

THE PSHE POST

A SPOTLIGHT ON KEY ISSUES

~~SJCR~~ - JUNE 2020

UNITED AGAINST RACISM

How we can all be active in the fight against racism



GEORGE FLOYD & BLACK LIVES MATTER

As a school community, we are committed to standing against all forms of oppression. We pride ourselves on being anti-racist and strongly condemn the unlawful and brutal killing of George Floyd in Minnesota last month. This tragic event has sparked outrage across the globe and has prompted large protests across the US, and in countries which face their own battles with police brutality such as Australia, New Zealand, France and the UK.

As such, this is a crucial time for governments, businesses, communities, and individuals to reflect on the injustice that exists in societies around the world today, and implement real change in order to take action against it.

CHANGE IS HAPPENING AND WE ARE A PART OF IT

The momentum that BLM protests have built has seen the toppling and removal of statues in the US, Belgium and here in the UK commemorating historical figures who were involved with the slave trade. In support of these measures our school has taken the decision to remove statues of Sir John Cass from school premises and is currently undergoing a name changing process.



“ IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO NOT BE RACIST, YOU MUST BE ACTIVELY ANTI-RACIST. ”

ANGELA DAVIS

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT

Be an ally.

An ally is someone who is aware that even though they do not belong to a particular group that is being oppressed, they can still support their struggle in a proactive and positive way. An ally is someone who recognises that as an individual **they can contribute to meaningful social change** by implementing changes in their own lives. So, what can we do to be allies?

“If you are neutral in situations of injustice you have chosen the side of the oppressor.”

BISHOP DESMUND TUTU

Acknowledge your blind spots

We all have implicit biases. That's OK to admit! We won't be able to change our prejudices until we address that we have them in the first place. Learn about what it means to have racial privilege. Also, understand the **covert forms of white supremacy** you may not even know you are engaging in. You know not to use a racial slur, but how about tone policing? Or tokenism? If any of these terms are unfamiliar to you, refer to the short guide on the next page.

“There comes a time when silence is betrayal”

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

~~RAACISM~~



Listen and Learn

Make an effort to learn from the experiences of people that have been and are affected by anti-black racism. It is not up to your Black friends and colleagues to educate you. But when those who have been affected are speaking, listen. Do not dominate the conversation if you are not a member of the Black community. Learn the difference between being “not racist” and being “anti-racist.”

Speak Up

Having the courage to challenge racism where you encounter it can be as simple as having open conversations with the people around you. But sometimes, using your voice if you're not used to it can be intimidating.

Many people don't start because they're scared they'll “get it wrong”. If it's a choice between not doing it at all, or doing it and getting it wrong, get it wrong! Learn from it and do better next time.

REFLECTION - THINKING POINTS

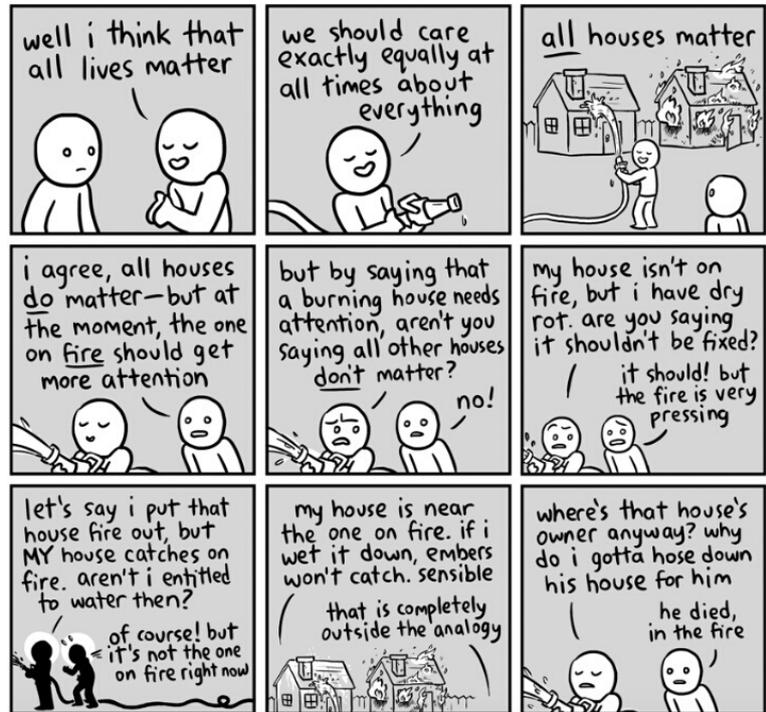
Having black friends does not mean you aren't racist.

Does this apply to you? Ask yourself these questions to find out:

1. How do I see black people that aren't my friends?
2. Have I taken the time to understand my black friends and their perspective?
3. How do I talk/let people talk about black people behind closed doors and in non black spaces?

