



REDHILL SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Guardians

At Redhill we highly value the diversity and cultural heritage of our staff and students and realise how important it is to celebrate our school as a whole. We recognize the importance of teaching our students about the wider world in order to help them become the global citizens of the future and able to understand the communities that they will work in. This half term we have been working with a group of students on promoting cultural diversity at Redhill school and getting their student voice on how we can improve. As part of these discussions our students have asked us to run a culture day for the whole school in order to celebrate the cultural heritage of our students and staff. We are delighted to support this event and have decided that **Monday 6th March** will be our first **Culture Day** at Redhill School. The students are very excited and are busy planning a number of activities for the day. During the day lessons for all subjects will have a cultural theme and we will be running a carousel of assemblies where we will be discussing diversity and shining a light on the different countries and heritage of our students and staff.

At break and lunchtimes on the 6th, we are running a cultural marketplace where students can bring in different types of food from their country and allow students to try new things. We are also hoping to have students playing some music, have an exhibition about traditional dress and stations where students can learn to write or speak their name in different languages, try out some henna designs and art work from different countries. In addition, we have staff and students working together to produce a staff Bhangra performance which we are hoping to release on our website along with the assembly that will include student and staff interviews about their cultural heritage. The marketplace will be raising money for Children's Aid so students who wish to take part need to bring some spare change so their donations can go towards this important charity. We have chosen Children's Aid as they work with children from all countries and backgrounds supporting them through times of conflict and hardship. In light of the recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria our support of this charity could not be timelier.

The day will be a non-uniform day with the emphasis on students wearing their traditional dress if they wish; dressing in the colours of their countries flag, or just wearing their countries flag around their shoulders if they prefer! Football shirts are not appropriate in this instance and we ask that students do not come dressed in football shirts. We also ask that students who wear non-school uniform make sure that this is modest, not overly revealing or have inappropriate language or logos on them. It will truly be a day of staff and students working alongside each to celebrate the diversity of our school. Following the day, we are forming an Equalities Student Council and we would like to invite parents to become part of a working group on diversity within the school so we can take on board your views

“Commitment to excellence”

Headteacher ~ Mr J Clayton BA (Hons) NPQH

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and ensure that equality and diversity are central to everything we do moving forward. If you are interested in becoming part of that working group please contact me via my email cmather@redhill.dudley.sch.uk and I will be happy to speak with you further.

As families you can support us with our Culture Day if you wish to by either supporting the cultural bake sale, if you have an expertise in something and would like to volunteer some time to come in over lunchtime and work with us and our students you would be more than welcome. Currently I am looking for people who can do hair braiding, musicians, or to have some examples of traditional African and Asian dress or other artefacts brought into school to showcase to our students in our exhibition. Please do contact me if you have any questions about the day or feel you would like to contribute something to the day.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Carrie Mather
Deputy Head: Culture and Ethos