

2nd March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that this letter finds you well. I want to begin by thanking those parents who recently attended the Parents of Black and Global Majority meeting on the 21st February and for being so receptive to our ideas for celebrating 75 years of the Windrush docking in Britain.

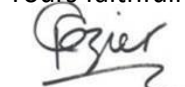
From 22nd June 1948, when the HMT Empire Windrush arrived from the Caribbean, to the introduction of the Immigration Act in 1971, thousands of people came from the West Indies and settled in Britain. Many of those who first arrived were veterans of the Second World War answering the call from the British government to work in the NHS, on public transport and in the Post Office. Their descendants have continued to enrich the country through their contributions to science, art, literature, medicine, education, politics, sport, music and numerous other aspects of all our lives.

As a proudly multicultural school, we feel it's important for us to celebrate this landmark event, one that has encouraged so many diverse communities to settle and grow here. We are planning a series of celebrations culminating in the re-naming of the Wren building (named after Sir Christopher Wren) on Thursday June 22nd. Events will include the display of art throughout the school, a drama production and a Caribbean cooking event with a guest chef, and much more!

To make this a big success we are asking for input from our parents who have family and friends from the Windrush Generation. We are keen to get in touch with people who can share their memories of their arrival in the country and of building a life here with their families. Our students will take photographic portraits of those we speak to, recording their voices and their stories to be shared and kept for future generations. We think it's important that this history is told by the people who lived it and that in gathering their stories our students will learn more about their communities and about the history of this country.

If you think you can help in any way to make Windrush 75 a success, please contact Mr Mckenzie (pam@hws.haringey.sch.uk), Ms Birnie (sbi@hws.haringey.sch.uk) or Mr Holmes (cho@hws.haringey.sch.uk) who will be spearheading the Windrush 75 Celebrations. We're keen to get working as quickly as possible to ensure its success. Also, the next meeting of the Parents of Black and Global Majority Students will take place on Tuesday 25th April from 5pm to 7pm. If you are a parent of a Black or Global Majority child, please do come along!

Yours faithfully,



Patrick Cozier
Headteacher

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Highgate Wood School supports individual actions to address the issues of Climate Change and promotes the United Nations top 10 recommendations

