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Dear Parents and Carers,

Black History Month is once again Hazeldene's focus for October. This is a special time where we promote knowledge of black history, culture and heritage.

Our value this month is freedom. Alongside our core British Values, we will encourage the children to reflect on previous work, and explore ideas that promote respect and understanding of one another. We will also consider important historical events as we learn about Black History whilst taking the opportunity to celebrate the lives of positive black role models and the positive contribution they have made and continue to make. As always, this will be undertaken in an age appropriate and considerate way.

This year I would like to promote the work of The Higgins Museum in Bedford and their Sankofa Black History exhibition. *Sankofa: Bedfordshire's Black History Uncovered* exhibition opens Saturday 30th September. Sankofa is an African word from the Akan tribe in Ghana, and symbolises this people's quest for knowledge. This exhibition celebrates the 30th anniversary of Black History Month in the UK and explores Bedfordshire's own Black History through the inspirational people within the African and Caribbean community. We are hoping a speaker will be able to come and talk to the children in assembly about the project and are just waiting to hear.

For further details, the Higgins website can be found here <http://www.thehigginsbedford.org.uk/>.

We know our children are keen readers. Further ideas of books for a range of ages that link with Black History Month can be found here

<http://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/genre/bhm/Black-History-Month.html#>
<http://www.readingrockets.org/booklist/favorite-books-for-black-history-month>

At Hazeldene we are always keen to learn from one another and promote understanding of different cultures and backgrounds. Please do get in touch with your child's class teacher or myself if there is a story, information, artefacts or photos that your child would like to share with their class, or if you are able to support our BHM work in any other way. We would be pleased to receive these contributions.

Thank you as always for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Vicky Norman

Subject Leader for History and Geography

