

OCTOBER 2023



ENFIELD GRAMMAR SCHOOL
**BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH**

A message from the Headteacher

Another month of October has come and gone and EGS has had another fantastic Black History Month.

So much achieved, so many guests invited into school and so many events organised for the boys and staff. I'm so proud of what we do in this month and across the other 11 months to ensure ALL students, staff and parents feel heard, are seen and feel that they have opportunities at every turn to be themselves and continue on their individual journey to fulfil their own potential.

Thank you everyone who helped and participated; a massive thank you to Ms Faverjon, Miss Graham and Mr Applewhaite for leading us through the month and all that it brought.

Chris Lamb, Headteacher

THANKS:

To our Governors, all the staff at EGS, our boys and our special guests, we say 'thank you' for your contributions to making our BHM wonderful and for your support and contributions to this newsletter.

Message from Sula Graham our EDI consultant:

I had the most wonderful month at Enfield Grammar School observing all the brilliant lessons teachers have created for Black History Month and engaging in all the activities and events. I learned so many things, from female black botanists, to the impact that African and Asian culture has had on French cuisine. The library was filled with beautiful books by black authors and during lunchtime the school played reggae music in the dining hall while I ate the most delicious jollof rice.

In order for children and young people to fully engage with their learning, they need to see themselves reflected in what they are learning. You can never underestimate the impact and empowerment representation has on a student's confidence, well-being and sense of self! This is something EGS is working really hard to embody in their curriculum, their school culture, and it is a joy to witness.



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EVERYTHING FOOD AND TRADITIONAL DRESS!

Thanks to our catering staff, through the month of October, the boys have delighted in an international dish being served on a Wednesday every week.

I just wanted to extend a huge thanks and well done for all your hard work preparing for Wednesday. The Pupils absolutely loved it!- Member of staff

*'If we do not
lift up women and
families, everyone
will fall short'
Kamala Harris*

Here are some of the pupils comments:

“ 

OMG the food smells like home.

The music makes me feel like
I'm at grandmas house.

Can we eat like this every day?

Food is banging Miss, I can't lie.

We should have music everyday
(Reggae music was played
during lunch in the Main Hall).

Next time can we have patties too?

”



STAFF INSET DAY MENU



Representing Trinidad, Jamaica and Guyana

Brown Stew
 Chicken, Chickpea and Vegetable Curry,
 Rice and Peas,
 Curried Goat,
 Jerk Chicken Wings
 Salt-fish Fritters and Roti

Representing Nigeria

Jollof
 Red Chicken , Red Plantain
 Oh, and 'Fruit' Punch too!

A big thankyou to Kyle Khan,
 Shala and Jay Hardy, Neil Applewhaite, Abi Okuyemi,
 Christopher Russell, Tracey Miller, AnnRene Nachwa,
 Monique Roberts, our fantastic Catering Team
 and Chris Lamb!

WEDNESDAY'S SCHOOL CANTEEN MENU

Week 1 – Wednesday – Caribbean

Brown Stew Chicken
 Basmati Rice
 Caribbean Potato Salad
 Cornbread
 Caribbean Carrot Cake

Week 2 – Wednesday – African

Roasted Chicken
 Jellof Rice
 Red Stew
 Vegetable Stew
 Plantain
 Pound Cake

Week 3 – Wednesday – Caribbean

Jerk Chicken
 Rice and Peas
 Hard Dough Bread
 Coleslaw
 Caribbean Banana Cake



Justin Cochrane lead our Year 9 & 10 assemblies.

Justin Cochrane is a renowned football coach and entrepreneur and his current role is 'Head of Coaching' at Brentford Football Club. He is a former professional footballer with over 10 years' club experience playing for teams such as Crewe Alexandra, Rotherham United, Yeovil and short spells at other clubs, as well as internationally for Antigua and Barbuda. In 2009 he joined Tottenham Hotspur FC. Justin moved his talent into coaching and spent nine seasons coaching with the Tottenham Hotspur FC Academy and went on to become 'Head of Player Development & Coaching' (ages 17-23) for Manchester United FC. Justin has a track record of over 23 years of successful football coaching.

