Activity title: All about Africa

Activity Lead: Liam Wong

Activity Summary

Prior to COVID, Whiston Willis developed a partnership with a school from South Africa, Khulasizwe Primary School. This partnership was created based on the context of our children – we believe our children have limited experiences and understanding of different communities and cultures and therefore providing children with these experiences through our curriculum design is vital in developing children both socially and morally. Maximising links with this partnership has helped shape parts of our curriculum design; bringing learning to life. Where possible, our school curriculum is designed making links with our South Africa partnership school: whether this be through reading texts based on South Africa; researching South Africa as a country; or communicating with our partnership school directly.

Children in EYFS have analysed the text 'Bringing the rain to Kapiti Plain'. During this learning, children have explored different maps, identifying the continent Africa, made local comparisons with Africa, and been introduced to key vocabulary that will prepare them for their transition into KS1. Our children in KS1 have completed a Geography unit of work around 'South Africa'; they have used globes and atlases to locate the continent Africa and its surrounding oceans; they have located the country South Africa; they have identified physical and human features of South Africa's coastline; and they have compared South Africa to the United Kingdom. This learning is in preparation for studying the text 'Africa, Amazing Africa' by Atinuke in LKS2.

Due to COVID, missed learning was planned for through the text 'Africa, Amazing Africa' by Atinuke. Children in years 3 and 4 learnt all about the wide range of diversities, cultures and landscapes within Africa. They also completed learning around South Africa – here, teachers introduced children to our partner school 'Khulasizwe Primary School'. Children in LKS2 completed work based on their school experience compared to school in Khulasizwe Primary School – this formed part of our South Africa whole-school display. Children in UKS2 have focussed on developing their understanding of 'Gender Equality through Sport' – they have started to collaborate with children from South Africa. Children have produced posters based on the sports that they feel demonstrate 'Gender Equality through Sport' that have been shared with our partnership school. Our next step is to support our partnership school in introducing mixed-gender sport.

Pupil evaluation comments (please include year group):

- what did you enjoy about this activity?
- -what new ideas and information have you learned?
- what would you like to learn/do next?

KS1 – 'I learnt the continent song, South Africa is the second biggest continent.'

LKS2 - 'Their school day was similar to ours, but I couldn't believe the size of their school kitchen.'

LKS2 – 'I enjoyed learning about our partner school. It would be nice to talk to children from the school.'

UKS2 – 'I was shocked to learn that they didn't play the same sports as us. I also couldn't believe that boys and girls didn't play football together.'

UKS2 – 'I am more grateful for the opportunities we have in school. I couldn't imagine living their life.'

Teacher evaluation comments (please include Key Stage):

- what was effective about this activity? How could it be improved next time?
- what impact did this have on you and any other staff involved?
- what impact did this activity have on the pupils? on the school generally or on the wider community?

EYFS - Mrs Halsall – 'Children's learning in EYFS is well-planned, that it supports their learning in KS1.'

KS1 – Mrs Askew – 'Having an understanding of the journey children are going to take has really engaged me as a teacher – it is great knowing how children's learning will progress in year 3 or 4.'

LKS2 – Mrs Pender – 'Our children have developed a curiosity about the World. This has been evident through our whole curriculum but I'm excited to see how this will continue through our partnership schools, particularly our South Africa partnership.'

Parent/Visitor/Governor/Wider community evaluation comments:

-what impact has this activity had on your child?

- what impact has this activity had on you?
- how could we improve this activity next time?