

Black History Month

Time For Change: Action Not Words



Black History Month is to **honour** the contributions made to society by people of Black heritage and their communities.

It is a time to **educate** and **enrich** the world with the importance of Black history

Prayer

**God of our Salvation,
you have created the people of the world in your own image:
Give us grace, we pray, to rejoice in the differences of culture,
language, and race by which you have enriched humanity;
to repent when we fail to recognise Christ in one another;
and to pursue justice and peace for all your children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who, taking our human nature,
accepted death upon the cross, and lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit,
one God, now and for eternity.
Amen.**

What is Black History Month?

- Black History Month is a time set aside each year to celebrate the achievements of Black men and women in the past and today.
- Ever wonder why Black History Month is in October? In 1926, historian and journalist Carter G. Woodson started "Negro History Week" to focus on [black history](#) and culture, which was left out of school curricula. Initially celebrated each year during the second week of the second month, the thirst to study black history grew so strong that eventually the holiday expanded to the entire month.



Why do we have Black History Month?

Why do you think we have Black History month?

- Black people have not always been treated equally simply because of the colour of their skin.

Do you know of any examples or stories of when Black people have been treated unfairly in the past?

- One example is that in America, Black and White people had to sit in different seats on a bus or public places, like the cinema.



White

Black

Black history is all year long

October gives us a reason to focus on black history, but it's crucial to teach kids that the subject is worth revisiting throughout the entire year. Whether it's watching documentaries, visiting museums or reading literature by black authors, you can participate while encouraging understanding and tolerance.

Why do we celebrate Black History Month?

Black history month is a chance for us to remember and celebrate the heroism and accomplishments of Black Britons who have often not been recognised or remembered significantly in the past. The focus this year is on **action not words**. This recognises that although it is important for us to remember events in the past, in order for things to change, we also need to look to the future. For there to be real change, all members of the community need to take action and challenge racism and discrimination in all areas of life.

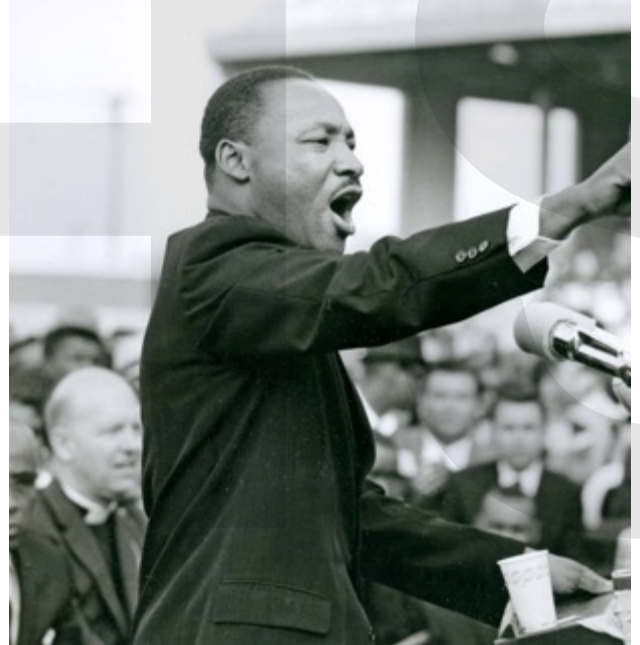
Why do we have Black History Month?

- Lots of people knew that this was wrong and wanted things to change.
- Martin Luther King is very well known for what he believed and stood up for.

Let's watch this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4xXZhXTFWnE>

- President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976. Since then, every American president has made sure it is celebrated each year with a different theme.





Joyft

When is Black History Month?

- Black History Month takes place annually in October in the UK and in February in America.
- There is a different theme each year.
- The theme for 2022 is 'Action not words' and different events are planned to take place throughout the month.

Reflection: How can we fight intolerance in our everyday lives?

Famous Black Men and Women

- **Nelson Mandela**
1918 - 2013
- Nelson Mandela was the first Black South African President. He spent 27 years in prison for trying to change things so that both Black and White people had equal rights. Many people around the world thought he was a hero and respected him for his courage and wisdom in bringing people together and living in peace.



Famous Black Men and Women

- **Rosa Parks**
1913-2005
- Rosa Parks was born in America and, as a child, she was used to having to sit at the back of a bus because she had Black skin but she didn't think that this was fair. One day on a bus, she refused to give her seat to a White person just because she was Black. She was arrested by the police and fined for breaking the rules but other Black people and some White people agreed with Rosa and made this clear to the American government. Eventually, they changed the rule and Black people no longer had to sit in a separate section of the bus or give up their seat to someone just because of the colour of their skin.



Famous Black Men and Women

- **Barack Obama**
1961 – present day
- Barack Obama was born in Hawaii on 4th August 1961. His father is from Kenya and his mother is from Kansas.
- On 4th November 2008, he became the 44th American President. He is the first African-American president in the United States of America.



Lois Mailou Jones



- 1905-1998
- She an influential artist and teacher. Jones was one of the most notable figures to attain fame for her art while living as a black person in Paris during the 1930's and 1940's.
- Her paintings were noted for strong colour and design.
- Her solo exhibition at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts was the first exhibition by an African American artist.



Celebrating Black Heroes of the Past

Task - Watch this [clip](#) on Walter Tull.

Reflection: What challenges do you think Tull would have faced in his football and army careers? Why is he important in history?

Celebrating Black Heroes of the Present

Task - Watch this [clip](#) on Marcus Rashford.

Reflection: Other than football skills, what qualities do you think Marcus Rashford shares with Walter Tull?

Marcus Rashford lives around 100 years after the heroic story of Walter Tull, a period of time which has seen black people excel in all different areas of life.

Reflection: Do you think that as a result of this Rashford lives in a country free from racism?

Ext - Do you think he would have had the same starting positions as a white person in the UK?

Celebrating Black Heroes of the Present

Task - Watch this [clip](#).

The focus of this Black History Month is 'time for change: action not words'.

Reflection

What actions do you think we can all do to ensure that our black heroes as well as all members of our black communities can say that they live in a place in the world without discrimination or racism?

How can we put our virtues of being loving and compassionate into action?

I Dream A World

I dream a world where man
No other man will scorn,
Where love will bless the earth
And peace its paths adorn
I dream a world where all
Will know sweet freedom's way,
Where greed no longer saps the soul
Nor avarice blights our day.
A world I dream where black or white,
Whatever race you be,
Will share the bounties of the earth
And every man is free,
Where wretchedness will hang its head
And joy, like a pearl,
Attends the needs of all mankind-
Of such I dream, my world!

- *Langston Hughes*

What is the key
message of this
poem by
Langston
Hughes?

Remember

Spend some time this month looking at and listening to the stories of the great British heroes who have been overlooked.

We can not expect those facing the racism and discrimination to also be the ones to change it. It is important that we are all allies in order to make a greater world for the future.

You can read many more interesting stories from the past and present [here](#).

The Library

- Thank you to Mrs McCartney, our librarian for putting a fantastic resource together. Below you will find a link to a set of slides celebrating some of the black authors and stories available in the library.
- It is important that all students see themselves represented in the books they read and there are many more books available to borrow.
- Some of the books on the slide-show have clickable links which will take you to extracts of the books, there is also some information on Black History Month UK on the last slide.

[Black History Month Book Celebration](#)

Plenary

Tell your partner of a black person who you greatly admire from the present or the past.