Justin grew up in Enfield and went to Aylward School, where he was taught French by Ms Faverjon (who used to teach at the school before she moved to EGS). Ms Faverjon was the reason Justin achieved his French GCSE!

During his football and coaching career, Justin always pursued education and in December 2017, he was awarded a BA (Hons) in Leadership and Management from The Open University.

He is also the founder of Holler, an organization that has been working at EGS for the past 2 years.

HOLLER ASSEMBLIES



Our Black History Month assembly for Year 11 was lead by Rhys Lanahan.

Rhys Lanahan is an Actor, Director, Producer and facilitator with over 9 years of professional experience. Growing up, Rhys has worked with a number of theatre companies and charities helping nurture the talents of youth in London whilst also providing them with a platform using the arts. He is mentored by BBC EastEnders actors Rudolph Walker and Diane Parish. Rhys has already performed on numerous London stages such as The National - Oliver and Dorfman Theatres and Orange Tree Theatre. Since working in TV & Film, Rhys has worked on major Hollywood sets such as Vin Diesel's - Fast & Furious 9, Steven Spielberg & Tom Hanks - Masters of the Air, Wicked 2024, Venom 3 and much more.





Mr Turner designed a special assembly for his Year 9 group.



Who and what will you discover?



The theme of the assembly was understanding the importance of Black History Month.

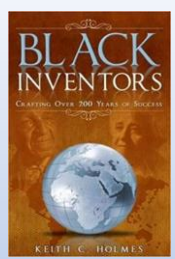
Famous figures such as Martin Luther King are very well known. During the assembly, the pupils were encouraged to discover less famous black figures who have, or are having an impact to our society.



The assembly also celebrated the important role of black women through history to the present day.



Black History Month 2023



Why do we need a Black History month?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/49883230>

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Year 8. Spanish lessons were about the Puerto Rican poet, Julia De Burgos (1914-1953), as an advocate of Puerto Rican independence and as a civil rights activist for women and African/Afro-Caribbean writers.

Year 9. We focussed on the Cuban ballet dancer Carlos Acosta. They learnt about early life in La Habana and how his father's perseverance led him into a very successful career in classic dancing around the world.

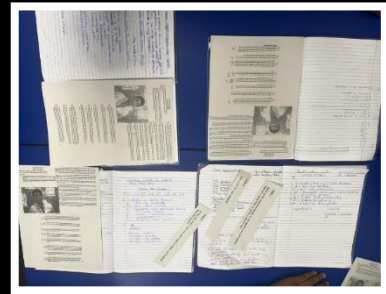
Year 10. The lesson highlighted the Cuban singer Celia Cruz (1925 - 2003), one of the most popular Latin artists of the 20th century, and how she had to escape Cuba during the Cuban Revolution. She later became one of the symbols and spokespersons of the Cuban community in exile.



SPANISH



Julia De Burgos



Year 9 work on Carlos Acosta

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

In the Year 7 French classes, we looked at how traditional food from all ethnic communities in France have been passed down through generations from mother to daughter. We also spoke about the importance of boys and men cooking, as well as men sharing their cooking skills with their sons. References were also made to French colonialism and women's rights. The resources were based on a wonderful book called " The Ethnic Paris Cookbook- bringing the French melting pot into your kitchen " by Charlotte Puckette and Olivia Kiang-Snaije.



*Year 7 were asked to cook a traditional & cultural dish.
Here you can see Pounded Yam, Okra & stew!*

FRENCH

Pupil Feedback:



Miss! Miss! My mum is from Algeria and she cooks amazing food at home. She taught me all about the French colonised Algeria, but I never knew we had an impact on French food! That's amazing.

I am so happy to find out that Okra is used a lot in French cuisine as it is my favourite food and my mum cooks it all the time.

I love that we talked about the black community and learnt about important black people such as soldiers from Senegal.





Year 10 lesson on Omar Sy, Actor & Comedian.



Name: Omar Sy

Profession: Actor and comedian

Date and place of birth: 20 January 1978 in Trappes, France

Family: Mother from Mauritania, father from Senegal

Career: Started out playing in TV sketches and comedies. Then played in many French films and in Hollywood films. Played the parts of the mutant Bishop in *X-Men: Days of Future Past* and Barry in *Jurassic World*.

