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Headteacher: Mr Ben Paxman
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Monday 8th June 2020

Dear parents and carers,

The recent events in America following the appalling death of George Floyd have echoed around the world. I'm sure you are aware that, over the weekend, Black Lives Matter demonstrations took place on a global scale, including here in Sheffield, to raise awareness and to educate people about racial inequalities around the world and to highlight the importance of taking action.

Under normal circumstances, we would respond to this proactively, in an age-appropriate way, giving opportunities for children to learn about key aspects of what has happened, ask questions and share their thoughts and opinions through discussion with their classmates and teachers.

I realise that finding the right words to discuss such difficult events is not always easy, even for experienced professionals; however, I believe it is important that we support you in talking to your child at home if you wish to do so. I also believe that, while people around the world are taking action against racism, so should we and it is our responsibility as a community to ensure that our children help to change the world for the better. Discussions with our children are a really good starting point for this.

BBC Newsround is always a well-balanced source of up-to-date news, which we often use in school to help children keep in tune with current affairs. There are three relevant Newsround articles below, along with a video from a long-established children's newspaper: 'First News.'



Item	Link
George Floyd: Why are there huge protests in the US and around the world?	https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/52813673
UK kids talk about how George Floyd's death has affected them.	https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/52936388
A selection of photos from around the UK as thousands join protests to take a stand against racism.	https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/52950491
5 minute video giving overview of the plight of black people through history.	https://live.firstnews.co.uk/#fvp_FYI-IDGI-SPECIAL-EP11-RACISM,2s

We hope you find these resources useful. Racism is something we can all learn about and find out ways that we can support and promote equality for all. Please be assured that our firm belief is that by calling racism out and not being silent, we are giving the clear message that we are all part of the one human race.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions about this or any of the issues raised.

Yours sincerely,



Ben Paxman
Headteacher