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Autumn Term 2025 Update

South Asian Heritage Month & Black History Month

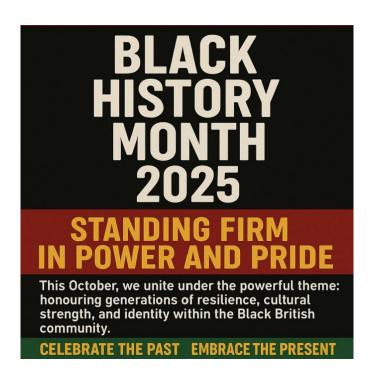


... exploring the rich journey of growth, and the evolving connections we make through generations.

We marked South Asian Heritage Month 2025, 'Roots to Routes', with activities animated by memories, song, music and dance, inspired by the work of the South Asian Heritage Trust:

• **Honouring Our Journeys** - Each of us carries a unique story shaped by our roots and the routes travelled to get to where we are. This year, the invitation is to reflect on your journey, whether from ancestral origins to the paths you've taken, or something much more recent, and how these experiences shape your identity today.

• **Celebrate Through Connection** - Whether you share your journey through storytelling, culinary traditions, dance, art, music, or literature, your experiences connect deeply with others, building bridges between past, present, and future generations.



Again, thanks to the ideas and energy of students and staff, a series of assemblies, amongst other things, were held to mark and celebrate Black History Month. Students were inspired by the theme of 'Standing firm in power and pride' to produce and present on four core areas:

- Standing firm in Politics, for example Baroness Doreen Lawrence OBE, mother of Stephen Lawrence, Government race relations adviser
- Standing firm in Academia, for example Dr Anne-Marie Imafidon, co-founder of Stemettes, awarded an MBE at age 27 for her work, one of the youngest ever to receive the honour
- Standing firm in the Arts, for example Stormzy, British Ghanaian Rapper and activist, Honorary Fellow at Jesus College, Cambridge, founder of #Merky
- Standing firm in Sports, for example Tessa Sanderson CBE, the first Black British woman to win an Olympic gold medal, Vice-Chair of Sport England

Moreover, the assembly team provided direct feedback from their fellow students to articulate the significance of their experiences:

"I loved Black Excellence Fest because it was nice for many people to come together to celebrate many wonderful aspects of the black community."

"It was a really good experience, and I was proud of myself and my culture in those moments. I was really happy to bond with people who were like me but also have different traditions and working with them was so fun! Performing with so many people supporting me was a fun and really refreshing experience."

So, as we draw the Autumn Term to a close, thank you to Mrs Watt, Mrs Pillai, Mr Rowell, Mr French and Mr Cable, and a big thank you and many congratulations to our brilliant Change & Diversity Prefects.

Mrs Cross, Miss Harrison,

(Deputy Headteacher, Academic). (Deputy Headteacher, Pastoral).