

STEPHEN
LAWRENCE
DAY 



#LiveYourBestLife

Stephen Lawrence Day

Pupils join hands to mark Stephen Lawrence Day

On the 22nd April, 1993, Stephen Lawrence was murdered at a bus stop in London. It was an unprovoked, racially motivated attack. In 2019, on the 25th anniversary of this senseless act, Stephen Lawrence Day was established.

It is a day dedicated to Stephen's memory and one that also allows people to reflect upon the part we all play in creating a society in which everyone can flourish. Stephen Lawrence Day exists to inspire a more equal, inclusive society and to foster opportunities for marginalised young people in the UK.

Last week, our pupils remembered Stephen's life by taking part in a series of activities as part of Stephen Lawrence Day. Nationally, schoolchildren were invited to take part in one of three challenges - do an act of good in their community, write a poem, or make some art that reflects Stephen and his legacy.

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 With that in mind, our pupils let their creative juices flow by taking part in the latter to produce some eye-catching artwork.
 Their aim was to create an Art installation that supports diversity and strengthens intercultural relations and understanding. Our pupils started the process by drawing around their hands before decorating the outlines in a cacophony of colours. The individual pieces of artwork will now be combined to create a piece of art that depicts a joining of hands to signify

a promoting of tolerance, understanding and respect. As part of the national activities, there were also Assemblies and lessons designed to educate pupils about Stephen Lawrence and why we celebrate his life.

Progress

It was a message communicated in schools throughout the UK and one Stephen's mother, Baroness Doreen Edwards OBE, praised whilst also urging people to continue making progress in the fight against racism. Baroness Lawrence said: "Today's schoolchildren are perhaps the most engaged generation there has ever

been – keenly aware of injustices around them and with a strong desire to root them out.

"Britain has to continue to work towards a fairer society. There remains progress to be made and now is not the time for complacency. Not all schoolchildren today may have heard the name Stephen Lawrence or know his story.

"But the last year has shown us that Stephen's story – unequal treatment because of skin colour, and exposure to embedded prejudice in systems, structures and institutions – is as relevant today as it has ever been."