

# North-West SCITT

## Curriculum Newsletter

Edition 2,  
Oct/Nov 2021

October and November are busy months in the world of education. Aside from the usual suspects (Halloween, Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day), there are plenty of other events and activities for you to tailor your curriculum to, and a wealth of activities you can access too.

Go on: *#inspire #curiosity #understand #respect #grow #learn.*

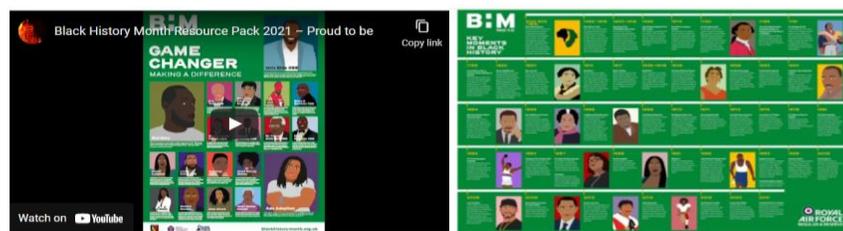
### October is **Black History Month**

<https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/>



Get your resource pack here:

<https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/news/black-history-month-resource-pack-2021/>



**Books for Topics** (a brilliant resource – bookmark it now!) has a wonderful list of children's books here:

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/black-lives-matter>

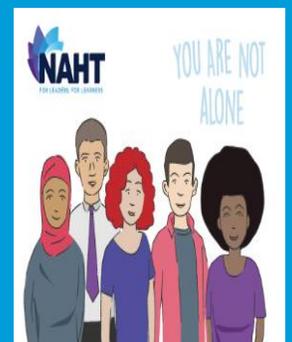


Black History Month launches with hundreds of events across the country this October, amid a new campaign encouraging people of all ages to share what they are **proud to be** on social media.

Now in its 34th year, this **Black History Month** has a renewed focus on black British resistance to racism – inspired in part by last summer's Black Lives Matter protests – and celebrates key figures who have made substantial contributions to the country.



Black History Month magazine has sent 500 resource packs to UK schools which include information about key moments in Black British History and a wide variety of lesson plans. The magazine has encouraged people to join its social media campaign.



## Anti-Bullying Week 2021:

*One Kind Word*



<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/anti-bullying-week-2021-one-kind-word>

Kindness is more important today than it has ever been. The isolation of the last year has underlined how little acts of consideration can break down barriers and brighten the lives of the people around us. This is one of the reasons, that 'One Kind Word' has been chosen as the theme of Anti-Bullying Week this year.



Anti-Bullying Week is coordinated in England by the Anti-Bullying Alliance and takes place from 15 to 19 November 2021. This year's theme is **One Kind Word**. The week will begin with Odd Socks Day, supported by CBBC and CBeebies star Andy Day and his band Andy and the Odd Socks.



**Talk Money Week (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> November)** is an annual campaign to get the nation talking about money. Encourage your children to talk about money too. Here is a website with resources you could use:

<https://natwest.mymoneysense.com/home/>

(\*Don't worry if you can't fit it in this month – My Money Week runs in June so you will have another opportunity to talk money then).



# BBC Children in Need

19<sup>th</sup> November 2021



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BUY PUDSEY GOODIES

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<https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/schools/>

## BBC Children in Need is back on Friday 19th November!

Join other schools and nurseries across the UK for a do good, feel good BBC Children in Need Day! There are loads of ways to get your students learning and having fun at the same time this year.

With the help of schools and nurseries like yours, we can help to tackle the lasting impact of the pandemic and support thousands of children in local communities across the UK.

ORDER A FREE FUNDRAISING KIT



### Road Safety Week 2021



The theme of Road Safety Week 2021 is ROAD SAFETY HEROES, celebrating the heroic work of road safety professionals, and explaining how we can all play a part in making journeys safer for everyone (15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> November).

# #Eco Focus

October is 'What's under your feet?' month, focusing on the topic of how climate change is affecting UK birds: <https://jointhepod.org/teachers/other/information-pack-whats-under-your-feet>

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**A quick guide to What's Under Your Feet?**

👍 x5

7-11s, 11-14s | Biodiversity

Introduce our What's Under Your Feet campaign with this guide.

Download

**Invertebrate survey recording sheet**

👍 x8

7-11s, 11-14s, 14+ | Biodiversity

Spot and record invertebrates for the What's Under Your Feet? campaign.

Download

**What's Under Your Feet? - lesson plan**

👍 x2

7-11s, 11-14s | Biodiversity

How can citizen science help the UK bird population? Find out in this lesson plan.

Download



**International Walk to School Month** - Do the children see any wildlife on their way to school?  
<https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-us/international-walk-to-school-month>



*Remembrance Sunday, which falls on 14 November in 2021, is a national opportunity to remember the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life.*

# Why we need to stop doing the Romans



<https://www.marymyatt.com/blog/why-we-need-to-stop-doing-the-romans>

*Finally, I take inspiration from the thought-provoking educationalist Mary Myatt for a little light-reading on the curriculum this edition, with Mary's blog:*

Poor Romans! They don't want to be 'done' to. And the same applies to Judaism, poetry, volcanos etc. Instead, we need to talk about **'teaching about'** the Romans and the other units. Why does this matter? Well, it's more than semantics. It has implications for how we think about planning, delivering, and evaluating the curriculum.

If we are 'doing' as opposed to 'teaching' a unit on the Romans, then it can sometimes legitimise using poor quality resources; not necessarily in every case, but there is a real danger of this. When we flip it to **'teaching about'** we are obliged to pay more attention to the 'what' of what we intend to convey and then check for whether our pupils have learnt it.

There is a joke about two men in a bar. One says to his friend 'I've taught my dog to speak French.' 'Really?' says his mate, 'let's hear him then.' 'I said I taught him; I didn't say he'd learnt it' comes the response. There is something important in this anecdote and it is this: that the fact that I have taught something does not mean that my pupils have 'got' it. And they are unlikely to have really learnt something unless they produce something worthwhile with the material they are studying.

In the video explaining the rationale for the national curriculum, [Tim Oates](#) talks about curriculum 'products'. When he talks about products, he means the things which pupils write, say, draw, the low stakes tests they complete or the things they make. All these provide insights for the teacher into the extent to which pupils know, understand, and can do something on their own terms.

We are more likely to take this measured, intentional approach if we start shifting the language from **'doing'** to **'teaching'**.



“

Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young.

—  
HENRY FORD

GRACIOUSQUOTES.COM

*Nina McLoughlin*  
*North West SHARES SCITT*  
*01695 557488*

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