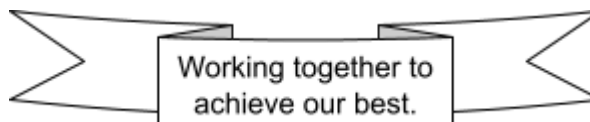




## Newsletter

Issue No 4  
Date:- 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023  
[www.firslower.co.uk](http://www.firslower.co.uk)



**Chair of Governors:** John Ashley

**Governors:** Annette Anderson, Franco Cameli, Adam Campbell, Kerry Mercer, Stuart Hobbs, Grant Chaney, Amaritpal Uppal and Sarah Walker.

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back to The Firs! I hope you all had an enjoyable half term break.



### **Black History Month**

Over the last few weeks, children across the school have been taking part in activities linked with Black History Month and as in previous years, we have included some details below to give you an overview of work that has been going on across the school:

#### **Year 4 - Mary Seacole**

In Year 4, children have been finding out about the life and experiences of Mary Seacole. They watched BBC Bite Size videos to tell the story of her life and we discussed some of the barriers and discrimination she suffered as she pursued her dream of providing medical care for soldiers during the Crimean War.

Children were greatly affected by the racism she experienced and impressed with her unwavering compassion and her determination to succeed in her objective, whatever setbacks she experienced. The children showed their enthusiasm for this project in the way they set about the writing activity, producing detailed recounts of the key events around her participation in the Crimean War and her return to England afterwards.



#### **Year 3 - Celebrating Our Sisters**

In Y3, children discussed this year's theme 'Celebrating Our Sisters'. They looked at powerful and successful black women such as British Boxer Nicola Adams and scientist Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock.

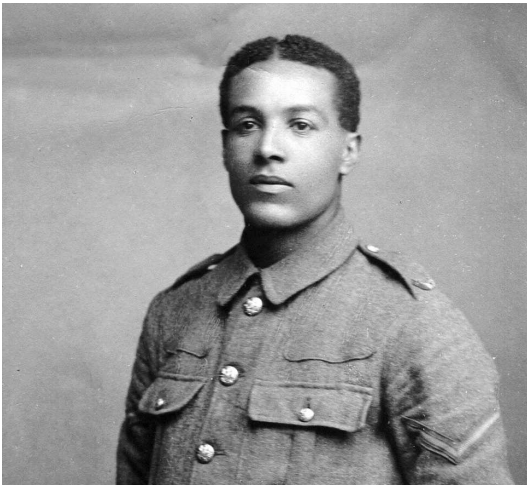
The children then carried around research reading about different successful women and answering questions. The children then each coloured in a picture to create a mural 'Celebrating Our Sisters' as seen in the picture.



#### **Year 2 - Rosa Parks**

Y2 children learnt about 'Rosa Parks' who famously and very bravely refused to give up her seat to a white person on a bus in America in 1955. Her defiance sparked a successful boycott of buses as many people refused to board the city's buses.





They also learned about 'Walter Tull', the first African-Caribbean mixed heritage man to be commissioned as an infantry officer in the British Army.

Walter Tull died aged 29 in 1918 while leading an attack on the Western front during the Second Battle of the Somme in March.

The children enjoyed creating posters and fact files about these famous people in history.

### Year 1 - Martin Luther King

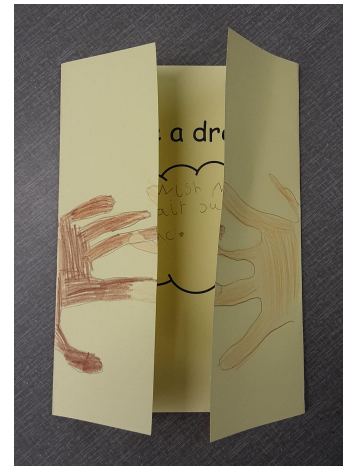
Children in Year 1 learnt about Martin Luther King in Black History Month. They watched a video about him as a child and learned about his early adult life.

They discussed how what he had experienced as a child and young man influenced him in his role as campaigner for equal rights.



They talked about his famous speech 'I have a dream' and listened to a few minutes of this. The children then thought about what their dream would be if they could have any wish.

They drew two linking hands on folded card, one with white skin and the other with black skin and wrote their dream inside.



### Year R -Afrobeats Dancing and Much More!...

The Children enjoyed learning about important black figures this week in Pine.

They heard about Rosa Parks and her fight for equality, Martin Luther King following his dream, Bob Marley and his Message of Peace and Love and finally Stormzy encouraging everyone to have a go.

The Children then had a go at some Afrobeats dancing and were brilliant at remembering the tricky moves!

### **Remembrance Day Poppies**



We will be selling Poppies from the school office over the next two weeks, please pop in or send a donation in with your child.



### PTFA Fun Run

Thank you so much for your support for the PTFA Run, which was a very enjoyable event for all the children who took part.

We will talk to the PTFA about the Y1 and Y2 part of the event that had to be postponed due to rain.

### Y3 Egyptian Day

On Thursday 19th October Y3 were visited by 'History off The Page' who led a fantastic Egyptian Day in the school hall.



Through role-play, children experienced life as it would have been in 1330 B.C. The children used authentic tools and materials whenever possible to learn skills as apprentices in a wide variety of workshops eg. lamp workers, embalmers, stone carvers, scribes, bread makers, tomb painters, amulet makers and potters.

As the day progressed, the children got involved in the issues of the time, with the chance to participate in a range of cross- curricular activities, including preparing entertainment for the Royal Banquet celebrations. There was also a story-telling session. By the end of the day, the children had a really good idea of how it felt to be an Egyptian at this time.



We would like to thank the parents who dressed up and took part in the day – your help was greatly appreciated and it would not have been able to take place without you. Thank you to the Y3 Team for organising such an enjoyable and successful 'wow' event!

**PTFA Craft Fair**

Please see attached 'save the date' PTFA Craft Fair poster. This is a lovely event and we hope to see you there!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Alan 14 Caplan", on a light blue background.