Aspiration Respect Endeavour

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Headteacher: Mrs S Jenner Chief Executive Officer: Mr P Banks





17th October, 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

'Black History Month' and 'Show Racism The Red Card'

We promote diversity across our community all year round through the curriculum. Respect is one of our core values and it is important that we celebrate and recognise diversity across our school community. As a school we do not tolerate racism of any kind. We are encouraging an ethos of mutual respect which underpins a culture of speaking out against racism where it is seen or heard.

On **Thursday 20th October, 2022** we are inviting students to **wear an item of red** to show that all members of our community are valued equally regardless of colour or ethnicity. **This is NOT a non-uniform day.** Students will be expected to wear their uniform replacing a single item of uniform with a red option. For example, some students may wear bright red socks, a red tie, a red shirt or a red jacket. All other aspects of their uniform would remain as normal with just the additional red item or a red item replacing a standard piece of clothing. Please ensure that the changed item of clothing is respectful and not revealing of any body parts that would not ordinarily be on show with our regular uniform expectations.

There will be a minimum suggested donation of 50 pence to take part in this act of solidarity (feel free to donate more!). You can donate up until the 31st October, 2022 via ParentPay. The proceeds of this will go to the charity (SRtRC) set up to educate students that we need to work together to eliminate racism from our society.

Throughout the month of October, we have been promoting the internationally recognised "Black History Month." This has included assembly themes, Personal Development activities, a particular focus on positive role models in lesson starters and a number of other activities. Student voice representatives have discussed and contributed ideas to all that we are doing in school and so it has been key for us to get as many students as possible involved again this year.

We have engaged with Black History Month once again this year as a platform to further promote diversity, gain a better understanding of Black History and celebrate Black contributions to British society. This is incredibly important to us at Roding Valley High School.













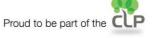












Below is some background information on Show Racism the Red Card:

"Show Racism the Red Card (SRtRC) is the UK's leading anti-racism educational charity. It was established in January 1996, thanks in part to a donation by then Newcastle United goalkeeper Shaka Hislop.

In 1990s Newcastle, Shaka was at a petrol station near St James Park when he was confronted with a group of young people shouting racist abuse at him. After one of the group realised that they had been shouting at Shaka Hislop, the Newcastle United football player, they came over to ask for an autograph.

It was from this experience that Shaka realised he could harness his status as a professional player to make a difference. Coupled with the power of football and his status as a role model, Shaka thought education could be an effective strategy in challenging racism in society."

As a school community we wish to promote the ideals that all students are of equal worth; regardless of gender, ability, religion, race and colour. We hope that you will be generous in supporting this event and thank you in advance for your participation.

Yours faithfully

Mrs M Cain Head of SMSC/RS Ms T Preston Head of PD























