



The Impact of Our Curriculum - History.

Every October, we celebrate **Black History Month**, and the rich learning opportunities this brings.

This year, to mark the 75th anniversary of **Windrush**, St Andrew's were delighted to be visited once again by **Eddy Smythe**, who generously shared his family's experiences with this historical event. This sparked many conversations and thoughts:

'It was incredibly interesting that he helped organise the Empire Windrush and decided who should go back to the UK. It was such an important job and made his life even more fascinating!' **Year 6**

'Life would have been really hard because families would have been separated.' **Year 5**

'People would have felt scared and nervous when they got there. They were sad because no one wanted to be their friend. They were not being treated kindly due to the colour of their skin. This is called racism.' **Year 5**

'People shouldn't be racist because of the colour of their skin, it's not fair if children can't play with each other because of the colour of their skin.' **ZW, Year 4**

'I don't think it's right that in 1948 people didn't treat each other equally. If white people went to another country they would want to be treated equally too.' **BD, Year 4**

'Some of the British people were unkind and racist to the people from the Windrush generation when they moved across to the UK.' **IC, Year 4**

'Thank you for organising this again, it was incredible that even now there are still new stories coming to light. We explored his story even further as we were researching the British Legion and it's just amazing how incredible his story is!' **Year 6 Teacher**



'I just wanted to send a quick email of thanks for the visitor that the children had the opportunity to experience today. Both of my children were so animated after school and were keen to retell his whole family story which was so wonderful to hear and really touching that it had had such a big impact on their day. A big thank you to you [for organising] the visit, I am so grateful for the time and effort that goes into organising these special moments.' **Parent of Year 4 and 5 children**

The KS1 children also read various books including 'Coming to England' by Floella Benjamin, to introduce them to Windrush. "We all like different things and look different and that is ok" **GR, Year 1**

'I would feel sad if I had to leave all of my things behind to move to a new country. I would really miss my friends.' **FC, Year 1**

'I know somebody who had to move countries because their house wasn't safe and they were happy to be safe.' **EM, Year 2**

EYFS read 'I Love My Hair' by Natasha Tarpley; they talked about how every colour is beautiful, whether skin, hair or eyes, and that when they mix together they create beautiful and unique new colours. They also learned about Garrett Morgan, an inventor, business man and community leader. He invented a type of traffic light and 'smoke hood' to help firemen. They decided that anybody could be an inventor, and made traffic lights and tunnels.



The living history continued with **Remembrance** activities; we were lucky enough to be visited by Chinnor War Horses where the children had the opportunity to see the uniforms that were worn and ask questions about the role of animals during the war.

'We saw them to remember the soldiers' **Billy, EYFS**

'They are representing our country.' **HB, Year 1**

'We wear red poppies for the soldiers and purple poppies for the animals.' **AJB, Year 1**

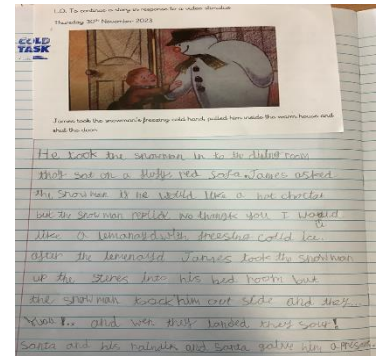
The children at St Andrew's continue to make us, and themselves, proud. They are accepting, curious and eager to learn about the experiences of others.

If you, or someone you know, has a story that you would like to come in and share with our school then please do let us know. It is invaluable for the children to hear stories and

events direct from you – it makes it more 'real' for them in a subject that can be confusing; they can ask questions to deepen their knowledge and they just love visitors!



Some of the pupils in **Copper class** have been participating in **Lego therapy sessions**. This focusses on **improving speaking and listening skills and developing positional language**. The children really enjoy these sessions and gave it a very strong 10/10 rating.



Year 2 have been enjoying their **new writing topic of 'The Snowman'** by Raymond Briggs. To start the new writing piece, the children watched the start of The Snowman and had to finish the story by including what they thought would happen next. The children were very creative with their ideas and we look forward to watching the end to see what happens!



In Year 3, the children have been busy rehearsing for our Christmas Play, 'A Midwife Crisis'. They have been **learning dance routines, songs and lines for the play**, and impressing all the adults who work in this year group.



Exploring 2D shapes in EYFS. **We used lollipop sticks to create shapes.** We discovered that two squares can make a rectangle and that although there were four small squares, there were actually five squares in total! **Is it possible to make a square using triangle shapes?** What other shapes can be made with triangles?



Year 6 have been putting their art skills to the test, **creating a stone age cave painting**. We are finalising our gymnastics routines ready for performing and have started our 'suspense' unit of work in literacy. **Christmas decorations are up and the classes are looking festive!**



Year 4 had a 'royally' spectacular visit from **His Majesty himself, King Henry VIII, last week!** They began the day listening intently to 'Henry' discuss all about the Tudor Dynasty, including the War of the Roses, the fate of each of Henry VIII's 6 wives and what education was like for Tudor children.

After break, the children were

challenged with a quiz about what they had listened to. We ('Henry' included) **were all so impressed with the children's recall of what they had just learnt;** several children even scored 20/20! During the afternoon session, they learnt about Tudor 'foot wrestling' and jousting.

It was a fantastic, fun day and the children learned an enormous amount about Henry VIII and what life was like in Tudor times.



Year 5 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Chinnor Nature Reserve on a cold and crisp Wednesday morning. Americas class gathered together for a fire lighting activity. **A safety discussion raised the importance of responsible behaviour in the reserve. Each student had the opportunity to try their hand at creating a fire under close supervision. As we returned to our classrooms, the children reflected on the new skills and knowledge they had learnt.**



St Andrew's CE Primary School have recently been awarded the 'Bronze' award by **the Young Carers in Schools programme** for the work we do to ensure Young Carers can reach their full potential in school. We recognise that children who are Young Carers might need some extra support at school, and, to reach the Bronze award, **we have demonstrated that we provide support for these children in many ways.** For more information on how we support our Young Carers in school, please visit the 'Young Carers' page under 'School Information' on our website. Well done, Miss Marshall,

Miss Revill and Mrs Garlick for making this possible.

Internet Safety - The [Safer Internet website](#) states; *"You don't need to be an expert on the internet to help keep your child stay safe online. Our advice and resources are here to support you as you support your child to use the internet safely, responsibly and positively."*

Polite Notice - It is really important that school and home work collaboratively to help support children's use of the internet. Please go to our school website to see key websites for parents to find out more information.

We have also been contacted by some parents and neighbours regarding parents sitting in cars with the engine on during drop off and pick up. Please be mindful of the impact this has on the children.

December 4th - Y1 Christmas Production 2.15pm
December 5th - Y2 Christmas Production 2pm
December 6th - Thame Festival of Voices 7pm
December 6th - EYFS Christmas Production 2.15pm
December 8th - Year 3 Christmas Production 2pm
December 9th - SASA Christmas Fayre
December 13th - Christmas Lunch – Xmas Jumper can be worn
December 19th - A Christmas Pantomime in school for Y1 - Y6 and a special surprise 'visitor' in a red suit for EYFS children – MUFTI Christmas Jumpers
December 20th - School Finishes at 1.30pm

