

## **Cinema Visit: Inspiring Courageous Advocacy, Environmental Responsibility and Growing Together**

This week, we had the absolute joy of taking all of Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 to the cinema to watch *Ozi – Voice of the Forest*. The children were exceptional ambassadors for our school; their behaviour, manners and enthusiasm were exemplary throughout the trip. Their excitement, curiosity and thoughtful reflections afterwards showed just how powerful enrichment experiences can be in deepening learning and shaping character.

### **A Film That Strengthens Our Eco-School Commitment**

As an Eco School committed to environmental responsibility, sustainability and global citizenship, *Ozi – Voice of the Forest* offered the perfect opportunity to bring our curriculum to life. The film follows Ozi, an orphaned orangutan who becomes separated from her parents when their rainforest habitat is destroyed by deforestation. She is rescued and adopted by a wildlife sanctuary and learns sign language to communicate, eventually using her voice to raise global awareness about the destruction of rainforests - especially through palm-oil farming.

This rich narrative supported and strengthened our pupils' prior learning about:

- Rainforests and global ecosystems
- The environmental impact of palm-oil production
- Habitat loss, endangered species and conservation
- How human choices affect the planet

The children were visibly moved by Ozi's story, and it sparked meaningful conversations about compassion, responsibility and making ethical choices.

### **Courageous Advocacy in Action**

Courageous advocacy is a central part of who we are as a school. We teach pupils that their voices matter and that they have the power to influence positive change - locally and globally. *Ozi – Voice of the Forest* was a perfect catalyst for this.

Through the film, pupils saw a powerful example of a young character courageously speaking out for justice, fairness and environmental protection. This linked directly to our ongoing work on:

- Using your voice respectfully but bravely
- Standing up for what is right
- Taking responsibility for the world we share
- Making change through advocacy, not apathy

Our children came away inspired, determined and energised by the message that “one voice really can change the world.”

### **A Sensitive Opportunity to Explore Adoption**

The film also offered an important opportunity to sensitively discuss adoption and alternative family structures. Ozi's experience of being separated from her birth family and cared for by loving adults helped us explore themes such as:

- What adoption means
- The many forms a family can take
- How care, love and belonging can be created in different ways
- How children can be supported through change, loss or new beginnings

These discussions were handled with compassion and age-appropriate sensitivity, ensuring all children felt respected and supported.

### **Curriculum Impact Across the School**

Following the visit, each phase of the school used the film as a stimulus for purposeful, high-quality learning linked to English, environmental education and PSHE.

#### **Year 5/6 – Using Our Voices**

Older pupils examined the power of social media, public speaking and campaigning. They reflected on how they could use their own voices to inspire others to protect the planet.

#### **Year 3/4 – Persuasive Writing**

Pupils wrote letters encouraging companies and consumers to avoid products containing unsustainable palm oil. They applied their knowledge of persuasive devices to advocate for change.

## Year 1/2 – Poster Making

Children created impactful posters urging people to save the rainforests, using images, slogans and facts to communicate clearly.

## EYFS – Learning Sign Language

Our youngest pupils explored simple sign language, linking beautifully to Ozi's journey of communication and connection.

## Growing Together Through Shared Experiences

This cinema visit perfectly embodied our ethos of **Growing Together**:

- Growing in knowledge through meaningful curriculum connections
- Growing in empathy as children felt Ozi's story deeply
- Growing in responsibility as environmental stewards
- Growing in confidence as advocates for change
- Growing as a community by sharing a memorable, joyful enrichment experience

It was more than a trip - it was an opportunity for our pupils to think deeply, feel compassionately and act courageously.

