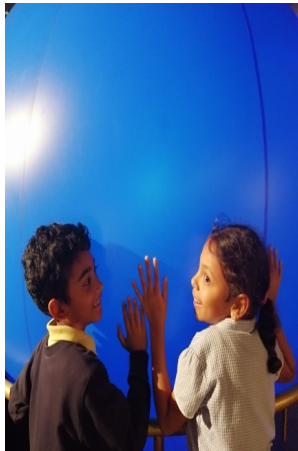




The E-Newspaper of Adamsrill Primary school

Learning and Working Together as a Community for a Brighter Future



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our October Newspaper as we look back at all that has happened this month and look forward to all that is to come in November.

In this issue, you will have some insight into what has been happening in the school as a whole, as well as what the various year groups have been doing. It has been a very busy-like term with a lot of initiatives and learning happening. So much has happened!

In Destination Reader (KS2 Y3-6) and VIPERS (KS1 Y1&2) have been successfully launched, parents maths workshop, home learning, curriculum, parents' forum and meet the team meetings have all taken place. Classes have been on educational visits, a number of classes have had their sharing assemblies, Black History Month culminated in Diversity Workshops and Celebration have happened. I want to thank all the pupils, staff, parents and carers who have engaged with these processes. We cannot do it without you.

I am also aware that most of our parents are working parents and are not always able to make some of the times we have allocated to events. Often balancing these things can be tricky as I am aware that most teachers are at work before 8am and I have to be mindful of their wellbeing. We are looking at ways of using our website to engage with parents who sometimes are unable to attend events.

Parental Engagement

I want to thank friends of Adamsrill for the hard work that they put in to ensure that Adamsrill remains a vibrant and effective community school. They raise funds for the school, and ensure that everyone has a good time in the process of doing so. The annual general meeting (AGM) was held on the 14th October 2019. So many of you parents attended and a new executive has been elected. The outgoing board did a lot for the school and did so for a long time. I want to thank Emma, Lisa for all they have done and also to congratulate newly elected members of Friends of Adamsrill Ellie Norris and Martha Lord (Co-Chairs), Nicola Jayes (secretary), Kelly Lloyd (vice-chair), Katie Tubby (treasurer), Carol Barclay (diversity/parent liaison), Donna Shrestha (creative), Cally Hibberd (sponsorship) and Hannah Morton (Eco). I am appealing to the Adamsrill community to all back them as they begin this very important journey. It is a rewarding one as our children get the benefit of it. Please look out for announcements of forthcoming activities from FOA.

In the October Parents' Forum, participants helped with the design of the school's creative curriculum. It was really valuable to have parents' perspective, this has been used to inform what we believe is a truly creative approach. I want to thank all those parents who attended and gave their input.

Safeguarding and Well-being.

We are aware that there are some 'Young Carers' amongst us.

A young carer is someone under 18 who helps look after someone in their family, or a friend, who is ill, disabled or misuses drugs or alcohol.

We do not know all the Young Carers amongst us. We would like to know who they are so that we may be able to support them. So please if your child is a young carer or you know a child in the school who is, please let Ms Caron Scott-Nadal (family liaison officer) know.

Reading

There has been a big push on reading this term. In KS2 (years 3-6), we are using a style of teaching reading called **Destination Reader**. Talk to your child about what they read, what they understand from it, what evidence (clues) they have used to come to that understanding and try to see if they can relate that to what is happening around them. I want to thank all those parents who support/encourage their children to read daily. It makes a lot of difference even if it is just for five minutes a day. All these would really support our children's enjoyment of reading and writing. Remember that we have the English workshop **on Thursday 7th November from 4-5pm.**





It's getting dark

It is a good idea if some element of your child's coat is reflective, especially if they walk home alone. Please remind your child about crossing roads carefully, especially by waiting for traffic to stop completely. Equally importantly, they must not accept lifts or engage in conversations with strangers at all.

If you are unhappy about something

This term we have had some incidents of parents (only a few, I must add) approaching pupils and sometimes staff in the playground when they have been unhappy about something. I want to bring to everyone's attention that this is not the school's expectation and we will not allow that. Our procedure is, if you are unhappy about something, you discuss it with a member of staff. The school will deal with it. Please do not approach or reprimand other people's children.

Some parents (a tiny minority I must stress) have been verbally very aggressive towards members of staff. This is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. It is very difficult to recruit good teachers and staff in London. We would like to retain the ones we have in our school, they do not have to put up with 'anti-social' behaviour so please let us all live our Adamsrill values and respect one another. We understand that sometimes parents may have issues that they are unhappy about. If this is the case, please talk to our staff politely and usually these issues can be resolved amicably. I would also like to bring to your attention that Adamsrill has a **complaint procedure**. You can access it on our website or ask the office staff for a hard copy. The school has a policy for **Abusive Parents** (see the website) and we will be using this policy where necessary.

