

Recently, the pupil Diversity Team met and were asked what diversity means to them.

Here's what they had to say:

"Diversity means a mixed world."

"Diversity means being proud to be different and happy with who you are."

"Diversity means respecting each other no matter the race, gender, religion or background."

"Being accountable and honest."

"Respecting diversity means to be kind, positive, fair, equal and inclusive."

At New Valley, we are proud to have a community that shows all of this and we look forward to continuing to celebrate difference next year.

Reception

This term we have been thinking about the likes and dislikes of different people and how we must always respect different opinions. Through 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', we discussed the different food that he ate, which stimulated the learning around the different foods that we like and eat. All the children had different ideas and suggestions, which sparked some interesting conversation. Leading on from this we talked about different foods from different parts of the world, different foods that people enjoy and how food is eaten from different parts of the world.

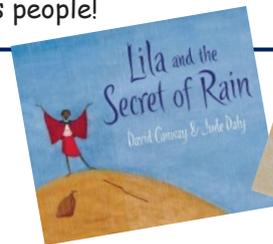
As we are nearing the end of this academic year, we have been thinking and talking about transition. We have discussed and shared the different emotions we are feeling about the move to Year 1 and how all feelings are good and should be respected by everyone.

The children have been fabulous at welcoming new additions to Cherry class over the year. They know and understand that whatever your colour, language, beliefs, culture, opinions, or physical appearance, everyone is unique and special and has an important part within our world.

Year 1

This term, Year 1 have enjoyed learning about different countries and cultures from around the world during their geography topic about the world continents. They grabbed their passports and jumped aboard a hot air balloon, taking to the skies with Phileas Fogg to discover the wonders of the world during their drama workshop. They walked like wallabies in the Outback, saved polar bears in Iceland and revealed the legend of the Great Pyramids of Egypt!

They enjoyed learning about hot and cold places, and used the story Lila and the Secret of Rain to help them explore what life is like in a hot Kenyan village. They also read the story Lost and Found and wrote some brilliant instructions about how the little lost penguin could find his way back to the chilly Antarctica. They discussed the similarities and differences between countries and cultures and realised that the beauty of the world lies in the diversity of its people!



Year 2

In year 2 geography, we have been learning about the UK and Australia. It has been so much fun finding out different facts and learning about other countries and how lives are not all the same.

In Votes for Schools, we have been thinking about culture and why it is important to understand and share traditions, beliefs, food etc. This has encouraged us to want to explore various countries and gain more knowledge about our world.

As part of PSHE, we have been learning about stereotypes and the problems of stereotyping. We read a book called 'Julian is a Mermaid' -a book about a little boy who gains the confidence to express himself. We discussed job roles that are often stereotyped, such as footballers, builders, nurses and many more. It was good to learn about our own ambitions for when we get older and to know that we can be anything we want!

Year 3

In Year 3 we have loved continuing our learning about diversity.

One thing we are really proud of is in one of our most recent Votes for Schools, they printed our feedback comment for everybody to see! It was a very exciting moment for us to be able to see our words about being anti-racist up there for so many schools to see.

In class, we have really looked at the word prejudice and what it can mean. We now understand how people might feel if they experience prejudice and what to do if we do recognise it.

We have made travel logs about travelling through different countries and have become personal trainers in science, to people with different needs and abilities, designing their perfect nutritional diet and exercise routine. This has really helped us understand that each body is different and needs to be treated as such.

Recently, we have been learning about why we should take care of our world and ways to bring about kindness. Each of us are coming up with 20+ ways to make the world a better place and are turning that into a digital video. We were inspired by Kid President, our favourite youtuber to watch in Year 3. We hope that everyone will be inspired by us to bring kindness into the world!

"Sure, there's bad stuff in the world, but there's also you. You can be anything that you want today, so be bold, be kind, be awesome, repeat. It's like shampoo, but with your life."

— Kid President



"It's important that we keep being anti-racist and not just saying these things. We have to keep making actions and do our part to stop racism."

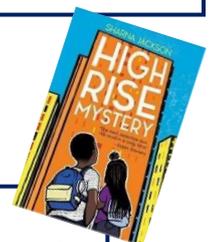
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Year 4

This term we have thoroughly enjoyed learning not only Spanish as a language but also about Spanish culture and local delicacies; we were able to make fantastic Spanish menus using Microsoft Publisher.

Our recent book, Shackleton's Journey led us to some healthy debates surrounding women's rights. We looked at change over time and how laws and policies have changed in order to support equal rights for all, regardless of gender.

In RE, we have looked at Hinduism. We were amazed to see how many Gods there are. We had great discussions surrounding who the most important God might be and why. It was great to see children reason with each other and take on board their peers' opinions. Some of us even managed to persuade others to change their views.



Year 5

This term, Year 5 have been focusing on diversity in a variety of ways. In English, they have recently been reading The High Rise Mystery written by Sharna Jackson. Sharna Jackson is an award-winning black author from Luton who writes fast-paced murder novels. The class enjoyed this novel as they related to the characters for many reasons, including the strong London accent. They hope to read some more of her novels.

In History, we have had a focus on World War II. During this unit, Y5 learned about the oppression of Jewish people. They thought a lot about the horrors people faced during this time and discussed what the world has learnt since then, often relating this to the war in Ukraine. The class have shown great empathy and compassion during our sessions. Throughout the World War II unit, we studied the roles that men and women took during that period of time and what impact this had on society after the war. At times, the class often related their learning back to when they studied the Space Race and oppression of women.

Year 6

Year 6 have thought about a range of issues that may affect people with diverse backgrounds, needs or abilities during our well-being Wednesday discussions. The children have been very mature in sharing their ideas about topics regarding different factors that create a diverse community such as: race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, ability, age, religious belief, or political conviction.

In addition, during our science topics, we have been careful to find out about scientists who are not all white males (such as Mary Anning and John Edmonstone).



VOTES FOR SCHOOLS PRIMARY
Inspiring Pupil Voice

Helpful resources

<https://diversebookfinder.org/>

Diverse BookFinder™
IDENTIFY & EXPLORE MULTICULTURAL PICTURE BOOKS

<https://www.signbsl.com/>



<https://www.britishsignlanguage.com/fingerspelling-alphabet/>



<https://blackhistorywalks.co.uk/>



https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en_uk/



Votes for Schools topics we have covered

Are our habits bad for the environment?

Is it right that the Prime Minister kept his job after breaking lockdown rules?

Is sport the right place for raising awareness?

Are you comfortable talking about loneliness?

Should you go on school trips?

Should we have more street parties?

Will seeing more LGBT+ relationships help stop prejudice?

Has there been positive change in schools since the protests of 2020?

Should everyone deal with big emotions in the same way?

Are we accepting of different ways of life?

Are strikes a good way for workers to be heard?

Do we know enough about South Asian heritage?