

Monday 12 June



This week I wanted to share with you our poem, read by our new Head Boy and Girl on Friday in our whole school assembly. On Friday we congratulated those students in Year 11 who have been appointed to leadership roles as House Captain, Senior Prefect, Prefect and Head Boy, Girl and Deputies. I chose to ask our school community to remember that through this celebration and in the tumultuous times in which we live that it is essential that we are compassionate and tolerant and remember that we are all equally worthy and made of the same flesh and blood.

The British by Benjamin Zephaniah

Take some Picts, Celts and Silures
And let them settle,
Then overrun them with Roman conquerors.

Remove the Romans after approximately 400 years
Add lots of Norman French to some
Angles, Saxons, Jutes and Vikings, then stir vigorously.

Mix some hot Chileans, cool Jamaicans, Dominicans,
Trinidadians and Bajans with some Ethiopians, Chinese,
Vietnamese and Sudanese.

Then take a blend of Somalians, Sri Lankans, Nigerians
And Pakistanis,

Combine with some Guyanese
And turn up the heat.

Sprinkle some fresh Indians, Malaysians, Bosnians,
Iraqis and Bangladeshis together with some
Afghans, Spanish, Turkish, Kurdish, Japanese
And Palestinians
Then add to the melting pot.

Leave the ingredients to simmer.
As they mix and blend allow their languages to flourish
Binding them together with English.
Allow time to be cool.

Add some unity, understanding, and respect for the future,
Serve with justice
And enjoy.

Note: All the ingredients are equally important. Treating one ingredient better than another will leave a bitter unpleasant taste.

Warning: An unequal spread of justice will damage the people and cause pain. Give justice and equality to all.

This week Year 7 students and members of the School Council lead the school in a charity week for WaterAid. This follows on from School Council work to have a further water fountain installed for students at the school.

Activities this week:

- Monday – Wednesday – Film in the Learning Resource Centre, 50p
- Tuesday – Eat cake at break, donations to purchase
- All week – donate loose change to cover the WaterAid logo
- Thursday – CD and book bring and buy sale at Break and Lunchtime
- Thursday lunchtime – Stocks – pay to through a water sponge at your teachers
- **THURSDAY** – Civvies Day – wear something blue for WaterAid, £1 suggested contribution
- Friday – Year 9 vs 10 Basketball – lunchtime, donate to watch

Remember we are aiming to raise at least £700, which would buy a tap in a community where water is scarce

Others news this week:

- On Friday Year 8 students head to Coventry for their RE trip.
- Good luck to Year 7 and 8 students taking part in the Junior Mathematics Challenge on Wednesday
- Year 9 Gifted and Talented Art and Textiles students are in for a treat on Tuesday as they visit a gallery in Colchester to view the BP National Portrait Award. They will be introduced to a number of ways they can access and respond to art within a gallery and use question sheets to prompt the making of a mini journal reflecting on the visit.

Julia Upton