Attendance report

Our whole school attendance is currently 95.7%. The national target is 97%.

Attendance continues to be a focus of our school, not only because of the local and national targets we are set but also because we know from worldwide research that children who are in school regularly and on time make firmer friendships, display greater resilience and achieve more later in life. The ultimate aim of attendance at our school is to foster capable young people who have the tools to become happy adults that contribute to the people and world around them.

Our children are really enjoying the Monday assemblies where they wait excitedly to find out which classes have won the Attendance and Punctuality cups that week. These symbols of achievement are one way that children can enjoy their effort as a group.

We will continue to reward individual attendance, and this term we have asked the children to take the lead on this- two of our pupils, Victory and Fatimotu in 4N volunteered to make a suggestions box and to gather the thoughts of the children on what they think attendance prizes should be. We have had a great response with requests such as craft equipment, mini lego sets and slime. All suggestions are being considered.

We intend to provide a variety of ways for children to win and achieve on attendance and punctuality and we would like you to help us to encourage our children to support each other and to be kind and understanding when a child has been ill or unavoidable unable to be at school.

Our office staff collect evidence for us, for example hospital letters and medical appointment cards, because we have to produce them when we have authorised absences from school. You may of course keep your child's condition private if you so wish by covering anything in the letter you do not wish to share with us, and we would like to remind you that our Inclusion team members, Miss O'Malley, Mr Hamil and Ms Caron are all on hand to offer you any advice and guidance you may need around attendance and illness absence.

Let's all strive together to make this Adamsrill's best term ever for attendance and punctuality!





Adamsrill Celebrates Black History Month!



Made by Class 3N

Black History Month and Start of Application Focus Week (AFW)

On Monday 14th October marked the start of our application focus week (AFW). The theme of this AFW is Migration. We are learning about migration and the reasons for it. In the spirit of Black History Month, we are celebrating the contributions migrants are making towards our community. We also found out that many of us in our school community are migrants and we value the richness which such diversity brings to our school. During AFW, we are applying the skills and knowledge we have learned this term our work on migration. This work links in with the work we are doing across the school on Connecting Classrooms Global learning (CCGL). Our Assembly on 'I am a Migrant' has been put up for all to remember. If anyone can contribute in any way to this project, please talk to your child's class teacher or send an email to the Headteacher via the school's email address. It could be a dance, a story, artefacts etc, that tell a migrant's story. Mrs Scott led on the diversity celebration workshops this term. For the first time since I have been at Adamsrill, we had Steel Pan Band in school. Children participated in steel pan workshops and enjoyed authentic Jamaican folk songs, led by the acclaimed Steve Higgins. This celebration culminated with food from diverse cultures, an author (descendant of the wind rush generation) Beverley Ramsey, Afro Beat dance (Motherland) and parents had the opportunity to join in the fun with the children to the tune of 'Brown Girl in The Ring' (not the Bonney M version). From assembly during the day to celebrations in the evening, it was very engaging. We had various dishes from all over the world.



Mr Higgins, pupils and parents leading the singing on Diversity Celebration evening.



The Steel pan players ensured the celebration was memorable. The entire school enjoyed the chimes of the pans including the parents who came in the evening.





Nursery

This term the Nursery pupils have been learning about numbers, focusing on Nursery Rhymes like “5 Little ducks”, “Incy Wincy Spider” and “1,2,3,4,5 Once I caught a Fish alive”. We also have been learning facts about Spiders, linked to “Incy Wincy Spider” and about how to look after the planet as part of our Global Development Learning topic.

As it is Application Focus Week for Black History Month, we focused on Bob Marley, learning facts about his life and his music. We learnt the lyrics of ‘One love, One heart’ and made our own shakers using recycled pots and ribbons. We played steel pans using pots, pans and spoons, pretending to be Reggae musicians. Bob Marley was of Jamaican origin and a lot of children in our school have links with Jamaica, so it was fun to learn about this talented musician.

Thank you very much. If you have any questions or concerns, please come and talk to us.



Making musical instruments



It is so much fun to share and learn.



Percussion instruments are all around us and we make use of them.

Reception

The children in Reception continue to settle in and explore the many activities on offer inside and outside. We took part in the launch of Black History Month and the children loved the 'singing man' and the steel pans. They have been learning about Bob Marley, our AFW character, and are singing 'Three Little Birds' as well as keeping the beat with the percussion instruments. We have started our phonics journey and are up to 'b' in Read Write Inc. The children have completed their self-portraits, drawings of their families, leaves and owls as we continue to explore ourselves and the season of autumn.



