

# BLM Newsletter

Black Lives Matter at John Scurr Primary School



## Worldwide BLM Protests



Hyde Park, London



Binnish, Syria



Auckland, New Zealand



Amsterdam, Netherlands



New York, USA

## #blacklivesmatter

At John Scurr we encourage our children to be inquisitive and ask questions. The death of George Floyd in America has sparked outrage across the world, starting important conversations about race and what it means to be a person of colour today.



The global Black Lives Matter protests give us the perfect opportunity to listen to our children and encourage debate and discussion about race and inequality within the home.

With this in mind, we have put together some resources which should give you more confidence to start a discussion and to help ease any anxieties your child may have.



## George Floyd

On May 25<sup>th</sup> 2020, George Floyd, an African-American man, was killed in Minnesota USA while in police custody. This is one of many killings of African-Americans at the hands of the American police.

Mr Floyd's death has sparked protests across the US with demonstrators desperately calling for an end to police violence. He was an unarmed black man who died after a Minneapolis police officer knelt on his neck for more than eight minutes as he told them "I can't breathe".

He moved to Minneapolis after being released from prison and was known as a "gentle giant" who was trying to turn his life around.

This injustice has outraged and broken the hearts of millions of people around the world, many of whom have taken to protesting to have their voices heard.

## We stand against racism in all its forms

We do not shy away from broaching challenging topics about injustice and inequality. We understand that the death of George Floyd will have caused strong emotions within our community; we are outraged too.



John Scurr Primary School

# Useful resources

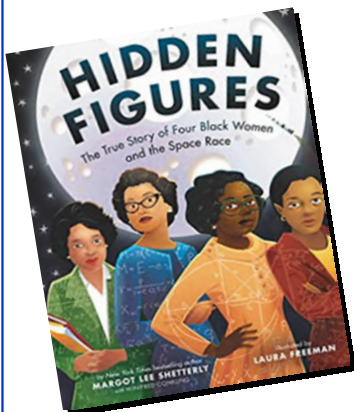
## The power of reading: Black History Month

As a school we are committed to providing a curriculum that promotes equal opportunities.

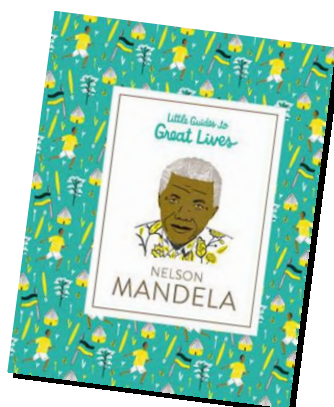
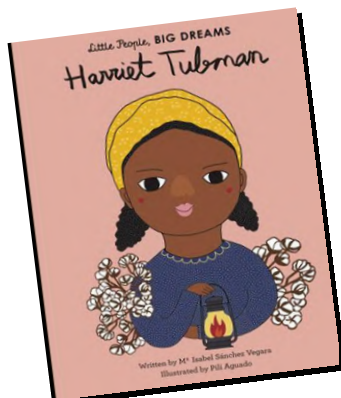
Now is the perfect time to revisit these topics with your child and to make links between the history they learn in school and the Black Lives Matter movement happening around them today.

Here are some books that link with your child's Black History Month learning.

Years 1 and  
2



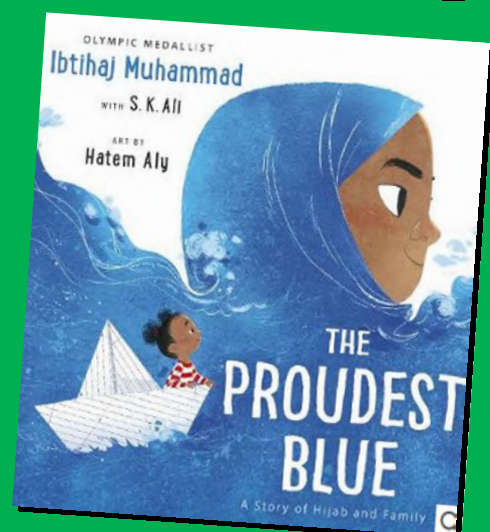
Years 3 and 4



Years  
5 and 6

## The power of reading: Ages 3 - 7

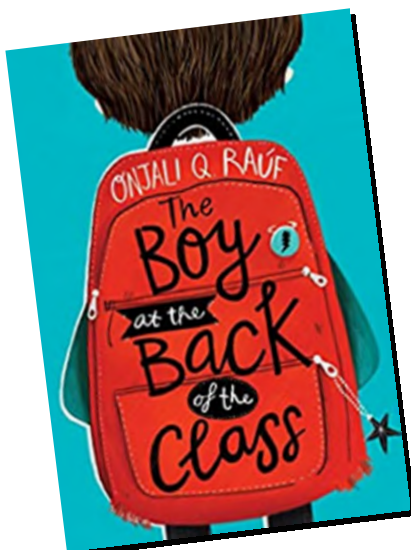
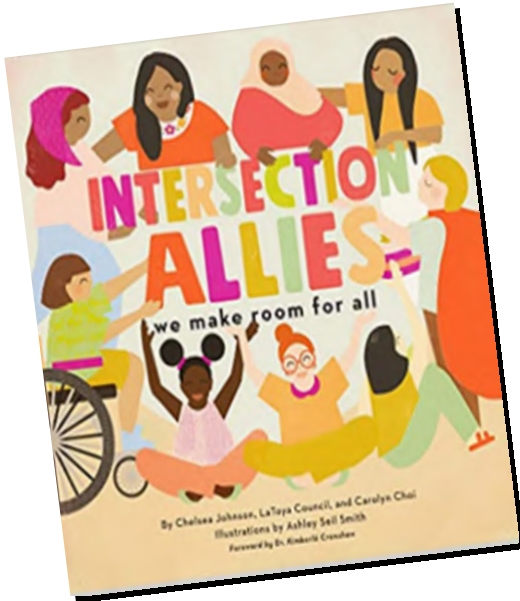
Here are some other great books that explore issues of race, equality, empathy and self-esteem.