@DOMROBXTS

The problem with "All Lives Matter" illustrated:



@KRISSTRAUB



RACIAL MICROAGGRESSIONS



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Microaggressions

Microaggressions are comments or actions that subtly and often unconsciously or unintentionally express a prejudiced attitude toward a member of a marginalised group (such as a racial minority).

These comments or actions may on the surface seem not to be racist in any obvious way, but demonstrate an implicit bias against the person or people they are targeted towards.

It is incredibly important that both as individuals and as a school community we are conscious of what microaggressions may look and sound like. This way, we can stop them in their tracks and be a part of the meaningful social change that our society needs.

RACIAL BIAS AND WHITE SUPREMACY

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Overt White Supremacy (Socially Unacceptable)

Lynching
Hate Crimes

Blackface The N-word

Swastikas Neo-Nazis Burning Crosses

Racist Jokes Racial Slurs KKK

Calling the Police on Black People White Silence Colorblindness
White Parents Self-Segregating Neighborhoods & Schools

Eurocentric Curriculum White Savior Complex Spiritual Bypassing

Education Funding from Property Taxes Discriminatory Lending

Mass Incarceration Respectability Politics Tone Policing

Racist Mascots Not Believing Experiences of BIPOC Paternalism

"Make America Great Again" Blaming the Victim Hiring Discrimination

"You don't sound Black" "Don't Blame Me, I Never Owned Slaves" Bootstrap Theory

School-to-Prison Pipeline Police Murdering BIPOC Virtuous Victim Narrative

Higher Infant & Maternal Mortality Rate for BIPOC "But What About Me?" "All Lives Matter"

BIPOC as Halloween Costumes Racial Profiling Denial of White Privilege

Prioritizing White Voices as Experts Treating Kids of Color as Adults Inequitable Healthcare

Assuming Good Intentions Are Enough Not Challenging Racist Jokes Cultural Appropriation

Eurocentric Beauty Standards Anti-Immigration Policies Considering AAVE "Uneducated"

Denial of Racism Tokenism English-Only Initiatives Self-Appointed White Ally

Exceptionalism Fearing People of Color Police Brutality Fetishizing BIPOC Meritocracy Myth

"You're So Articulate" Celebration of Columbus Day Claiming Reverse-Racism Paternalism

Weaponized Whiteness Expecting BIPOC to Teach White People Believing We Are "Post-Racial"

"But We're All One Big Human Family" / "There's Only One Human Race" Housing Discrimination

Covert White Supremacy (Socially Acceptable)

Racist Jokes

Casual racism can marginalise, denigrate or humiliate those who experience it. An example of this is telling racist jokes.

Saying "it's a joke" is no defence for racism. Racist jokes **embed** negative stereotypes. Racist jokes are a power play on the part of the joke teller, they are placing themselves in a superior position to the race they are "joking" about, which subconsciously cements the idea that this race is beneath them in some way. This goes for both the joke teller and those who laugh at the joke too.

Word Watch - Key Terms

- **Racial Profiling** - the use of race or ethnicity as grounds for suspecting someone of having committed an offence.
- **White Privilege** - inherent advantages possessed by a white person on the basis of their race in a society characterised by racial inequality and injustice.
- **White Silence** - not speaking out against racism, ignoring that it is taking place
- **White Saviour** - a white person who provides help to non-white people in a self-serving manner - e.g. for praise/fame/recognition (or views/likes!)
- **Tokenism** - the symbolic and superficial inclusion of minority groups in order to give the appearance of racial equality
- **Tone Policing** - a conversational tactic that dismisses the ideas being communicated when they are perceived to be delivered in an emotionally charged manner
- **Bootstrap Theory** - the notion that all people, even if they face poor and meager circumstances at birth, can "pull themselves up by their bootstraps" to attain great wealth and prosperity.
- **Police Brutality** - The exercise of undue or excessive force against a subject
- **Cultural Appropriation** - the act of adopting elements of a minority culture, including knowledge, practices, and symbols, without understanding or respecting the original culture and context

Self-education is key

You can make a start on self-education by looking up any of the other terms above that are unfamiliar to you. Equipping ourselves with knowledge is the best way we can enable ourselves to rise above covert forms of racism and do our bit to eradicate inequality in all its forms.

