

We are now well into another academic year at New Valley. We are so proud of the of how our classes respond so receptively and knowledgeably to both celebrations and issues of diversity. Here are some of the highlights of the many teaching and learning moments that have happened this term:

Reception

Reception have explored and covered many topics within Diversity this term. We have really enjoyed our topic of 'Festivals and Foods', exploring different cultures and religions from across the world. We learnt about Diwali and listened to the traditional Indian story about Rama and Sita. We also made Diya lamps, facts books about India and even made some tasty curry! We also created Rangoli patterns with loose parts, colouring and chalk. We learnt about Hannukah and made fresh bread, as this is often eaten during Hannukah celebrations. It tasted delicious! At the end of term, we enjoyed learning about Christmas and were very busy preparing for the Nativity concert...we hope you enjoyed our singing! We're looking forward to next term and learning even more!



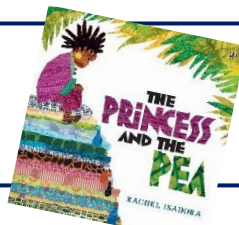
Year 1

Year 1 have particularly enjoyed studying the book Ossiri and the Bala Mengro. This is a story about a young traveller girl who makes her own instrument out of recycled materials. This led to many discussions about culture and the way the world can be viewed by different groups of people. All the children had different ideas and suggestions, which sparked some interesting conversations.

We are also taking the time to reflect on and recognise all our unique differences and how we should celebrate difference. The beauty of the world lies in how diverse it is!

Year 2

At the beginning of the year, Year 2 read a book called The Princess and the Pea which was very different to the traditional story. We read about a prince who travelled around Africa in search of a wife. Along the way, we learnt how to say hello in different languages. We looked at different fairy tales and then had a discussion around how a princess should look. We decided that every princess (and person) is unique and they are allowed to dress and look how they wish to. In music, we have been learning about carnival and samba which we have loved! It has been amazing learning about other cultures and looking at the wonderful traditional costumes that are worn. We have also been practising samba dancing.



**WISE
WORDS
FROM
BLACK
ICONS**

QUOTES TO EMPOWER,
UPLIFT AND INSPIRE
EDGAR CHEKERA



Year 3

In Year 3 we have had a wonderful time expanding our learning about Diversity. During Black History Month, we enjoyed our daily reading of the book 'Wise Words from Black Icons' by Edgar Chekera. Reading this led to many discussions about the meaning behind some of these words. One quote that particularly stood out for us is, "What you're supposed to do when you don't like a thing is change it. If you can't change it, change the way you think about it." - Maya Angelou.

Accessibility has also been a frequent discussion in the classroom and after the Votes for School topic 'Will increased awareness get more people learning BSL?', we have set ourselves the goal of trying to learn some more BSL as a class. We hope to learn even more to do with Diversity next term!

Year 4

Our music topic in Year 4 has been The Blues. We have learnt about the history behind the genre, where in the world it originated and the different types of musical instruments that were originally used. The children have really enjoyed looking at artists from around the world and how they have adapted the music for us to enjoy in the twenty first century. In RE, we were learning about Judaism. The children were able to retell the story of Moses and were empathetic towards the slaves.



The **ZONES** of Regulation®



Year 5

Year 5 have had a big focus on the role of women across history, beginning with the Ancient Greeks. The focus was on the difference between Spartan women and Athenian women. The role of women has also appeared in Rooftoppers, one of our books in English, which is a book set in Edwardian times, where the role of women was predominately spoken about as 'being at home'.

We have really enjoyed learning more about Islam in RE. We have a much better understanding of the customs in Islam and it has been wonderful to hear from some of our peers about their own experiences. During our trip to the British Museum, we looked at some of the Islamic art and appreciated the patterns and designs. Within our PHSE lessons, Year 5 have spoken about the Zones of Regulation. We have discussed and focused on how to regulate our own emotions, as well as understanding that everyone has different needs that we must be respectful of.

Year 6

Year 6 have discussed diversity in a variety of contexts this term. Through using the book Cloudbusting, we were able to think about the difficulties faced by children with non-visible disabilities when they join a new school. We then re-visited this theme at the end of the term when we began reading 'There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom' and again talked about the importance of not making assumptions about people. Through our History topic of the British Empire and another core text 'The Windrush Child' we have investigated the impact the British Empire has had around the world and in this country. We have realised that thanks to people coming to Britain from all over the Empire, we now live in a vibrant, multi-cultural society. We recognised that we are very lucky at New Valley to have the richness of varied languages, experiences and cultures that we can share with one another.

Votes for Schools topics we have covered

- Should there be strikes in December?
- Are people more generous in times of need?
- Will increased awareness get more people learning BSL?
- Was awarding the World Cup to Qatar a mistake?
- Do fandoms encourage bullying?
- Should everyone be able to vote at 16?
- Are playground trends a good thing?
- Should we stop paying for the BBC?
- Does the internet change how we feel about ourselves?
- Are actions more important than words?
- Can the fashion industry slow down its impact on the environment?
- Do you feel comfortable with change?
- Is it a good time to become Prime Minister?
- Will the Lionesses' win create long-lasting change?