Awards: Won best actor César for *Intouchables* in 2012.

Private life: Married to Héléne. They have five children

Year Group 10 French: BHM Lesson

	It was about an actor named Omar sy.
	He played in very big movies like Jurassic world in 2017 and he also acted in the Netflix series Lupin.
What did you like most about today's lesson?	I liked the fact we were able to explore a great black actor. And it was a very interactive lesson
	I would like to see more interactive lessons like this during black history month.

After high school he became an comedian

Name: Omar Sy ✓

Profession: actor and comedian ✓

Date of Birth: 20 Jan 1978 in France ✓

Place: Man, Boko, Senegal ✓

Family: Mom, Boko, Sister ✓

Career: played in X-Men, voice in transformers, ✓
acted in Lupin ✓ played in Jurassic World ✓

Awards: won César award in 2012 ✓

Private life: married to Héléne and has 5 children ✓

Black History Month

Nom: Il s'appelle Omar Sy.

Profession: Il est acteur et humoriste français.

Naissance: Omar Sy est né le 20 janvier 1978 à Trappes, en France.

Famille: Sa mère vient de la Mauritanie et son père vient du Sénégal. Sa famille est assez grande - il a sept frères et sœurs!

Carrère: D'abord, Omar a joué dans des sketches et des comédies à la télévision. Ensuite, il a joué dans beaucoup de films français et puis dans des films à Hollywood.

En 2014, il a joué le rôle du mutant Bishop dans *X-Men: Days of Future Past* et en 2015 le rôle de Barry dans *Jurassic World*. En 2017, il a donné sa voix au personnage de Hot Rod dans *Transformers: The Last Knight*.

Palmarès: Omar Sy a gagné le César du meilleur acteur pour le film *Intouchables*, en 2012.

Vie privée: Omar Sy est marié. Sa femme s'appelle Héléne et ils ont cinq enfants (trois filles et deux garçons).

HISTORY

This year's Black History Month spanned both the ancient and more recent.

In the ancient category, year 7's learned about African Romans, both soldiers, women and Governors from North Africa - who were all here 2,000 years ago.

In relatively more recent times - the contributions of Empire soldiers to WW1 (especially Indian, African and Caribbean) was explored with our year 9's.

The history of one place, is the history of many faces and places.

We live on a small island whose story cannot be told without the connections and contributions of others.

During black history month the Business Department took the opportunity to recognise the significant contribution that black people have made to the NHS over it's 75 year history. Students got to listen to some recordings of those people who have helped the NHS to become the organisation it is today with particular focus on the Windrush generation.



Empire soldiers - Africa



- About 250,000 Africans fought.
- 62,000 were killed, wounded or died of disease.

Many from the following **& other African countries** fought for Britain in WW1.

Name a few?

- Kenya;
- Nigeria
- Ghana
- Tanzania
- Somalia
- Cameroon
- Congo

BE ABLE TO Explain the importance of the contributions by Empire soldiers to WW1.



BUSINESS STUDIES

Allyson Williams

Allyson Williams arrived in London on 16th May 1969. She was proud to be invited, to gain high quality nurse training, specialising in midwifery and women's health.



Dr Harold Moody

British Jamaican Physician who campaigned against racial prejudice.



WHY A FOCUS ON BLACK WOMEN?

Black women throughout the years have had trouble getting their work recognised and being appreciated in **STEM** fields.

Even today there are much fewer black females in STEM related jobs, degrees and even A- level classes.

Black women have contributed to some of the most crucial scientific advancements throughout the years and we **must** try to encourage more women to get into STEM field of work and appreciate / value them when they are there.



SCIENCE

Black women scientists who are trailblazers in STEM.



Gladys West, American Mathematician known for her work contributing to the development of the Global Positioning System (GPS).



Celebrating black scientists throughout history...

Elizabeth began working in the NHS at the age of 16. She helped to set up the first nurse-led **sickle cell** and **thalassaemia** screening and counselling centre. This pioneering service led to the nationwide **screening** of babies. Elizabeth has worked tirelessly throughout her career to ensure that people with **sickle cell disease** and **thalassaemia** get all the support they need and deserve.