Friendships are so important



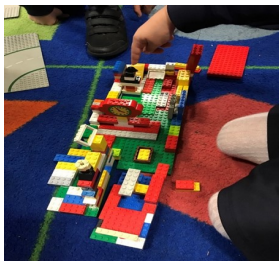
It is always fun contributing to a class orchestra and learning to play a new instrument at the same time.



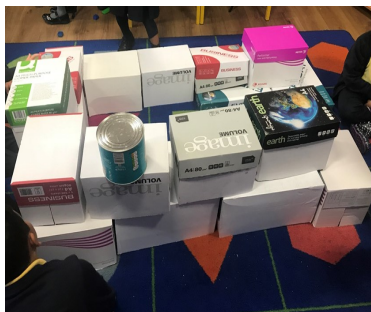


Year One

For Design and Technology, we worked as a team to construct the British Hotel that Mary Seacole ran in 1854 during the Crimean war



This is a model of The British Hotel set up by Mary Seacole. This is an aerial view of the hotel for wounded soldiers.



For Design and Technology, we worked as a team to construct the British Hotel that Mary Seacole ran in 1854 during the Crimean war.

We are pretending to be nurses at the British hotel that Mary Seacole set up during the Crimean War.



For Science we used our sense of touch, smell and sight to describe the herbal medicines that Mary Seacole used in the past. The ginger felt leathery and smooth. It looked like wood and smelt spicy.



Year Two

Year 2 have been learning about living and non-living things and looking at our local area. We went on a walk to take a survey of what we could see. Then we moved onto looking at significant music artists for black history month such as Stevie Wonder and Bob Marley. As well we looked at Rosa Parks and discussed the qualities we would take from her - determination. Finally, we have been using an app called SeeSaw to capture our learning.



The children have started to learn how to play the recorder. These lessons happen weekly.

Those of you who attended 2G's Assembly will agree with me that it was truly inspirational and very informative.

Influential African Americans who Inspired Change



- 1) What WORD describes this person? Use evidence to support your answer.
- 2) How did this person show ACTION or DETERMINATION? Use evidence to support your answer.

 Martin Luther King Jr. U.S. HISTORY MAKER Video - BrainPOP Book - Martin's Big Words	 Rosa Parks U.S. HISTORY MAKER Book - I Am Rosa Parks	 Jackie Robinson ATHLETE Video - BrainPOP Book - I Am Jackie Robinson	 Ruby Bridges U.S. HISTORY MAKER Book - The Story of Ruby Bridges
 Jesse Owens ATHLETE Video - Jesse Owens	 Bessie Coleman EXPLORER Video - Bessie Coleman	 Harriet Tubman U.S. HISTORY MAKER Video - Harriet Tubman	 Louis Armstrong MUSICIAN Video - Louis Armstrong

Miss Roberts 'Pupils watched a video of Rosa Parks, wrote notes and recorded their voices.'

Scan with Seesaw to Listen to this work!





Year Three

The first part of the autumn term was a busy one and the children have settled back well into the school routine. Our trip to Chislehurst caves was a successful one. Thank you to the parents who volunteered. The children enjoyed themselves and learnt a lot about the rocks and tunnels under Kent. We have also started our Ukulele Lessons every Tuesday. These have started off well. The children had a music workshop to celebrate Black History Month, where the children learnt how to play the steel pans and also learnt some Caribbean folk songs and games. They have explored black migration as the focus of their AFW, where they will be amalgamating all the skills learnt last term to produce some work for a School display.



At Chislehurst Cave



It was fun trying out the Still Pans .



Strumming their ukulele: sometimes the beginning can be tricky, but practice makes it better

Year Four

Our Year Four children have experienced a wide and varied curriculum in Autumn Term One. During their Science topic 'Animals Including Humans' they have learned all about the digestive system and the functions of their teeth. They had the opportunity to visit the Science Museum where they enjoyed a Workshop called 'It takes Guts'. They also carried out a tooth decay experiment in class, using hard boiled eggs and various drinks (see pictures).



During Black History month they took part in a steel pans workshop which they thoroughly enjoyed. Linked to Black History Month, they have also been learning about black migration for application focus week. The children have worked in groups to produce recounts, poems, biographies, sculptures, protest placards and even information on what black migrants ate and how it may have affected their digestive system. They are thoroughly enjoying 'Destination Reader' our new approach to teaching reading and are showing amazing learning behaviours whilst implementing the strategies taught to improve their reading. Maths has always been a highlight of their day and this is evident in the work they have produced. Task Based lessons in maths mean the children can work collaboratively and support each other. (See pictures). Global learning is a new topic that we now teach and the children thoroughly enjoyed learning about gender stereotypes. Children were given the opportunity to think about characteristics they ascribe to either boys or girls. They learned about the idea of "stereotypes" and considered whether gender stereotypes are fair or unfair. They also discussed how it feels to not conform to socially defined gender norms. They will continue learn about the sustainable development goals.