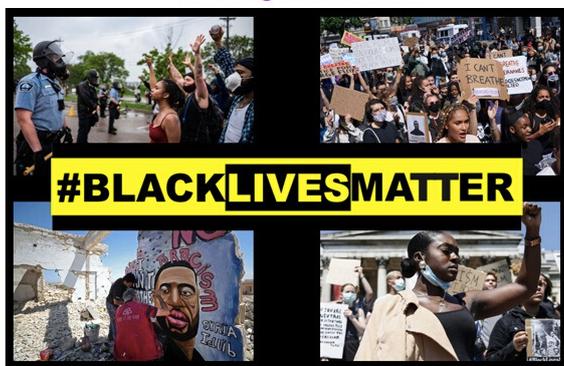
Have your say! VOTESFORSCHOOLS

In addition to the PSHE lesson in your google classroom, VotesforSchools are also holding a poll for students to vote on whether anti-racism protests will lead to change in the US. You can refer to the lesson online for further information, and you can also use the links here to vote:

KS3/4 : <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/vfs-secondary-racism>

16+ : <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/vfs-secondary-16-racism>

Will the recent anti-racism protests lead to change in the US?



Warning: This lesson discusses racism and inequality in America and may be upsetting or unsuitable for some pupils.

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Included in the lessons are further information on recent incidents in the US such as the fatal shooting of Ahmaud Arbery, and the racist false accusation of Amy Cooper. Remember, the activities included in these lessons can be done with your family, or you could call up a friend and discuss them together.



Click on the photos displayed to view petitions regarding these cases.

Getting involved safely

Sign the petition

Tell the world that you want **justice for George Floyd** by signing this petition. **Click the image** to go straight there!

Educate yourself

Learn the history of the **Civil Rights Movement in America** through these Crash Course videos. Then, educate someone else!

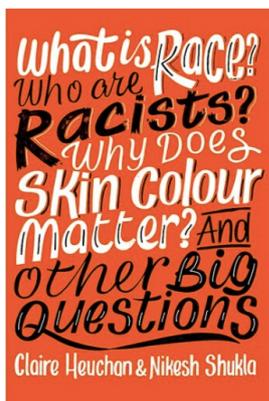
Write to an MP

Help tackle racism here in the UK by **writing to your MP and telling them how you feel**. They have a duty to share your thoughts with the Government!

Take action, but **stay safe**. If you would like to get involved and exercise your civic rights but are not sure how to do so safely, talk to an adult member of your family, or get in touch with your head of year or form tutor. If you would like to write to your mp, ask someone to proof read your letter.

FURTHER READING - NON FICTION

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What is Race? by Claire Heuchan and Nikesh Shukla

The perfect book to start reading about and understanding what racism is, where it comes from, and we need to do to stop it.

So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo

A straightforward exploration of racism in America today.

Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi

A gripping, fast-paced, and energising journey through the history of racism in America, and how we can stamp it out today.

This Book is Anti-Racist by Tiffany Jewell

Learn about social identities, the history of racism and resistance against it, and how you can use your voice to drive progress.

It's Not About the Burqa edited by Mariam Khan Seventeen Muslim women speaking frankly about their experiences.

Black History Matters by Robin Walker

Chronicles of thousands of years of black history, from African kingdoms, to slavery, apartheid, the battle for civil rights and more.

Natives: Race and Class in the Ruins of Empire by Akala

Covering everything from the police, education and identity to politics, Akala confronts British denial and squeamishness about race and class.

Brit(ish) by Afua Hirsch

You're British. Your parents are British. So why do people keep asking where you're from?

Black and British: a Forgotten History by David Olusoga

The rich and revealing story of the long relationship between the British Isles and the people of Africa and the Caribbean.

Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race by Reni Eddo-Lodge

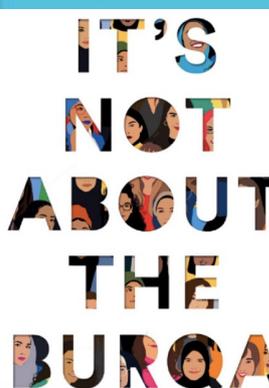
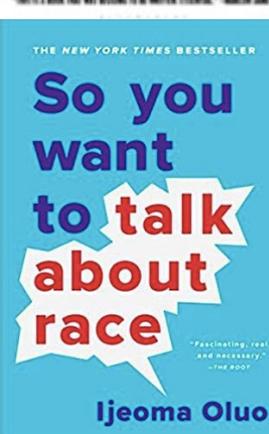
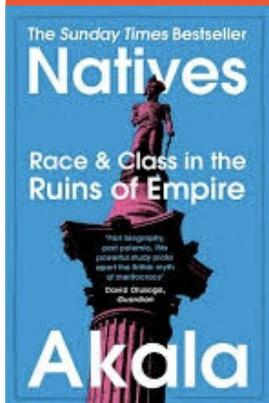
The essential handbook for anyone who wants to understand race relations in Britain today.

I Will Not Be Erased by gal-dem

gal-dem's talented writers use raw material from their teenage years to give advice to their younger selves and those growing up today.

