

Black History Month

Dear Parents/Carers,

This year, the theme for Black History Month is 'Honouring Our Communities', which is not simply about place or postcode. It is about people. It is about recognising individuals whose contributions are part of everyday life, yet too often go unseen.

Black History Month 2026 will celebrate those consistent acts of care, leadership and responsibility within communities that have helped shape and sustain Britain. There are individuals who show up every day for others. Volunteers who give their time without expectation. Teachers who shape futures far beyond the classroom. Nurses and carers who offer dignity and compassion in moments that matter most. Community leaders and organisers who bring people together, often working quietly, without recognition. 'Honouring Our Communities' is about making those contributions visible.

It asks us to consider whose work we value, whose stories we tell, and whose contributions we may have overlooked. Throughout Black History Month 2026, we will be sharing stories from across the UK that reflect this focus. Stories of individuals making a difference where they are. Stories rooted in place, in connection, and in lived experience. Their work is shaping our collective future within our communities. Among those being recognised are Professor Sir Patrick Vernon OBE, whose campaigning and heritage work has helped bring greater recognition to the Windrush Generation.

We have the following exciting events planned:

Monday 28th September – Years 2 and 3 will be taking part in steel pans workshops at Woodpecker Hall Primary to explore the impact on cultural music throughout the years as part of Black history.

Tuesday 20th October – Years 3,4 and 6 will undertake a workshop celebrating the wealth of talent that exists within Britain due to the many black people who have contributed, and continue to contribute, to our society. From incredible scientists and activists, to musicians and politicians and writers, we're excited to introduce students to inspiring individuals who have helped shape the world.

Tuesday 20th October Years 1, 2 and 5 will be part of a Windrush experience, and hear the real stories of those who came to Britain in 1948 to start a new life including their achievements. They will study how this pivotal period in history teaches us lessons about embracing multicultural Britain today.

If your child is in Years 2-6, we kindly ask for a voluntary contribution of £1.50 to support funding of these engaging workshops. **Please make payment via arbor.**

For Nursery, Reception, years 1 and 2, we would like to ask if any family members would be interested in coming in to share a story/photographs, which could be a story from your own culture or the story of how your family may have arrived to Britain if your family originated from abroad.

If you are interested, please email the office and I will be in contact to discuss further with you.

H. Ayer
Deputy Head teacher