

Racial equality

The aim of this session is to help you better understand the 'Black Lives Matter' movement that has been hitting the headlines recently.

Task 1. Youtube "Blue Peter message on racism".

Pick the below video. As you watch, answer these questions.

- What is racism?
- Why is it important we end racism?



Although this movement became recently famous following the death of a man under police custody, the fight for equality between all races has existed for a long time. Below are some common questions you may have after seeing the news....

1. Do all lives matter?

Yes all lives matter, of course they do. However, not all lives are disadvantaged based on skin colour and culture, this movement aims to stop this problem.

2. Is this just an American issue?

This is a global issue and does impact the UK, the writing to the right of this page explains some reasons why.

3. Wasn't it wrong to protest during the virus?

Many people protested peacefully whilst maintaining social distancing. Breaking the law whilst protesting is not only wrong but it makes people not respect the protest. Many people decided not to physically protest but instead wrote letters to highlight the issue to their Members of Parliament. This encourages MPs to raise the issue with the government whilst also allowing people to stay at home.



What inequalities may black people face in the UK? In a recent Newsround report the following were shared...

- Black people are ten times more likely to be stopped and searched by the police compared to white people in the UK (Source: Home Office, 2018-2019)
- More than half the people in British youth detention centres (prisons) are from a black or minority ethnic background. As many people end up in prison due to lack of opportunities, this may reflect a lack of opportunities for young people from a black or other minority ethnic background.
- The UK government is made up of hundreds of people but a large amount of responsibility is held by the Cabinet Ministers. Currently there are 22 Cabinet Ministers, headed by our Prime Minister Boris Johnson. Although the cabinet ministers have included black members in the past, currently none of them are black. Many people have suggested this needs to change'.

We would like to **celebrate** work completed by students during Character Week 2020. If you would like to, please send any photos or copies of your work to CW2020@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk



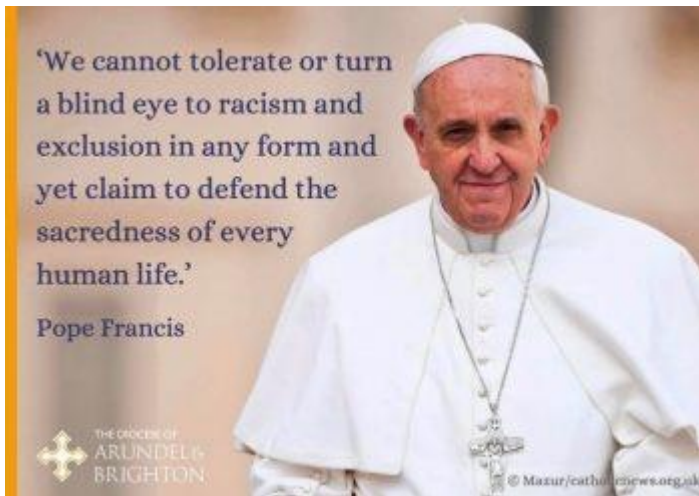
Peaceful campaigners gathering to support the Black Lives Matter campaign in Worcester

How can you help?

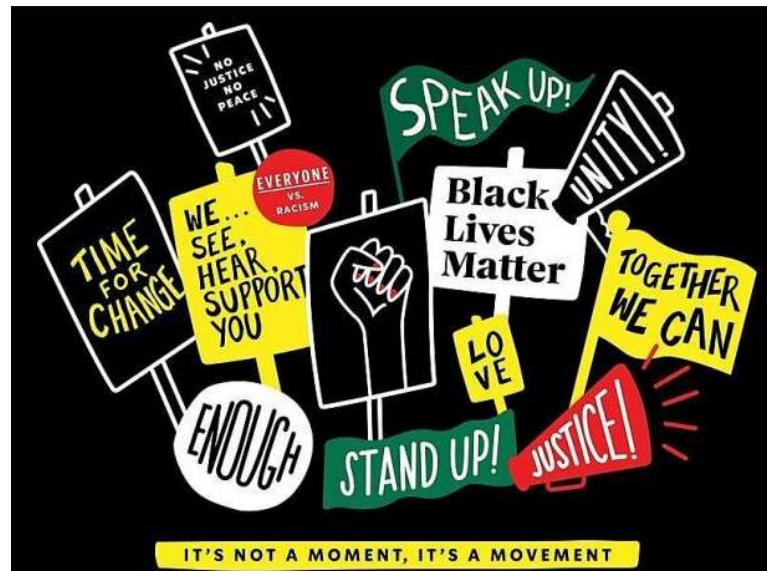
Speak out against any form of racism. If you are being racially abused or if you see someone being treated poorly because of their skin colour, then TELL SOMEONE.

Task 2. Pick one of the following options.

1. Create your own “Black Lives Matter” protest poster or art work. Your work should reflect the importance of equality for all, especially those we think of today, people suffering from racism.
2. Write a poem that involves the issue of racism. This could be based on current events or entirely fictional. Your work could inform someone of the problem and/or share the emotions you or someone may feel when this issue is raised.
3. Create a fact sheet to inform people of why the protests are happening and what the issues are around the Black Lives Matter movement. Use www.TheDay.co.uk or News Round website as your source of information for this. Remember what you learnt in the fake news lesson – not everything you read online is true, so check your facts and use reliable and well known websites not social media.



Pope Francis here explains, that as every life is Holy and sacred, just as God intended it, then we must respect EVERY life and stand against racism.



Prayer to end Racism

Good and gracious God,
Who loves and delights in all people,
we stand in awe before You,
knowing that the spark of life within each person on
earth is the spark of your divine life.
Differences among cultures and races are multicolored
manifestations of Your Light.
May our hearts and minds be open to celebrate similar-
ities and differences among our sisters and brothers.
We place our hopes for racial harmony in our committed
action and in Your Presence in our Neighbor.
May all peoples live in Peace.

AMEN.