

BLACK HISTORY MONTH NEWSLETTER

23rd October 2020

During October we have been celebrating Black History Month. This has given us an opportunity to celebrate the often ignored achievements of people from African and Caribbean backgrounds.

As a school we believe that celebrating this month is extremely important and reinforces our values and desire to create an inclusive, family environment. Staff and pupils have been working very hard during October to create opportunities for us all to learn and celebrate. In particular, I would like to thank Mr Murray-Bruce, who has lead the planning for this month and ensured its success.

After half term, we are going to continue to restart our after school enrichment programme. Currently, we have Home Learning Club (Mon, Wed, Thur and Fri) and Football taking place after school. We are looking forward to offering more opportunities to year group bubbles next half term. We will also be having special assemblies on Remembrance from the year 9s who visited the WWI Battlefields last year.

Miss Morphitis
Assistant Principal

Learning Groups

In learning groups the pupils learnt about the achievements of Black people in STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) through daily slides and were able to take part in a poster competition. Below are some of the winning entries from Kurtay (7Ri), Marwa (7Jo), Wissal (8Jo), Lilly (8Ri), Hai Dang (8Jo) and Latrell (8Hi).



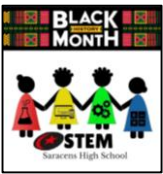
Pupils also took part in a writing task in which they explained why celebrating Black History Month was important and our winners were Reiss (9Hi) and Julia (9Hi) and their work can be seen here.

Julia 9H11

Celebrating Black History Month is important because... as a whole, we need to commemorate and celebrate all those of colour who have made a change to this world. Rosa Parks is one example of a very memorable person who made quite a big change in terms of racism. She sat on the bus where white people were supposed to sit and when told to move didn't. Martin Luther King Jr was a humanitarian who made a very famous speech which started the whole proper recognition of how bad racism was. This speech started like this: "I have a dream that one day my 4 children will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by their character." Malcolm X, another very well-known humanitarian, also went around making very important speeches. He is very well-known as he once went to prison, but when let out, started to make a difference in the world. There are still so many more people to commemorate for their work. Overall, we all need to celebrate Black History Month as it is very important to show appreciation for all of these people and the change the black community has made to our world.

Reiss 9H10

Celebrating Black History Month is important because... black history people are looked down upon and are racially discriminated in society. They are verbally and physically abused which is so unfair. Black history month is an appreciation of all the efforts and presence of black people. This racial division isn't acceptable in today's society as we have learnt about past history regarding the racism and we should not repeat it again. Black History Month teaches us things that many people wouldn't know. This event shouldn't just be for a month, it should be everyday as everyone is equal and should be treated kindly with respect. It also gives black people the recognition they deserve.




Subjects

During lessons, subjects planned activities to celebrate Black History, such as the inspirational geographers stories, icons project in art and Black STEM role models.


BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Garrett Morgan




After witnessing an accident between a horse-drawn carriage and an automobile, Morgan had an idea. His three-position traffic signal, patented in 1923, helped save lives at a time when cars, horses, and pedestrians all shared the road. But this wasn't even his most famous invention. Morgan received a patent in 1912 for his safety hood and smoke protector (a precursor to today's gas mask). His forward thinking led to saving the lives of countless people across the globe.

How would our lives differ without the work of Garrett Morgan?



Inspirational Geographers

Christopher Jackson



Christopher Jackson grew up in a working-class family in Derby to Caribbean immigrant parents, attending a local state school before studying Geology and attaining a PhD at the University of Manchester. His day-to-day role involves undertaking research in how the Earth's crust deforms, and how sediment is transported across and preserved within ancient landscapes. He also teaches students, at undergraduate and postgraduate level, how to apply this knowledge to the exploration for and production of hydrocarbons. He has worked in the energy industry, and is now a lecturer of Earth Science at Imperial College. He has won many awards and has featured on the TV programme Expedition Volcano.



Red card to racism day

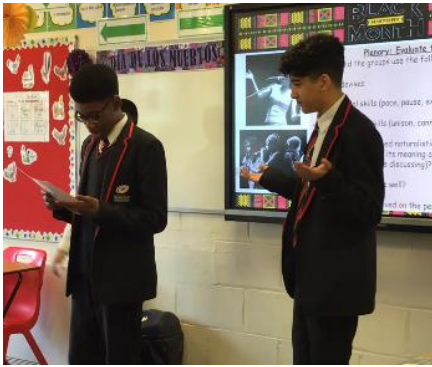
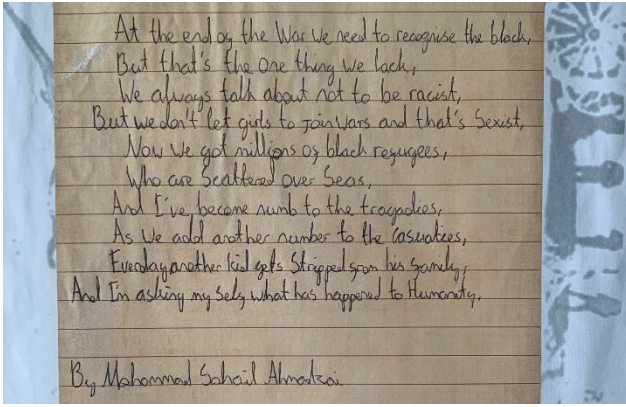
On Friday 16th October we took part in Show Racism the Red Card. Staff and pupils came to school wearing red socks and masks to show our support for this campaign. This is the 6th annual event to challenge racism across the UK.



Black History Month Day

On Friday 23rd October pupils took part in special lessons planned by the staff to celebrate inspirational Black people. Sessions covered topics such as remembering the forgotten Black soldiers from WWI, creating medals, wreaths and writing letters about their achievements. They also created an app of famous Black STEM people, learnt about the contributions of Black people to sport and created poems and raps. Below are some photos of their work and the pupils in sessions.

Pupils also took part in a quiz during learning group with 8 Trenchard winning.



White privilege

What is so superior about white skin?
Pale, blank and lifeless
If there's so much range,
Why do we focus on whites?
People of colour: BAME
Their history is limited to a month
Yet whites are the standard
For history and beauty
By Amina H, Alisha B, Dalia, Nada and Zulekha (9Jo)



Many people see the world as a world with equality but they don't show the struggles of black minorities. Fitting into the white beauty standards is considered a priority but then they don't wanna take responsibility. They say they did it based on curiosity but then they don't respect black people's superiority. Black is king.
By Laila and Faten (9Jo)

