 2023 @ 1:30pm	Open Afternoon	New starters September 2024
Friday 17 th November 2023	Children in Need day	All classes
Friday 17 th November 2023	Police Assembly	All classes
Wednesday 22 nd November 2023	Dress Down Day for donations for Christmas Fair	KS1 donations of sweetie jars KS2 donations of tombola prizes
Friday 24 th November 2023	Clubs finish	All classes
Monday 27 th November 2023	Crucial Crew trip	Year 6
Tuesday 28 th November 2023	Christmas Journey trip	Year 2 children

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