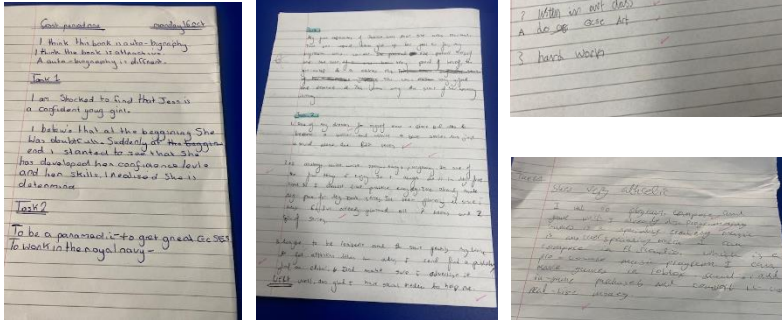
Through her work and **research**, Elizabeth has made a large contribution to the **health** and **wellbeing** of multi-ethnic communities. Elizabeth overcame stigma and racism to build a distinguished career as a nurse, health visitor, academic and campaigner.



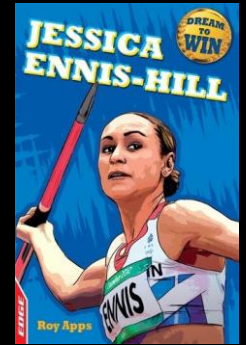
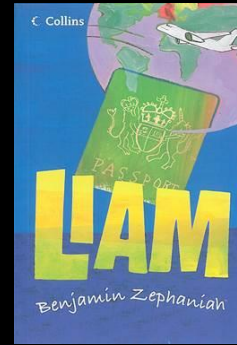
Name: Dame Elizabeth Anionwu
Born: 1947
Nationality: British
Scientific Field: Medicine

READING RELAY 16TH OCTOBER 2023 – YEARS 7 & 8

Year 7 & 8 took part in a reading relay, using extracts from 'Liam' by Benjamin Zephaniah and Jessica Ennis Hill by Roy Apps.



ENGLISH

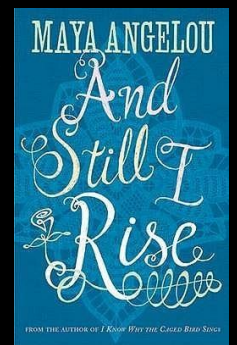


“ The boys had a great time interpreting their ideas through discussion, drama and written work. A good time was had by all. Well done boys! ”

The pupils performed the poem Still I Rise. The theme/message of the assembly was to reflect on Maya Angelou's resilience and for Y7s/8s to consider how they too, could be resilient. The assembly was a celebration of the arts with a focus on music and poetry. It was also a celebration of Black History and the images displayed of Black British musicians and poets supported that aim. We also highlighted the idea that poetry is about personal expression, but that ideas and messages in the poem can resonate with everyone regardless of ethnicity. Maya Angelou's sense of strength and resilience is something we can all take inspiration from.



Maya Angelou was an American Memoirist, Poet and Civil Rights Activist.



Our Year 11's read John Agard's 'Checking Out Me History' which include the themes of colonial history, education and identity. We explored how text choices have changed over the last decade in English classrooms around the UK.



John Agard, born in Guyana, emigrated to England in 1977. A Poet, Playwright and Short-Story Writer he has written many books for both adults and children. He is an exuberant, flamboyant performer of his poetry, known for his interest in social justice and his humorous, compassionate poems.

Afterwards, the students evaluated whether they believed our curriculum was diverse or inclusive enough.



