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Autumn Term, Edition 2

## Black History Week

On 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023, we were lucky enough to sit down with Mrs Adjebeng, our history coordinator, to discuss Black History Month.

Originating in America, and travelling to the UK, Black History Month's purpose is to raise awareness of important, historical figures from around the world with different ethnic and cultural backgrounds – like Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King. While Black History is usually celebrated for a whole month in the UK, we learnt about it during a special week at Lantern Lane. Because our teachers have been thinking about improving our art and music lessons, we incorporated those subjects into our Black History Week. Every year, there is a different theme and this year it was 'Saluting Sisters' – zooming in on female black figures that have impacted our lives, such as Lorna Simpson and Ella Fitzgerald.

Mrs Adjebeng let us have a sneak preview of her history portfolio to see all the art and music-related work, linked to Black History Month, produced over the week. While all of the art pieces were unique, some of the most impressive work (in our opinion!) came from Year 2 and Year 3. Year 2 incorporated their colour mixing learning into their art to produce an eye-catching backdrop for their black silhouettes as they took inspiration from Aaron Douglas. Taking inspiration from Yinka Shonibare, Year 3 decided to use different types of fabric – with prints from different cultures and backgrounds - to produce a beautiful collage. Here are some of our favourite pieces:



Mrs Adjebeng's next goal is to take this one step further: to incorporate elements of Black History into everyday lessons at Lantern Lane, rather than having it restricted to one week.

## An Interview with Mrs Butler

We wanted to find out what Mrs Butler thought about our school and its values. We thought this was important because we wanted to know why she put them in place and how they affect us. We also wanted to know what – in our headteacher's opinion - makes our school special.

When we asked Mrs Butler what the best part of her job was, she firstly told us it was getting an infinite number of cups of tea. However, she then admitted that it was also changing children's lives. Mrs Butler said the best improvement she made was introducing the C.A.R.E values and the house system. Mrs Butler explained that her highlight of her time as a headteacher was seeing children who had struggled with certain parts in school do their Leavers' Assembly, knowing they are ready for secondary school. When asked about the staff at Lantern Lane, Mrs Butler said they were special because they had a good sense of humour and they get on really well. After being asked what a Lantern Lane role model is, she responded by telling us that it is a student who shows the C.A.R.E values. Mrs Butler outlined that she liked the house system because it brings an element of friendly competition. She also liked how the younger children and the older children mixed, which doesn't happen at lunch times currently. We then asked Mrs Butler about what she thought was the best part of Lantern Lane; she replied with "Me of course!" (jokingly) and then she said - for real this time - "It's amazing!"



Some of our journalists with Mrs Butler, Lantern Lane's headteacher

## Who are the Wellbeing Ambassadors?

In Year 6, we have a small group of students called the Wellbeing Ambassadors. They help to keep the people of Lantern Lane happy so they meet early on a Wednesday morning to discuss their plans for the future. The ambassadors have a purple badge for everybody in the playground to identify who they can go to if they're upset, worried or having a fall out.

As Wellbeing Ambassadors, we are hoping to raise enough money to buy a weighted doll, which you can hug, for people with dementia (when you get old and begin to forget things). To raise money for this, we are having a cake sale with baked goods. Next February, we hope to attend Nottingham Racecourse to take part in their wellbeing event.

### **It's always good to have a laugh!**

We were able to interview Mr Thomas and had a good laugh on a rainy Thursday evening. He was keen to provide us with tips to make every day funnier; one tip he gave us was about remaining respectful. He said that it's often best to make fun of yourself through your comedy, rather than making fun of others. Below, you will find the questions we asked him and some jokes you may use yourself as well - oh, and also a few of Mr T's hilarious life stories!

### ***What are Mr T's favourite types of jokes?***

- His best jokes are when it's aimed at him because, if he makes fun of himself, he is not hurting anybody else's feelings.
- If he comes across Mrs Genders, Mr T might deliberately wind her up (annoy her).
- He loves to sing silly songs about people.
- He likes to prank call. For example, when he shared an office with Mrs Butler, he would prank call her from across the room.
- Mr T's best jokes are jokes with a little rudeness to them and some with a play on words.
- He said that the best jokes are jokes that make children laugh and make them come to school happily every day.

### ***What is the funniest thing that has happened to you?***

- Whilst telling a joke and making some sound effects, some type of "gas" escaped from Mr T, then everyone just ran for their life.
- Mr T's funniest moment was when he went on a rescue boat - because he was a lifeguard. He was going to rescue someone but (plot twist!) he ended up getting saved by the person he was meant to rescue.
- He went to play cricket in Barbados and there were many mosquitos there and they were the size of hamsters. He woke up one morning and asked the man he was sharing a room with to turn on the lights then his roommate said, "I already have." Mr T said, "No you haven't! It's still dark!" Since there were loads of mosquitos in Barbados, Mr T's eyes had been stung and were very swollen; he was not able to open them. Therefore, he still thought that his roommate had not turned on the light and was lying.

### **Dodge that Ball...**

*On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 4pm to 5.30pm, our Year 6 dodgeball team entered a tournament held in the ELA hall. The team included many members of Year 6: Finley, Lilly, Olivia, Ethan, Mason, Charlie, Riley, Gracie and Millie. Mr. Smith coached the team and they had a variety of matches against Bunny, Willoughby, Millside and St Peters. Understandably, they won some and lost some. We were lucky enough to catch up with the team before the event...*

#### **Q: Why did you join the dodgeball team?**

Because dodgeball is fun and is better than football because it is less violent.

#### **Q: Do you feel confident about winning?**

I think that it could go either way because I've got a feeling in my gut saying, "You've got this" but also I have a feeling that I might get hit with the ball first. Yes, I think we will win because I am enthusiastic and my team is supportive of me. I want to work together and communicate with my team to make it easier and a fun experience.

#### **Q: What are your tactics and strategies?**

My tactics are mainly to catch the ball to get the players out and bring our teammates back in. I want to do this because it would help my team. I will try to doge attacks while my teammates try to score hits at the other team.

#### **Q: How will you distribute your team?**

Some people will be catchers and some people will be throwers.

#### **Q: Do you think you will be better at dodging or throwing during the match?**

I think I will do both as I want to experience the most out of this and my last year of Lantern Lane.

After the match, we interviewed the coach (Mr Smith). When we asked him who he thought the star player was, he responded by telling us that they were all good, but the one that shone out to him was Lilly. He suggested this was because she thanked the sports ambassadors and helped put the balls away. When asked what he enjoyed the most, his response was cheering on the players - although he also admitted that his highlight was watching the players get hit by the ball. After being asked which match he preferred (this year's or the previous year's), he responded with this year's match (but we think he said this as we were here!).

### **Here are some of Mr T's favourite jokes...**

Joke 1: Knock, knock. (Who's there?) I need up. (I need up who?) The bathrooms are just down the corridor.

Joke 2: Why did the baker have brown hands? Because he kneaded a poo.

