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*Be strong and
courageous.....for
the Lord your God is
with you*

September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,



Black History Month in the UK is in October. During this time, we celebrate the history, arts and culture of black people. The history of Black communities has been told through lenses that often misrepresent, oversimplify, or entirely overlook the rich and diverse experiences of those who lived it. Black History Month aims to ensure children grow up with a richer, more accurate understanding of Black history.

This year the theme is **'Reclaiming Narratives'** and focuses on recognising and correcting the narratives of Black history and culture.

At HWCE, we wish to celebrate the diversity within our school and would welcome any parents or family members that would like to share their own heritage or introduce a black person that they think the children should be aware of. If this is something you would like to be a part of, please email the office, schooladmin2@highwycombcombined.bucks.sch.uk by Monday 23rd September outlining what you would like to share and when in October is suitable for you.

Homework - Friday 27th September to Wednesday 9th October

As we have done in recent years, to extend the learning about black history further, homework set this week will be around our theme. The homework will be issued on Friday 27th September and be due in on Wednesday 9th October. We hope by giving nearly 2 weeks to complete the homework, we are showing its importance and that will be reflected in what the children manage to produce.

In previous years we have loved seeing the posters and hearing the speeches that children have created about inspirational black people. We have carefully considered previous feedback and are committed to making this project a positive experience for all students, allowing them to express their creativity while learning about influential figures in a way that suits their individual strengths and interests. Your child will have the option to either:



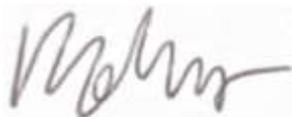
- write and practice a short speech about a famous figure in black history
- or create a poster or piece of artwork about someone who has inspired them.

Celebrating ethnic diversity is not just a focus for this month. The curriculum across the school is continually being developed to ensure it is inspirational for all and reflective of the world around us. For further help with starting important discussions with your children, follow this link for high quality book recommendations, including biographies, non-fiction, books that open conversations about racism and books featuring main characters from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds.

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

I look forward to sharing some of the wonderful work completed by the children this October via our school social media accounts and on our website.

Yours sincerely,



Miss Johns
Assistant Headteacher