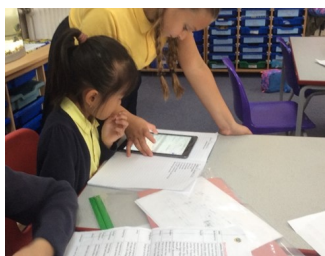


Year Five

Year 5 have enjoyed learning about the Earth, Sun and Moon. We have recently been learning about The Maroons for Black History Month as well as a variety of historical and geographical information about Jamaica. We have also begun our Global Learning lessons; in Year 5 we have started by discussing inequality and what this may mean for us.



This term our topic will be 'What are you made of?'. In Science, we will focus on the Properties of Materials, including the investigation of changing state using a range of experimental techniques; pupils will also have the opportunity to use and apply some scientific skills. In literacy we will be focusing on the text 'The Tin Forest'. Please make sure that pupils continue bring in their own individual reading book



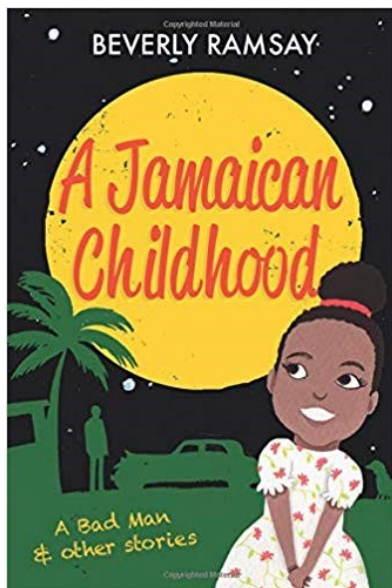
Year Six

Last half term was pretty busy for the year 6. We had the 6B class assembly where we shared our diary entries written in role as the Lady of Shalott.

Head Boy and Head Girl were elected. Congratulations to Head boy Christopher Ngandu, Deputy Head Boy Darshan Dave, Head Girl Ruby O'brien - Fennessy and Deputy Head Girl Mylee Weston were elected.

Afro beats club helped with the open morning.

Beverley Ramsey the author of "Jamaican Childhood" visited us during Black History Month Launch
Steel Pan and singing workshops - both really engaging and entertaining.



Learning about apartheid and Nelson Mandela's life sparked very interesting debates about human rights; so did learning about Caster Semenya who's story brought about the conversation about gender equality.

Year 6, taking on the role of Nelson Mandela, recorded their own interviews in StopMotion and created ebooks about South Africa.

We were also investigating water cycle and creating own mini water cycles in class.

Learning about the importance of water sanitation and relating it to global goals.

We visited Creekside at the start of the year.

We had a Maths Workshop on the 3rd October.





Dates for your diary

- 4th November - Target setting day 16:00-18:00**
- 5th November - 1B & 1G Trip to Crystal Palace Park at 9:30am**
- 6th November - 1N Trip to Crystal Palace Park at 9:30am**
- 6th November - Reception Open Day for new pupils 14:00**
- 7th November - English workshop - 16:00-17:00 parents to attend**
- 7th November - 6G Class Assembly 9:05am -parents to attend**
- 8th November - Brass Ensemble –Dulwich College students presenting (pupils only)**
- 11th-15th November - Bikeability Level 2 Years 5&6 only**
- 14th November - 3B Class Assembly 9:05am -parents to attend**
- 19th November - Singles and Siblings Photos**
- 19th November - Achievement and Standards Governing Body Committee Meeting**
- 20th November - Reception Open Morning for new pupils**
- 21st November - 1G's Class Assembly 9:05 Parents to attend**
- 26th November - Y4 Trip to the British Museum 9:15-3:30**
- 28th November - 5G's Assembly 9:05 Parents to attend**
- 4th December - Children's Christmas Dinner**
- 4th December - Full Governing Body Meeting 18:00**
- 5th December – Adamsrill Winter fair 16:00-18:00pm**
- 5th December - 4G's class Assembly 9:05 Parents to attend**
- 12th December - Pupils' Artwork Exhibition and Sale 14:30-16:15 (main hall)**
- 16th December - Class Christmas parties**
- 17th December - Years 1&2 Christmas Production 14:30pm**
- 18th December - Years 3-6 Christmas Carol concert 9:15-10:15am**
- 19th December - Christmas Pantomime (Aladdin) 9:05-10:30**
- 19th December – Last day of term- SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2pm**

