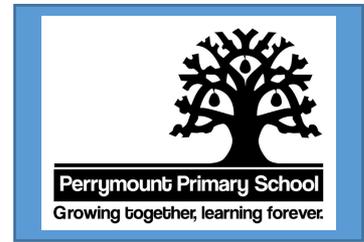


Monday 8th June 2020



#Black Lives Matter

Within the walls of Perrymount Primary School it has always been true that we view our community, children, parents, staff and governors, as family. A family that we care about, a family that we will always do our best for and a family that will never tolerate any form of prejudice. Unfortunately, the ethos that exists within our walls does not always exist outside. We teach our children the values of respect, tolerance and equality but these are not the values that they always see in our world.

The brutal killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis has affected us all. Everyone was shocked by what they have seen in America and it has again reinforced for us the knowledge that in this world not all people are treated equally. It is still true in the UK for example, that black people are 40 times more likely to be stopped and searched by the police and this is not acceptable.

Lewisham headteachers have compiled the following statement, which I would like to share with you.

Lewisham Leaders stand together to condemn the unlawful murder of an innocent black man George Floyd in Minneapolis.

We stand united in our commitment to tackle and challenge racism, address inequality and call out discrimination.

As educators of a school population which is 76% Black and ethnic minority we cannot remain silent.

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.

Another message I have is from Lewisham Education

Black Lives Matter in Lewisham

A message from Pinaki Ghoshal, Lewisham's Executive Director for Children and Young People and Angela Scattergood, Director of Education.

The Mayor of Lewisham, Damien Egan has published a statement on behalf of Lewisham Council in response to the killing of George Floyd in the United States. You can read the full statement here:

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/articles/news/black-lives-matter-in-lewisham>

We believe that our schools and settings are key to tackling racism and other forms of discrimination. We will support all Lewisham schools and settings in their commitment to standing against racism and injustice, alongside and in solidarity with the local and global Black community.

I want to reassure you that at Perrymount we will continue, and I know you would expect nothing less, to promote equality for all and give our community the strength to question injustice wherever it is witnessed. Our community will continue to be ambassadors for the truth and justice for all.

Yours sincerely

Ms Keen on behalf of the Perrymount Community.