

# ELIOT BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL SPECIAL EDITION NEWSLETTER

## Black History Month

# BHM

**Welcome to our special edition newsletter.** This edition focusses on the work created as the children celebrated this year's Black History Month. At Eliot Bank we are looking for opportunities to ensure our fantastically diverse community are represented in our curriculum. This year this has included an increased focus during BHM. This year the pupils have enjoyed virtual theatre productions, they have looked at the impact of a range of historical figures and music assemblies explored the history of black music. The children have also responded to a black artist and they have had a black author focus. The work below is a sample of what has been going on in school.

### Theatre companies

To celebrate Black History Month the school bought in a range of theatre productions. These enabled the children to learn about black history through a fun and engaging drama experience.

In Year 1 and Year 2, the children watched a Big Foot Arts Theatre production where the actors retold an Anansi tale 'Come an' see Anansi'



In Year 3 and Year 4, the children watched 'All Aboard the Empire Windrush'



The children in Year 5 and Year 6 watched 'Africa my story'

The children at Eliot Bank love the chance to explore new artists and for Black History month each year group had a different artist to respond to. From the work of Alma Woodsey Thomas to Yinka Shonibare the children have discovered new artists to admire.

### Year 6



Looked at the work of Kehinde Wiley an American portrait painter who was commissioned to paint a portrait of Barack Obama.



Kehinde Wiley

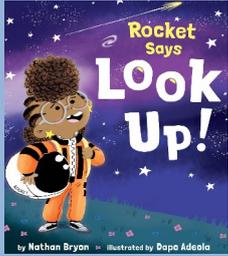
The Year 6 response- isn't their work fantastic!





### Year 2

The children in Year 2 read the book 'Look Up' by Nathan Bryon. The book was about a character called Rocket. Her dream was to become the greatest astronaut, star-catcher, space-traveller who has ever lived, like Mae Jemison, the first African American woman in space.



This led them to think about their own hopes and dreams for future. They talked about people who have inspired them and they were keen to learn more about Mae Jemison in the coming months.



Yinka Shonibare



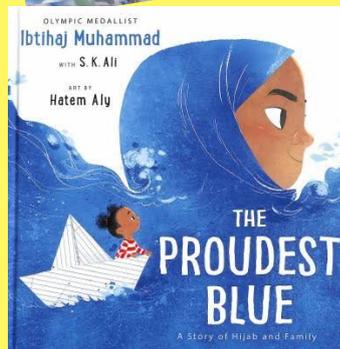
Year 2 looked at the work of Yinka Shonibare, they were inspired by his use of shape and the patterns that occur in the wax prints he uses.



### Year 4 Frank Bowling



The children in Year 4 researched the work of the 86 year old British artist and were inspired to create abstract art in response to his vibrant artworks.



In English, the children wrote an

autobiography after reading about the amazing life of Ibtihaj Muhammad in the book 'The Proudest Blue'.

Year 4 watched the workshop by the Big Foot Theatre company and thought about what The Windrush was, Why people wanted to be part of it and how they helped Britain when they arrived.

This inspired the children to write how they might feel if they had been part of the Windrush generation.

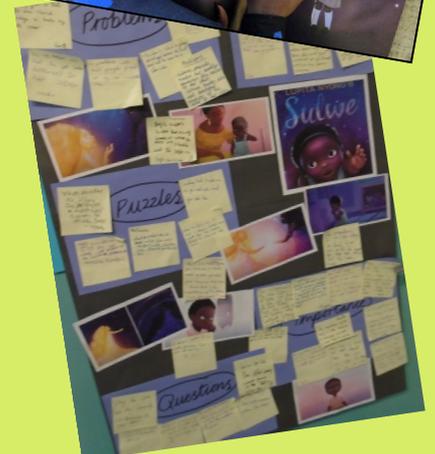


After reading a Windrush welcome poem the children wrote their own. These are now displayed outside the Year 4 classrooms.



### Year 5

After reading the book Sulwe by Lupita Nyong'o, Year 5 discussed the questions they had and what they had found interesting.





