



High Wycombe Church of England Combined School

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Monday 5th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

October is Black History Month in the UK, a time to celebrate the history, achievements, culture and contributions of Black people and communities. This year, Black History Month 2026 invites us to think more closely about the communities that shape, support and sustain us. At HWCE, we will be exploring this through the theme:

‘Celebrating Black People Who Make a Difference in Our Communities’

We would also love to involve our own school community in this learning. If you, or another family member, would like to come into school to share something about your heritage, culture or experiences, or to introduce the children to a Black person who has made a positive contribution to your community, we would be delighted to hear from you.

If you would like to take part, please email the school office with a brief outline of what you would like to share and any dates in October that would be suitable for you.

As in previous years, we will also be extending the children's learning through a special Black History Month homework activity. This will be sent home on **Friday 2nd October** and should be returned by **Wednesday 14th October**.

The children will be invited to choose a Black person, from the past or present, who has made a positive contribution to a community. This could be someone well known, somebody from our local area, or even someone known personally to the family. The homework will include a choice of creative activities so that children of all ages can take part in a way that interests and inspires them.

We hope that giving the children almost two weeks to complete their work will allow them time to find out more about their chosen person and create something they are proud to share.

Be strong and courageous: do not be afraid or discouraged for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go (Joshua 1:9)

Of course, celebrating diversity and learning about the experiences and achievements of people from different backgrounds is not something we focus on only during October. We continue to develop our curriculum so that it is inclusive, inspiring and reflective of the diverse world in which our children are growing up.

Families who would like to continue these conversations at home may also find the book recommendations on the Books for Topics website useful. These include biographies, non-fiction, books exploring Black history and stories featuring Black and ethnically diverse main characters:

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/black-lives-matter>

We are really looking forward to celebrating Black History Month together and, in particular, recognising the many ways in which people can make a positive difference to the communities around them.

We look forward to sharing some of the children's wonderful work on our school website and social media accounts during October.

Thank you, as always, for your support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Margerson". The script is cursive and fluid.

Mrs A. Margerson, Assistant Headteacher

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