



GGA Presents

Black History Month 2017



Black History month is an annual celebration to recognise the history and accomplishments of black people. In schools across the UK, students learn about inspirational figures such as Dr Martin Luther King Jr, Rosa Parks, Nelson Mandela and many others. In the UK, Black History Month has been celebrated since 1987, it is held in the month of October. It is also celebrated annually in the United States and Canada, as well as the Netherlands. The UK not only recognises the contributions of those from African and Caribbean heritage, but those from Asia too.

BHM began as a way for remembering important people and events in the history of black people who had been displaced in the Atlantic and Arab slave trades. Prime Minister, Theresa May says, it an opportunity for us all to recognise the incredible achievements of successful African and Caribbean men and women across sectors including financial services, retail, media, the arts, science and technology and sport. Equally, Black History Month is a time when we can be thankful for the huge progress made in the UK over recent decades in tackling racist attitudes, increasing diversity, and improving equality of opportunity - while of course recognising that we still have much further to go.

Here are some of the areas of study across the school. All children will have an opportunity to participate in an arts based workshop to enhance their learning experience.



Year 4 have been studying Ruby Bridges who was the first African American child to go to a school with white children in Southern America. They will also be making clay models of inspirational people from the past and present.



Year 5 have been researching the contribution that Mary Seacole made during the Crimean War. This has linked nicely to their topic about Victorians. The children of year 5 have got creative with local artist Anne-Marie Stijelja by recreating handbags and shoes based of the inspirational figure Mabel Suglo from Ghana who won the Anzisha Prize in 2015. One class got the opportunity to speak to Mabel via Skype!



Year 2 have been exploring the life of Rosa Parks. Rosa refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery bus which caused wide world news and led to the civil rights movement. The children will be learning about the history of African drumming that has been handed down from one generation to the next village elders, this will be delivered through a drumming workshop .