Click on each image for a link to buy the book.

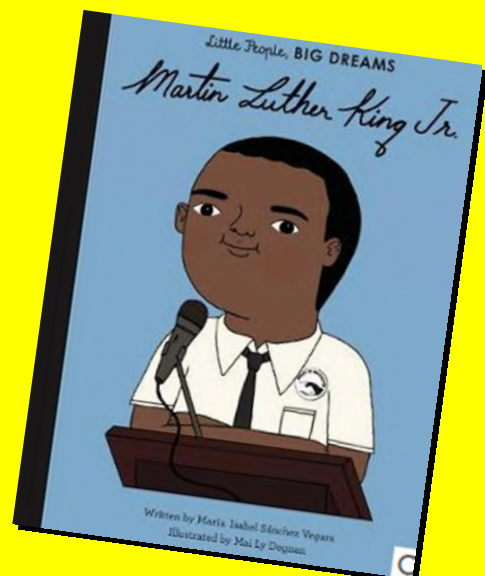
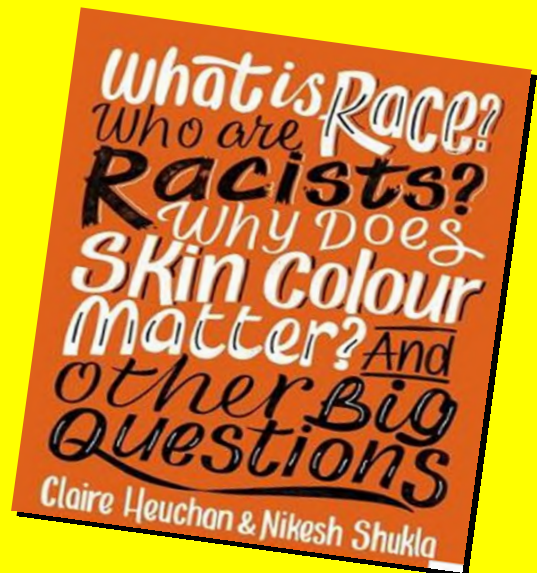
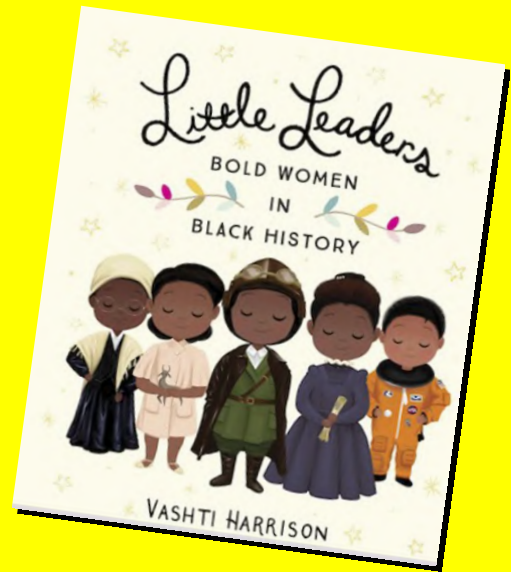
# Useful resources

The power of reading:  
Ages 7 - 9



Click on each image for a link to buy the book.

The power of reading:  
Ages 9 - 11



Click on each image for a link to buy the book.

Be the best that you can be

# Information and support

To



watch

Here are some links to videos you can watch with your child.



This video explores what racism means and why George Floyd's death has caused such a huge reaction across the world:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/52978346>

This one helps to explain why, although the death was in America, people are protesting in here in the UK:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/52813673>

## Keep talking!

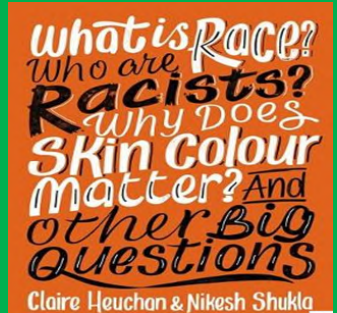
We hope these resources will spark some worthwhile discussion in your home.

Here are some big questions to help get you started. Encourage your child to come up with their own questions and try to write them down when they pop into their heads.

**Why is it important that we treat everyone the same no matter what their skin colour?**

**What can I do in my community to tackle racism?**

**What does being from a BAME community in the UK today mean to you?**



## Parent/Carer Support

We are aware these might be difficult subjects to talk about. Be kind to yourselves, take it slowly and use these links for support.

<https://www.parenttoolkit.com/social-and-emotional-development/advice/social-awareness/how-to-talk-to-kids-about-race-and-racism>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/05/us/talking-to-kids-about-racism.html>

"No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin or his background or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite" - Nelson Mandela