

'No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.' – Nelson Mandela

12th June 2020

Issue 8

Free time projects

1. **Southbank summer series**—your teachers have been putting together a selection of workshops for you all to take part in, from entrepreneurship to mindful drawing. Every Tuesday there is a new session for you take part in.

2. **Creative minds**— The Restorative Justice for All Institute has put together a competition to celebrate art and The City of London. If you like painting, poetry, dancing, cooking, singing, cross stitching etc, this is the perfect opportunity for you to submit your piece of work and win amazing prizes! Click [here](#) to find out more information.

3. **Code breakers** - The Army's National Charity has teamed up with Bletchley Park to put together a code breaking challenge. Have you got what it takes to figure the code and deliver the message before it's too late? Click [here](#) to sign up!

Message from Miss Pilling

I am so delighted to be back working with you all of the remainder of this academic year. I have been humbled by your response to the circumstances that you've been faced with and it has been a joy to see your professional engagement in the online lessons that have been running. In true Southbank style you have demonstrated your resilience and ensured that your aspirations to achieve your dream jobs will not be wavered by the situation we find ourselves in. The newsletter will continue to include links to helpful and exciting opportunities for your futures so please read carefully.

Opportunities

1—Miss Newman has organised an amazing 1-to-1 careers coaching programme. If you haven't yet signed up make sure that you get your application in as soon as possible. There are 50 spaces offered on a first come first served basis. Any questions contact Miss Newman with any questions (lucy.newman@oasissouthbank.org).

2— If you haven't yet ensured that you have 2 Sixth form/college applications for September, Southwark and Lambeth college still have some online open days so that you can visit them virtually. Click [here](#) and [here](#) to sign up.

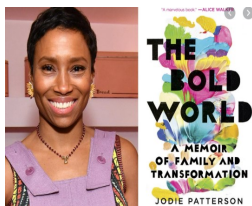
Reading corner

Missing Miss Harrak's school library? Don't forget we now have an "online library" with free access to over 150 books. Click [here](#) to access!

Book recommendations

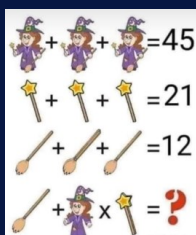
Miss Pilling recommends The Bold

World . Activist Jodie Patterson explores gender, race and authenticity to tell her real life story of a family transformation.



Challenge of the week

1. See if you can solve this maths puzzle:



2. Can you and your family complete the quiz on page 2?

Send completed answers to Miss Pilling

Watch or listen to this...

The Last Dance— a 10 part series documenting the untold story of Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls dynasty. Click [here](#) to watch.

'Can We Just Ask?' - A Podcast that aims to inspire positive change by starting conversations that matter. Their current 10 minute bulletin shares amazing stories and inspiring initiatives to bring about positive environmental and societal change. Click [here](#) to listen.

Shoutouts

Want to submit your own shout outs to your teachers, friends or even your parents? Visit www.bit.ly/OASBShoutouts

To Molly-May:

For being an absolute hero! You are an outstanding member of our school community and we are hugely proud of your actions in

100% attendance to all of their sessions:

Abayn Abdirahman Adillah Aidan Ayman
 Bruk Davell Donas Dylan Huda Layia
 Luca B Malak Marianna Molly O'tega Rachel
 Rohannie Shianne Shan Sophia Tamara Terrell
 Tyra Wang Wi Zachariah Zayna
 Zaki

Not Being Part of the Problem

By Analyce Waite

Racism (Noun)- The belief that one group of people are inferior/superior to another group of people based on physical their appearance or characteristics.

Racism is an issue which has become deeply rooted in society throughout history. There are many factors to systemic racism which exist in the majority of social interactions, racial barriers- both visible and invisible. Invisible barriers could be defined as harmful behaviours that are considered normal and accepted by society. For example, picture an iceberg, on the surface level it may seem like a small obstacle in a large stretch of water, easy to avoid, however, much of an iceberg is below the surface which led to the expression "tip of the iceberg", used to illustrate a small part of a larger unseen issue. Like an iceberg, only a small part of the problem of racism is brought to light while the other part is buried under ignorance which allows the issue to go unnoticed. On many occasions, people who do not have to experience unfair treatment due to the problem of racism feel as if it is not their issue to tackle. However, racism was not created by the ones who experience it on a day to day basis, and it is not a problem we must overcome on our own. Racism must be consciously combated not discreetly tolerated. One deadly trigger of subconscious racism is the stereotyping of people of black decent. Throughout their lives, many people feel they have to hide their true character due to the fear of having been pre-judged based on the stereotypes we know exist; the person they see in the mirror is rarely seen by the institutions that govern society. We must realise that race is a social construction with no biological meaning and there are steps we must take to gradually break these barriers that have been built and transferred through generations.

Ways to begin to overcome the issue of racism:

1. Self educating. For example, start by reading books that explore this issue. A good book to start with is "Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race", or "Black Skin, White Mask" by Frantz Fanon.
2. Acknowledging and combatting microaggressions (subtle and unintentional discrimination) which can often be phrased as backhanded compliments and communicate hostile, derogatory, or negative racial slights & insults towards people of colour or BAME communities. For example, "Oh, you're so pretty for a black girl, can I touch your hair?" or "Oh! You're quite well spoken aren't you? You're mixed right?" It can be unsettling to confront racial tendencies within yourself but it is a step you must take, and empower others to take too.
3. Anti-racism education along with the teachings of history to consider the root of racism. You can make a start by educating yourself on colonisation and the economic factors that contributed to such discrimination. Please email Miss Harrak for a reading list.
4. Create dialogue around the issue.
5. Be bold and act with intention.
6. Intervene and inform. Act on your beliefs when you come across injustice, prejudice and discriminatory words.

Want to get involved in creating next week's BAME Newsletter?

Please email:

Nadia.harrak@oasissouthbank.org

Remember you don't have to be an amazing writer to get involved. You're always more than welcome to share ideas/thoughts/feeling and even design skills- all of which can be contributed to the weekly writings.