HIDDEN FIGURES BY MARGOT LEE SHETTERLY

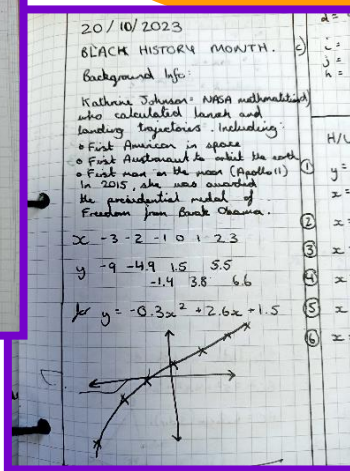
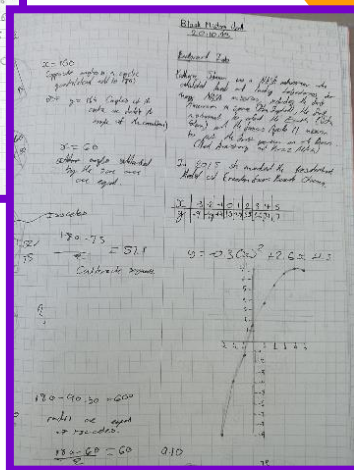
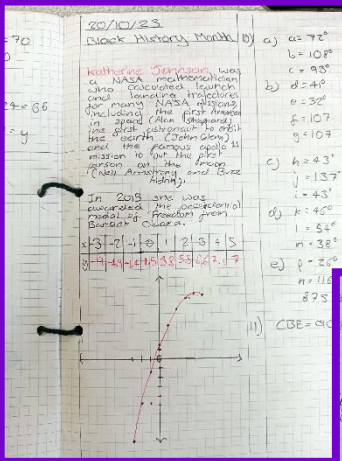
MATHS

During Black History Month the Maths Department celebrated the exceptional Katherine Johnson.

Katherine Johnson was a NASA Mathematician who calculated launch and landing trajectories for many NASA missions, including the first American in space (Alan Shephard), the first astronaut to orbit the Earth (John Glenn) and the famous Apollo 11 mission to put the first person on the moon (Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin).

However, being a black woman she was a 'hidden figure'.

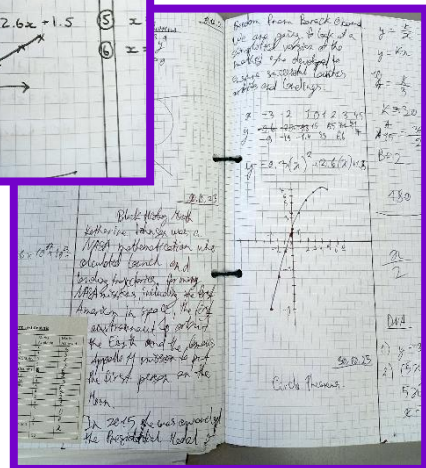
Katherine Johnson received the recognition she deserved when she was awarded the Presidential Medal of freedom by President Barack Obama.



Pupils Work

Lower school students learnt about all the black women who worked and were the 'human' computers for NASA.

Upper school students looked at the simplified version of the maths Katherine Johnson had to do, in order to make sure the astronauts landed back to Earth safely.



In year 7 and 8 music lessons, during Black History Month, we celebrated the contributions of female performers, songwriters and composers to the music industry.

We explored past and present musicians, including Little Simz, who is a contemporary rapper and songwriter. Florence Price, who was the first African-American woman to have her music played by a full orchestra and Aretha Franklin, the first woman to be entered into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.



Finally we explored the achievements of Nina Simone; an inspirational singer and songwriter who was an advocate for the Civil Rights Movement. She used her music as a form of protest against the racial prejudices she and her community were facing.



The students learnt her famous song "I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel To Be Free". This is a powerful example of how she used her music as a voice for the people that experienced hardship as a result of their race.

MUSIC



Little Simz



Florence Price



Aretha Franklin



Both year groups sang I Wish I knew How It Would Feel To Be Free in their assembly, which sounded phenomenal!



AFRICAN MUSIC CONCERT SERIES AT FORTY HALL

Wednesday 11th October 2023

Our Year 10 and 11 Music GCSE classes with the year 12 and 13 Music Tec A Level classes, attended a wonderful concert of African music at Forty Hall during Black History Month. The students were lucky enough to have a private performance from two fantastic musicians. The musicians performed a variety of traditional West African music and pieces that combined these traditions with modern Western classical music. The students experienced a number of traditional African instruments being used, such as the kora and the balafon. They were lucky enough to be able to use the djembe drums and performed as an ensemble. It was a really engaging and interesting experience that the boys thoroughly enjoyed!