### Year 5

In their science lessons, Year 5 explored the contributions made to our understanding by black scientists.

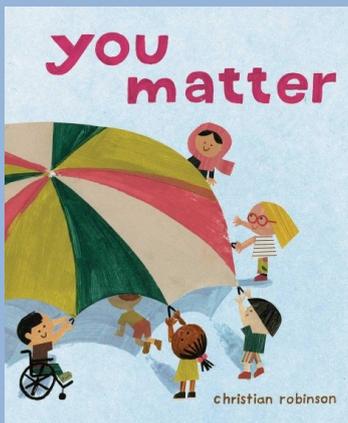


### Year 1

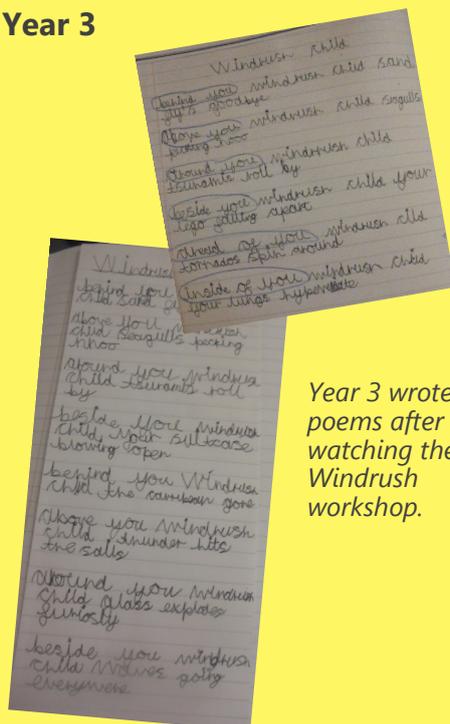
Year 1 looked at the work of Alma Woodsey Thomas and created their own versions of her circular and vertical abstract pictures.



The Year 1 children read the book 'You matter' by Christian Robinson and thought about why they were important and who was important to them.

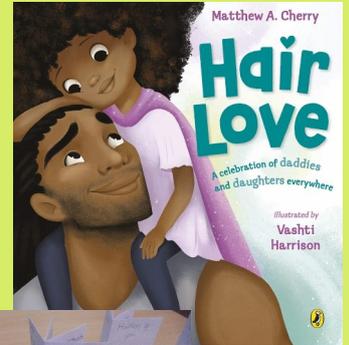


### Year 3



Year 3 wrote poems after watching the Windrush workshop.

In English Year 3 read and discussed the book 'Hair love' by Matthew Cherry. They made their own versions of the story.



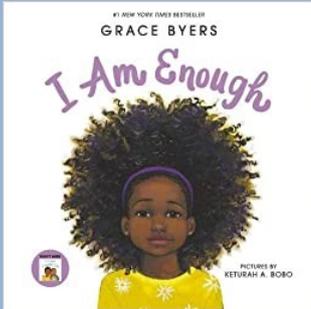
In art lessons, they responded to the artist Lois Mailou Jones.



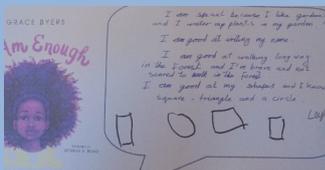
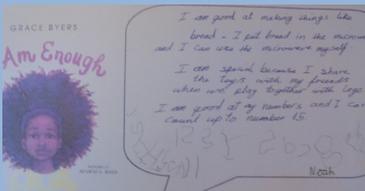


### Reception

In Reception the children used the book 'I am enough' by Grace Byers



The book encourages children to love who they are and to be kind to others. The reception children talked about all the reasons they are special and listed the things they are good at.



Reception used the work of Alma Woodsey Thomas to explore colour.



### Nursery

The children in Nursery enjoyed lots of stories from the Tata story tellers.



They listened and danced to the music of Stevie Wonder and Bob Marley and the Wailers.

Wonder and Bob Marley and the Wailers.

