



Thursday 16th October 2025

Re: Black History Month at Grazebrook Primary



Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of **Grazebrook Primary School's** commitment to a rich, balanced, and inclusive curriculum, the study of **Black History** is fundamentally woven into our learning throughout the entire academic year. While we take the opportunity in the **Autumn Term** (during Black History Month) to launch and highlight these studies, children will continuously revisit and build upon their understanding of the experiences and profound contributions of Black people to British and global history.

This year-round approach ensures children develop a deep and critical historical perspective, exploring the challenges faced, the resilience shown, and the lasting positive impact of Black communities globally.

Key historical areas we focus on include:

- **Celebrating Achievement and Success:** Highlighting influential figures across historical eras.
- **Commemorating Significant Journeys and Contributions:** Examining the political, social, and cultural impact of Black people throughout history.
- **Developing Critical Historical Skills:** Understanding how to challenge injustice and recognise the

Please see the links to the specific History topics scheduled for each year group in our curriculum overview:

<p>YN</p> <p>History: All About Me (Aut 1), History: Christmas (Aut 2), History: Lunar New Year (Spr 1), History: Holi (Sum 1), History: Starting Big School (Sum 2)</p>	<p>Early Exploration of Diversity: Ensuring celebrations and stories reflect diverse global cultures and people of Black heritage, fostering kindness and inclusion through core themes like family and traditions.</p>
<p>YR</p> <p>History: All About Me (Aut 1), History: Toys (Aut 2), History: Homes (Spr 1), History: Super Duper Me (Sum 2)</p>	<p>Awareness and Inclusion: Celebrating and recognising differences in heritage and culture as part of identity. Reading diverse stories about Black families and communities across the world.</p>
<p>Y1</p> <p>History: Now and Then (Aut 2), History: The Great Fire of London (Sum 2)</p>	<p>Focusing on the theme of Rights and Fairness through historical examples (e.g., the Bristol Bus Boycott). Exploring the lives of diverse people in past events like The Great Fire of London.</p>

Y2	History: Hackney's History (Aut 2), History: Marvellous Medics (Spr 2), History: The Victorians (Sum 2)	Highlighting the Windrush Generation and the history of migration in Hackney's History . Celebrating figures like Mary Seacole (Marvellous Medics) and exploring the lives of Black people in the Victorian era.
Y3	History: Stone Age to Iron Age (Aut 2), History: Ancient Civilizations (Spr 2), History: Ancient Egypt (Sum 2)	Introducing the Ancient Civilizations of Africa (e.g., Kush, Nubia) as part of the broader ancient world study. Exploring the role and contributions of Africa in pre-modern history.
Y4	History: The Romans (Aut 2), History: Anglo Saxons (Spr 2), History: Leisure & Entertainment (Sum 2)	Studying the presence of Black people in Roman Britain (e.g., historical evidence of African inhabitants). Reviewing the contributions of Black Britons to modern culture, sports, and entertainment.
Y5	History: The Vikings (Aut 2), History: The Greeks (Spr 2), History: Islamic Civilisation (Summer 2)	Exploring the Golden Age of Islamic Civilisation and the achievements of scholars and empires across Africa and the Middle East. Examining the roots of African knowledge and innovation.
Y6	History: Benin (Aut 2), History: Building the Past (Spr 2), History: British Empire (Summer 2)	Central Focus: Deep dive into the history of the Kingdom of Benin (pre-colonial West Africa). Critical study of the British Empire and the legacy of colonialism, slavery, and the resulting diaspora across the year.

To further bring our Black History curriculum to life throughout the year, we've planned exciting enrichment opportunities, including drumming lessons for Y3 or educational visits such as Y2's trip to the Nightingale Museum to learn more about Mary Seacole, a problem solving designing workshop at the V&A for Y4, dedicated workshops on Significant Black figures in British history at the National Portrait Gallery for Y5, a Benin inspired visit at the British Museum for Y6 and many more!

Community Engagement: Share Your History

We believe that our curriculum is best brought to life when it reflects the rich diversity of our school community. We warmly invite parents, carers, and family members to share their own historical and cultural knowledge with our pupils.

If you have personal or professional experience, knowledge, or expertise related to Black history, culture, or achievement that you would be willing to share—perhaps by leading a talk, reading a story, or running a short workshop—please contact the school office. Your unique perspective would be invaluable in enriching the children's learning experience throughout the year.

Thank you for your continuous support,
The Curriculum Team

