

**BLACK LIVES MATTER**



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Friday 5th June 2020

### Update from Mr Bulpitt

At the start of this week I shared a letter that outlined our provisional plan for expanding the number of children currently attending Holbeach. Some of the feedback I have received regarding the letter has asked for a little more information to explain some of the decisions.

#### Why did Nursery need to remain closed?

Unfortunately, due to our nursery being on a different site, we are unable to ensure that children and adults from the different provisions did not socially mix and we could not facilitate the same increase in the cleaning regime as we have been able to instigate on the main site.

#### Why did Reception need to remain closed?

There is already a Key Worker Reception bubble and ensuring this group did not mix and contact other early years groups would have been extremely difficult. We also have a number of teachers and teaching assistants who are following medical advice to shield themselves or a family member at home which limits the total number of bubbles we can supervise.

#### Why will Year 6 return first and then Year 1

The older children are best equipped to observe the government's social distance advice and to be able to avoid sharing equipment. It is also important for these children to have the opportunity to say good bye to their Primary School.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

I wish you all the best and hope that your families continue to be safe and healthy. **From Mr Bulpitt**

### We Stand United

Like many of you I am sure, I watched in abject horror the unlawful murder of an innocent black man George Floyd in Minneapolis and the violence being used against peaceful protesters in the USA.

I have watched as peaceful protesters exclaiming Black Lives Matter (BLM) have been met with undue force, tear gas and batons from the very people who pledged to protect and serve. Last night, the headteachers of all the Lewisham schools met to stand together to condemn both the murder of George Floyd and the treatment of those who have challenged this.

**As educators of a school population which is 76% Black and ethnic minority we cannot remain silent. We stand united in our commitment to tackle and challenge racism, address inequality and call out discrimination.**

It is not acceptable that:

- Black people are 40 times more likely to be stopped and searched in the UK
- Young black people are nine times more likely to be locked up in England and Wales than their white counterparts,
- BAME offenders are far more likely than others to be jailed for drug offences.

The murder of George Floyd must prompt careful reflection about racism in Britain today, and the extent to which it shapes our values, politics and economic life.

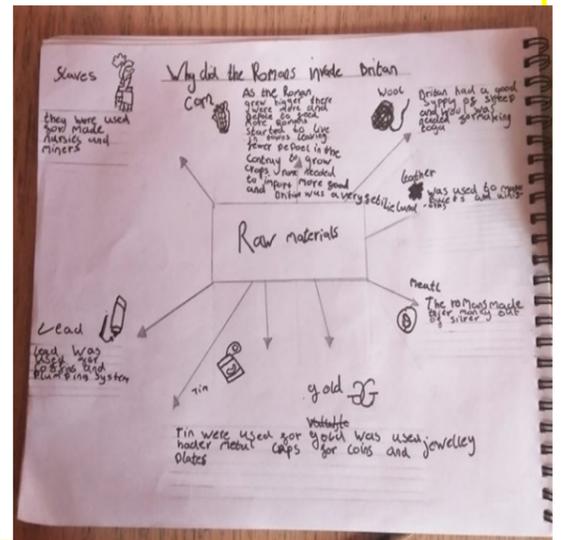
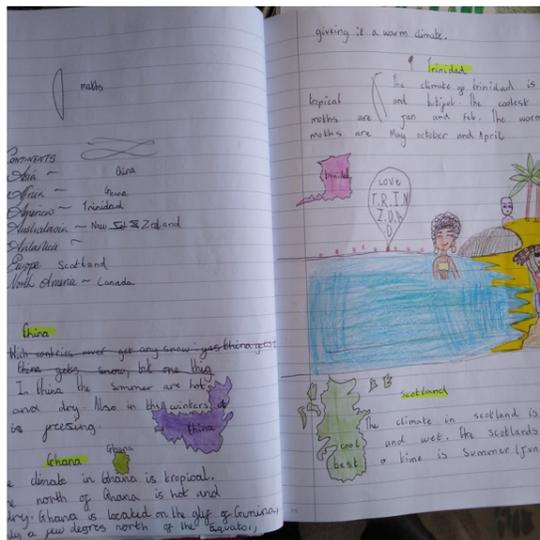
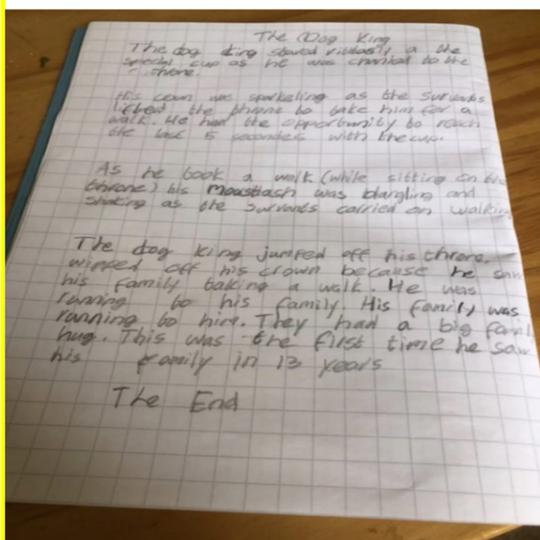
Our community needs and deserves to feel safe in the belief that its leaders condemn all acts of racism and violence and moreover that they believe racism is an abhorrence that we as Lewisham Leaders reject.

Lewisham Leaders have a duty to address systemic racism in our society and we uphold this in our united condemnation of the unlawful murder of an innocent black man George Floyd. It is bad enough that black and brown people have to contend with the health inequalities and disparities that have surfaced due to Covid-19, we are now seeing the specific continuation of excessive force by police against black people.

On behalf of the whole of the Holbeach community I want to say...**BLACK LIVES MATTER!**

## Distance Learning

Well done to everyone who completed their distance learning this week. Working at home is a great way of showing how 'Responsible' and 'Hardworking' you are! This week's examples come from **Muhammed (3K), Summer (4B) and Samuel (5A)**. You can find many more examples of the work that the children have completed at home this week on the class blogs:



# #WALKING FROM HOME

## WALKING ACTIVITIES FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

Nothing sparks imagination quite like a good walk! Living Streets is the UK charity for everyday walking and the people behind the Walk to School campaign.

Each week we produce lots of activities are designed to inspire fantasy, encouraging children to re-write the world around them.

Visit our website to find out more:

<https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-to-school/primary-schools>

Miss Middleton has put together some fantastic music resources for all our Holbeach families. Come to the Holbeach website and have a look...

## MUSIC MATTERS!



### Free School Meals

Have your circumstances changed?

If so, and any of the following applies to you, you can apply for free school meals for your child.

- \* Universal credit with an earnings threshold that does not exceed £7400
- \* Income support
- \* Income based job seekers allowance
- \* Income related employment and support allowance
- \* Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to working tax credit and have an annual income, as assessed by HMRC that does not exceed £16,190

Please apply online. See the link below.

<https://schools.lewisham.gov.uk/SynergyWeb/Parents/default.aspx>



If you are looking for Yoga, mindfulness and relaxation designed specially for kids aged 3 and over (that is used in schools and homes all over the world) then try out Cosmic Kids.

[cosmickids.com/category/watch/](https://cosmickids.com/category/watch/)