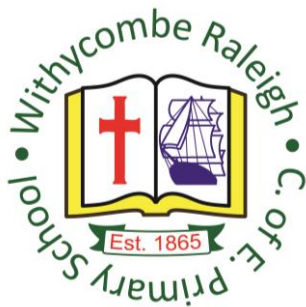


Weekly School News Roundup (extract)

**Withycombe Raleigh
C of E Primary School**



Date: 14/05/2021

Mrs Emma Jones, Headteacher
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Safeguarding - a single page extract from weekly newsletter.

As a school, we are committed to being actively anti-racist. Our community is diverse in many ways, and we believe that this diversity brings strength and opportunity. The notion that our children or members of our community would be judged on anything but their character, hard work or achievement is abhorrent to all of us at Withycombe.

We recognise that racism is something that we must not accept, and recent events across the world should serve as a reminder of how important this is. It has been great to hear so many of our children talk passionately about the 'black lives matter' campaign including 'taking the knee' – some great role-modelling from those premiership footballers!

Our school staff all want the very best for our children and we recognise that education is the most important tool in overcoming any type of discrimination.

It is by helping children to understand the world that we enable them to be the critical and creative thinkers that we want them to become; this has been central to our curriculum design. We continuously review our plans in order to better address these issues. We do this through our assemblies, topics and themes – underpinned by our school's GRACE values, our RSHE curriculum and British Values.

It is vital that we help our children to understand at their own level; I would like to share some of the different ways we do this in school:

- Celebrating diversity – we talk openly about the different ethnic groups in our classes and celebrate the different identities or countries of origin within our school community – including our staff and families.
- Talking about the fact racism does exist – we celebrate all the good things about diversity, but also recognised that we need to be honest about the challenges. We make sure that our pupils know what they should do if they have witnessed or experienced racism.
- Challenging pupils when they say something based on prejudice or stereotypes, and correcting misconceptions. We use everyday incidents and scenarios as opportunities to educate. We use non-judgemental questions, such as "what makes you think that?", rather than telling pupils off or closing down a conversation

Our intent as a school is for our pupils to know how they can recognise and eventually actively challenging racism.

If you ever find it difficult to talk with your children about the issue at home, please get in touch and we can offer support and advice.

Mike Smith-Designated Safeguarding Lead