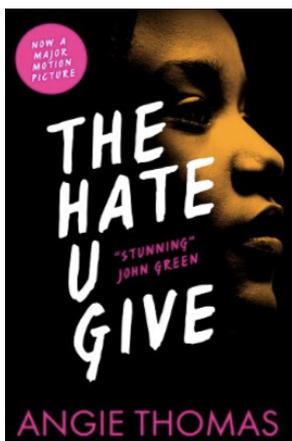
Slay in Your Lane by Yomi Adegoke and Elizabeth Uviebinené

An inspirational guide to life for a generation of black British women inspired to find success in every area of their lives.



FURTHER READING - FICTION

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Tyler Johnson Was Here by Jay Coles

When twin brothers Martin and Tyler go to a party, a fun night goes downhill fast after a shooting and a police raid, and Tyler goes missing.

Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman

This flipped story of a racist world is a modern classic.

The Black Flamingo by Dean Atta

A boy comes to terms with his identity as a mixed-race gay teen - then at university he finds his wings as a drag artist.

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

The brilliant bestseller about the aftermath of an incident of policebrutality in America.

Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes

Jerome is shot by a police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real threat. As a ghost, he sees the devastation that's been unleashed on his family and community in the wake of his brutal killing.

Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds

A story of sixty seconds—the time it takes a kid to decide whether or not he's going to murder the guy who killed his brother.

Piecing Me Together by Renée Watson

Jade is a girl striving for success in world that seems like it's trying to break her. Why is Jade always seen as someone who needs help? Someone people want to fix?

Dear Martin by Nic Stone

Justyce McAllister is top of his class and set to go to a top college—but none of that matters to the police officer who just put him in handcuffs.

Internment by Samira Ahmed

Set in a horrifying near-future America, seventeen-year-old Layla and her parents are forced into an internment camp for Muslim citizens.

Clean Getaway by Nic Stone

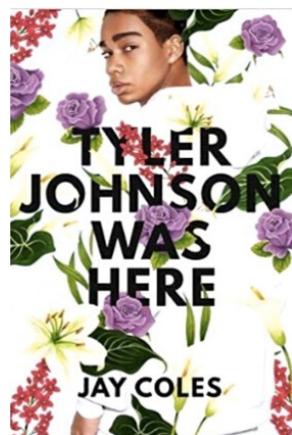
Take a roadtrip through the American South with William, who is about to discover the world hasn't always been welcoming for kids like him.

A Good Kind of Trouble by Lisa Moore Ramée

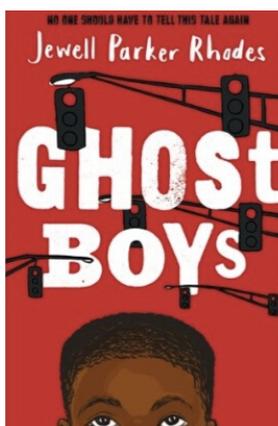
After experiencing a powerful protest, Shay decides some rules are worth breaking, and shows support for Black Lives Matter.

Unheard Voices edited by Malorie Blackman

A collection of stories and poems to commemorate the anniversary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act.



'CHILLING, POWERFUL, A MUST-READ FOR EVERYONE'
KAREN M. MCHAMBER, author of *One Of Us Is Lying*



- **Showing up for Racial Justice - Racism 101:**
www.showingupforracialjustice.org/racism-101.html
- **10 Things Allies Can Do by YWCA:**
<http://www.ywcahbg.org/sites/default/files/manager/10%20Things%20Allies%20Can%20Do.pdf>
- **11 Things You Can Do To Help Black Lives Matter End Police Violence by Lincoln Anthony Blades:**
<https://www.teenvogue.com/story/support-the-black-lives-matter-movement>
- **Stephen's Story by the Stephen Lawrence Trust:**
www.stephenlawrence.org.uk/stephen-lawrence-day/stephens-story/
- **Letter to My Son by Ta-Nehisi Coates:**
<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2015/07/tanehisi-coates-between-the-world-and-me/397619/>
- **Deconstructing White Privilege by Robin DiAngelo:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dwlx3KQer54&feature=youtu.be>
- **Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race by Reni Eddo-Lodge:**
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/may/30/why-im-no-longer-talking-to-white-people-about-race> (extract)
- **The Danger of a Single Story by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie:**
www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_ngozi_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story (video)
- **10 Simple Ways White People Can Step Up to Fight Everyday Racism by Derrick Clifton:**
<https://www.mic.com/articles/97900/10-simple-rules-for-being-a-non-racist-white-person>
- **Gal-Dem:**
<https://gal-dem.com/>
- **Amnesty International:**
www.amnesty.org/en/get-involved
- **White Fragility Is Murder by Zach Gray:**
<https://goodmenproject.com/featured-content/white-fragility-is-murder>
- **Campaign Zero:**
www.joincampaignzero.org
- **Teen Vogue:**
<https://www.teenvogue.com/tag/racism>
- **BBC News:**
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/cmj34zmxw21t/racism>