

St John Fisher Catholic Primary School

Kale Road, Erith, Kent DA18 4BA

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When you love to learn, you learn to love



Headteacher: Mrs K Garrett BA (Hons) NPQH

Monday, 5th October, 2026

RE: Black History Month Celebration

Dear Parents and Carers,

At St John Fisher, we are incredibly proud of the rich cultures, identities and experiences that make our school community so special. Black History Month has always been a significant and much-loved celebration in our school, providing an opportunity for our children, families and staff to come together, celebrate our heritage and recognise the remarkable contributions of Black individuals throughout history.

This year, our celebration will take place on Thursday 22nd October 2026, beginning at 9.30am, and we warmly invite you to join us for what promises to be a joyful and meaningful occasion.

Our theme this year is Identity, Equality and Inspiring Change, guided by the question:

How can the lives of others inspire us to make the world a better place?

Throughout the half-term, each class has been learning about a significant historical figure, exploring their achievements, the challenges they faced and the values we can learn from their lives. During our celebration, every class will perform a song and share their learning with the school community.

Our classes will be celebrating:

- **Reception:** A significant figure from our own school community, celebrating the contribution and inspiration of our new Year 3 teacher, Elionai Nunes.
- **Year 1:** Matthew Henson - determination, uniqueness and the belief that everyone can achieve great things.

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- **Year 2:** Bessie Coleman - courage, ambition and overcoming barriers.
- **Year 3:** Septimius Severus - recognising that Britain's history has always been shaped by people from different cultures.
- **Year 4:** Rosa Parks - justice, equality and peaceful courage.
- **Year 5:** Katherine Johnson - using our gifts and talents to make a difference in the world.
- **Year 6:** Nelson Mandela - justice, reconciliation and forgiveness.

As a Catholic community, our celebration also reflects our belief that every person is created in the image and likeness of God, deserving of dignity, respect and love. Scripture reminds us:

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

Galatians 3:28

These words remind us that our differences are not something simply to acknowledge, but something to celebrate, as we stand united in our shared humanity and our responsibility to build a more loving and just world.

Celebrating Together

To make the occasion even more special, children are warmly invited to come to school wearing their cultural clothing, celebrating the beautiful diversity of our families and heritage.

Parents and carers are also most welcome to wear their cultural clothing and, if they wish, bring a traditional dish to share. Following the children's performances, families will have the opportunity to stay, share food, enjoy one another's company and celebrate the cultures that make our community so unique.

There will also be an opportunity for parents and carers who would like to participate to share a performance of their own after the children's presentations. Whether

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through song, dance, music or another cultural expression, we would love to celebrate your talents and traditions with you.

We hope this will be a wonderful opportunity for our children to see their identities, cultures and family heritage reflected, valued and celebrated within their school.

We look forward to welcoming you on Thursday 22nd October as we come together in faith, unity and celebration, remembering that when we learn about one another, we grow in understanding, compassion and love.

With warm wishes,

Mrs K Garrett
Headteacher