

MARKEATON PRIMARY SCHOOL BROMLEY STREET DERBY DE22 1HL

Telephone: 01332 347374

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e-mail: admin@markeaton.derby.sch.uk Website: www.markeaton.derby.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr. I. Johnson (Hons) NPQH



Every week seems busy at Markeaton but this one, more so than usual! We have managed to squeeze Children's Mental Health Week and Tanzania Day, among other things, all into one!

In the first photo, some amazing African artwork from Key Stage Two – inspired by broad brushstrokes and a colourful palette! Take a look on Twitter to see more, they are amazing!

In the second photo, no...the children were not flown over to Tanzania – they are actually showcasing their safari inspired art in front of our brand new green screen!

Whilst on the topic of Tanzania, I received another email from Methusela Phanuel (Headteacher at Living Hope Primary in Tanzania). Part of it read:

Habari yako Mr Johnson? am happy to see your reply on my email which was explaining my appreciation to your teacher what they did during their visit to my our school, also I am happy to see your school and different activities you are doing in your school through your website, I expect to see more when I shall come in your country in May...

In the third photo, children in Y3 with their traditional African drums and lastly, some work around the theme of 'Finding your Brave'. The work around mental health that has been happening this week in classrooms has been fantastic and has further shone a light on this important topic. Well done to all the children and staff for their hard work!

In other news, Mr Holmes, Miss Herriman, Miss Clark and Miss Hawley have all been enjoying their brand new 65' touchscreen boards in their classrooms (imagine a giant iPad on the wall!). It's part of our ongoing commitment towards new and improved computing opportunities for the children but, as I am sure you can appreciate, these things take time as each new board costs in excess of £1500! We'll get there! Which leads me on to saying another enormous thank you to the PTFA who have funded one of these screens. Yet again, we are indebted to your hard work and all the money that you raise.

And finally, February is LGBT+ History Month – with this year's theme of Poetry, Prose and Plays being at the forefront. In terms of events in the city (of which there are many), it appears the University of Derby (which is only a stone's throw away!) has the most going on locally. Check out the website for more info:

https://www.derby.ac.uk/about/equality-and-diversity/lgbt-history-month/

Have a good weekend,

Mr I. Johnson