



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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Dear Parents

Show Racism the Red Card

Today two seasoned educators, Lionel and Francis, lead an assembly with all 90 Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils and their teachers and TAs, which covered equality, addressing skin colour, race and ethnicity. 'Show Racism the Red Card' is an anti-racism educational charity established in 1996. They work in schools throughout England delivering anti-racism workshops to more than 20,000 young people every year.

Workshop Aims

- To educate about the causes and consequences of racism and to explore the various forms racism can take.
- To empower to challenge racism, providing them with relevant knowledge and information.
- To help young people prepare to play an active role as citizens in an increasingly multi-cultural society.
- To enable young people to develop good relationships and respect the differences between people, regardless of their ethnicity, faith, culture or nationality.

The 'Show Racism the Red Card' DVD was shown to the children at the beginning of the assembly, this included professional male and female footballers from a range of ethnicities talking out their personal experiences of racism on the pitch and its effects. There were also personal accounts from young members of Muslim, black and Traveller communities.

The workshop discussed the history of racism touching on slavery and difficulty challenging the views of older generations with outdated views. They encouraged pupils to share with school staff or parents if a child is subjected to racism.

What you can do to support at home

If you are a parent of a Year 4, 5 or 6 pupils we would like you to talk to your child about the workshop and what they learnt today. The children felt nervous to talk about differences but we want to empower the children to use the correct terms when describing groups of people.

As a staff, we will confidently and respectfully describe groups of people as white (not light skinned/pink or fair), black (not dark/brown/tanned/African/chocolate) or of Asian appearance who could be described as brown. The children learnt that it is best to not compare skin colour to an object. The children understand that the term 'mixed race' is not a phrase to describe skin colour and can only be used if you know the parents are of mixed ethnicity.

The children were sensible and mature during the session and were comfortable to ask questions and talk confidently in front of others. The children know I am going to write to you so you can share and discuss the terminology at home to avoid offending others. I hope this summary proves helpful.

Regards,

Miss Emma Fenn
Headteacher