In October, we were extremely fortunate to be joined by Grace Graham as we hosted a BHM Question Time. Questions were posed in advance by students and presented for each of the panellists to answer. Our celebrity panel consisted of Mr Lamb (EGS Headteacher), Monique Roberts (Finance and Operations Officer), Mr Marshall (EGS Assistant Headteacher) and Grace Graham (Local businesswoman and advocate). All of the panel guests have overcome hardship and led exceptional careers in various fields; their humble, honest and thoughtful answers to some very difficult questions is testament of their wish to improve the lives of all students. It was great to listen to the stories of past successes but also look to the future. All of the students who attended left with a huge sense of possibility and positivity.

MUSIC TRIP



6TH FORM

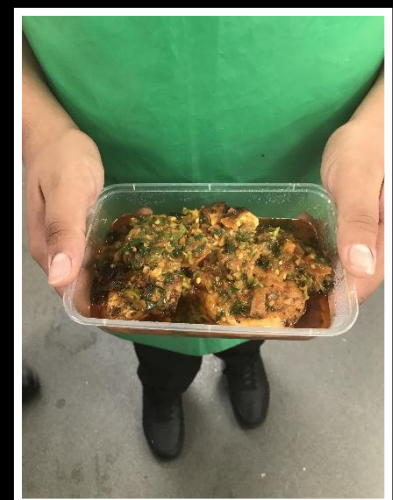
Students in Years 7 - 10 celebrated the rich diversity of Afro Caribbean cuisine and prepared dishes ranging from Spicy Mango Puree with Flatbreads to Plantain Cake, Chicken Stew, Banana Fritters, Jollof Rice, Ghanaian Meat Pie and Caribbean Cookies!



It was great to hear students speaking about dishes that are part of their family life, as well as discussing how ingredients are prepared and served. The engagement and enthusiasm was wonderful and there were some very proud chefs showcasing a wonderful range of Afro Caribbean food.



FOOD TECHNOLOGY

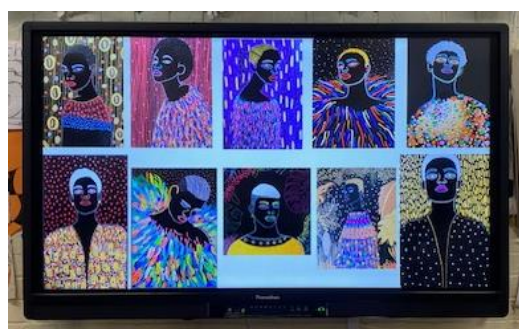


ART COMPETITION

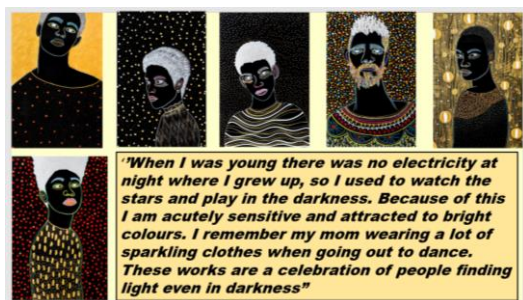
To celebrate Black History Month in Art, students in Years 7-10 were asked to create a portrait inspired by the work of Yermine Richardson. We had many amazing, creative, vibrant artworks produced, which made judging very difficult. Keep a look out, as winners from each year group will be announced shortly.

Yermine Richardson was born in La Romana, a sugar industry city in the Dominican Republic, in the Caribbean but now lives and works in Spain. He is primarily inspired and motivated by his experience growing up in the Caribbean, where he used to play in the dark and look up in wonder at the night sky, surreal and full of twinkling stars. His artworks are vibrant celebrations of Caribbean cultures and aesthetics, referencing traditional symbols and concepts of African heritage relating to womanhood, pattern, spiritualism, and Cosmology.

