

Summary of key points from Race Awareness Group meeting 27/11/24

1. Michael, Deputy Head Teacher, updated on key actions taken by the school since our last meeting in June under the following headings:
 - a. Headlines – this is our main method of reminding parents about our meetings but text reminders are also sent.
 - i. Prompts from the PSA and direct approaches to parents helped to ensure that about 12 parents attended the meeting this time. However, we need more from all communities.
 - b. Horizons – we have a grant for £500 to put towards our work on race equity. We will update how this money has helped in a future meeting.
 - c. The Haringey Pledge
 - i. This has now been signed and is displayed in the foyer by Reception.
 - ii. The wording is not static and can be amended in the future.
 - d. Black History Month – We celebrated Black History Month in October based on the theme of Reclaiming Narratives. We focused on highlighting untold stories and histories of Black people in the UK. This theme was chosen to honour heroes, embrace stories, empower and educate. Each year group chose a different person to focus on and then shared their learning in a whole school assembly. A sample of work is displayed around school.
 - e. Curriculum – We discussed how our music curriculum has been adapted and incorporates a rich mixture of musical influences and genres from different countries and cultures around the world. It was mentioned that we have a ‘composer of the term’ and that these composers are diverse.
 - f. Support for Parents – Parents were reminded that support is available for discussions around race and if they have any concerns in this area, they can get in touch with the school.
2. Staff Training
 - a. Modern Challenges for our Children – Amanda, English Lead and new Race Equity Champion, gave a talk on the recent training that all staff attended in November. Jeffrey Boakye (author, educator, journalist and broadcaster) led staff in a discussion about race. Amanda narrated an incident that happened to Jeffrey that led him to state that, when talking about race, many people are ‘scared of getting it wrong’. This led to a discussion about what we can do to help change this.
 - b. It was discussed that change can come through many forms, including (but not limited to):
 - i. Having difficult conversations and making this more acceptable
 - ii. Celebrating different cultures
 - iii. Addressing histories of oppression and resistance
 - iv. Recognising marginalised narratives

Suggestions were put forward for Cultural Day - a celebration of diversity. This was confirmed as taking place this academic year.

- Whole school day with staff and children and then after school with parents and children
- Include performances by adults and children
- Displays by children – could include experiences of visits to different countries

- Families bring food to share
 - Invite speakers to run workshops
 - In spring / summer to make full use of the grounds / space
3. Next meeting: Date to be agreed but in the spring term. Parents were asked to suggest any possible agenda items in advance of then.

27/11/24