ART

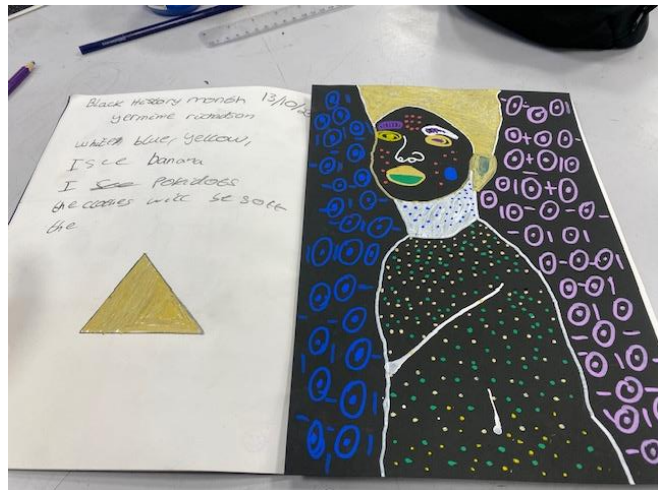


Art Lessons for Black History Month

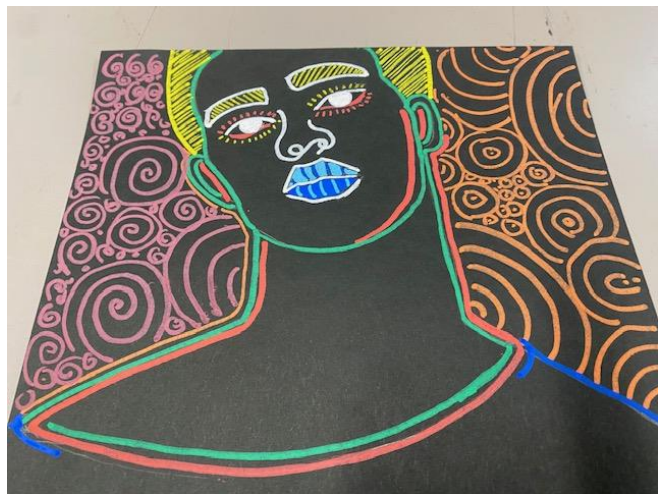


Some samples of pupils work





Some samples of pupils work



ART

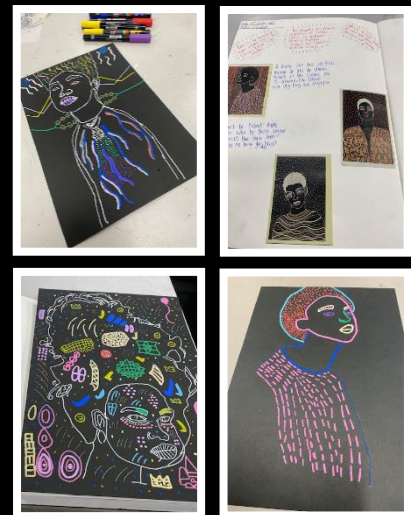
THE IMPORTANCE OF CARIBBEAN ART STORIES

“

To learn from our mistakes and look for a better future as a species, what happened in our region is real history that could repeat to us as a species.

What happened in our islands was a human mistake and we must learn from it and move on and if we tell our story right we could change the way humans see themselves, as individuals entities of their own world and not realizing that we could create anything we want. I want to present people like me who to think beyond the limits that have been imposed to me by being gay, black, poor and from a poor black country.

Yermine Richardson



FORM TIME AND THE LIBRARY

Linking with the two books 'History Through The Black Experience' by Simon Hudson, pupils were shown in form time a famous person for each day of the month and encouraged to find out more about them by visiting the library and taking a look at the books.

Form groups 10F & 10M have been reading the news on 'The Day' digital newspaper. The classes have read some of the following articles:

Akala - The rapper with a passion for Shakespeare

David Olusoga—The Historian who wants to rewrite history

Elianne Andam— killed when her friend said no to flowers

The Rising Star That Started Out On Tik Tok - Yasmin Finney's life. Is social media a force for good?

Oprah Winfrey—To be happy you have to be unhappy. Is this true?



We always remind our pupils that reading is power! Here are some new books which have been purchased for the Upper School Library:

- History Through The Black Experience by Simon Hudson
- This is Not America by Tomiwa Owolade
- Ancient African Kingdoms by Captivating History
- The Black History Book by David Olusoga
- Stolen History by Sathnam Sanghera
- Becoming by Michelle Obama

THE POWER OF READING



Be focused. Be determined. Be hopeful. Be empowered. Empower yourselves with a good education, then get out there and use that education to build a country worthy of your boundless promise. Lead by example with hope, never fear.

Michelle Obama



ENFIELD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Market Place, Enfield
EN2 6LN

Tel: 020 8363 1095

Email: office@enfieldgrammar.org