A graphic celebrating UK Black History Month. It features a central dark grey circle containing the text "CELEBRATING UK BLACK HISTORY MONTH". The background is a collage of colorful geometric shapes, including triangles and rectangles in shades of teal, yellow, orange, and white, arranged in a pattern reminiscent of a quilt. The text "CELEBRATING" is in white, while "UK BLACK HISTORY MONTH" is in large, bold letters with "UK" in orange, "BLACK" in white, "HISTORY" in teal, and "MONTH" in yellow.

CELEBRATING

**UK BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH**



- Black History Month UK began in October 1987 by Akyaaba Sebo, a special projects coordinator of the Ethnic Minorities Unit at the now defunct Great London Council. His aim was to encourage Black British children and young adults to discover more about their heritage and the achievements of so many Black people throughout History. Sebo wanted to raise awareness about the rich and diverse history of black people UK, as well as raising awareness of the many difficulties black people have had to overcome.
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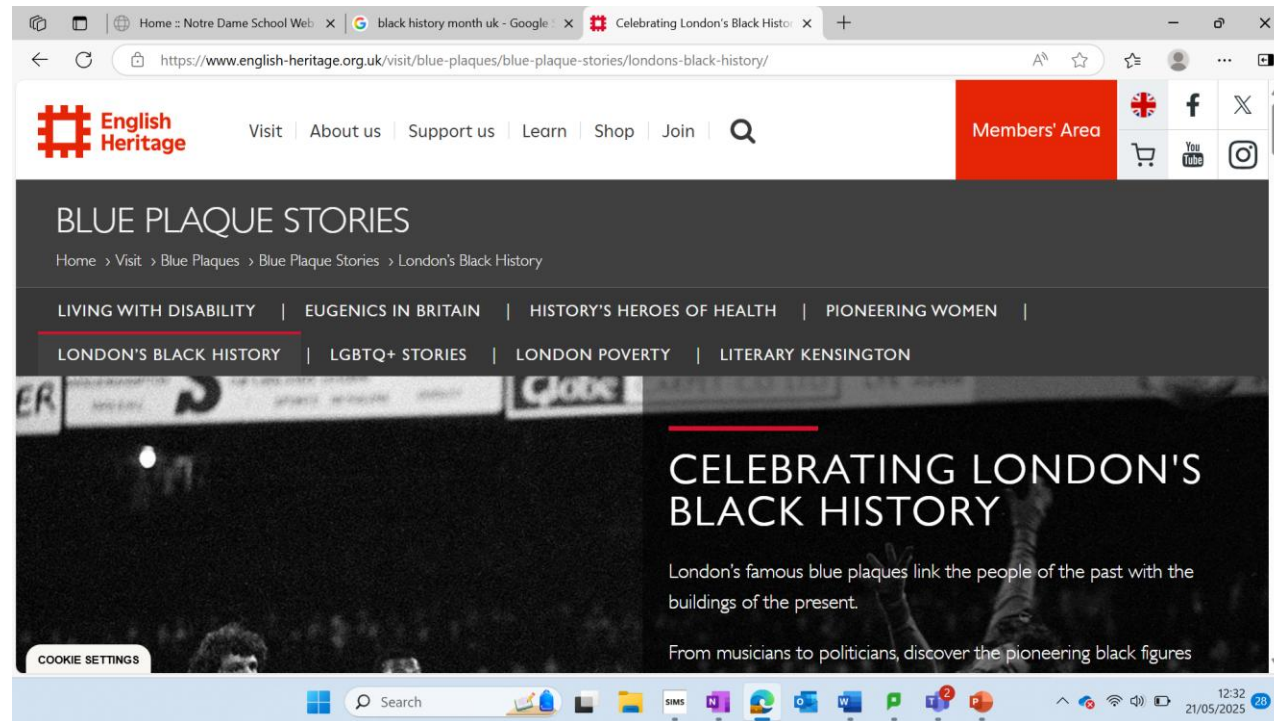
‘The theme for Black History Month UK 2025 is “Standing Firm in Power and Pride,” a powerful tribute to the resilience, strength, and unwavering commitment to progress that defines the Black community across the globe. This year, the theme highlights the profound contributions made by Black people be they leaders, activists, or pioneers who have shaped history, while also looking towards a future of continued empowerment, unity, and growth’.



This year at Notre Dame we encourage you to look into some of the Black people who have been recipients of blue plaques in London. London's famous blue plaques link the people of the past with the buildings of the present. More than 1,000 plaques across the capital, on buildings humble and grand, honour the notable women and men who have lived or worked in them.

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- Carry out research into the people listed on the research task on Firefly and present your information to members of the History Department. This information can be presented in a creative way or in the form of prose. If possible visit the sites of the blue plaques for more achievement points!





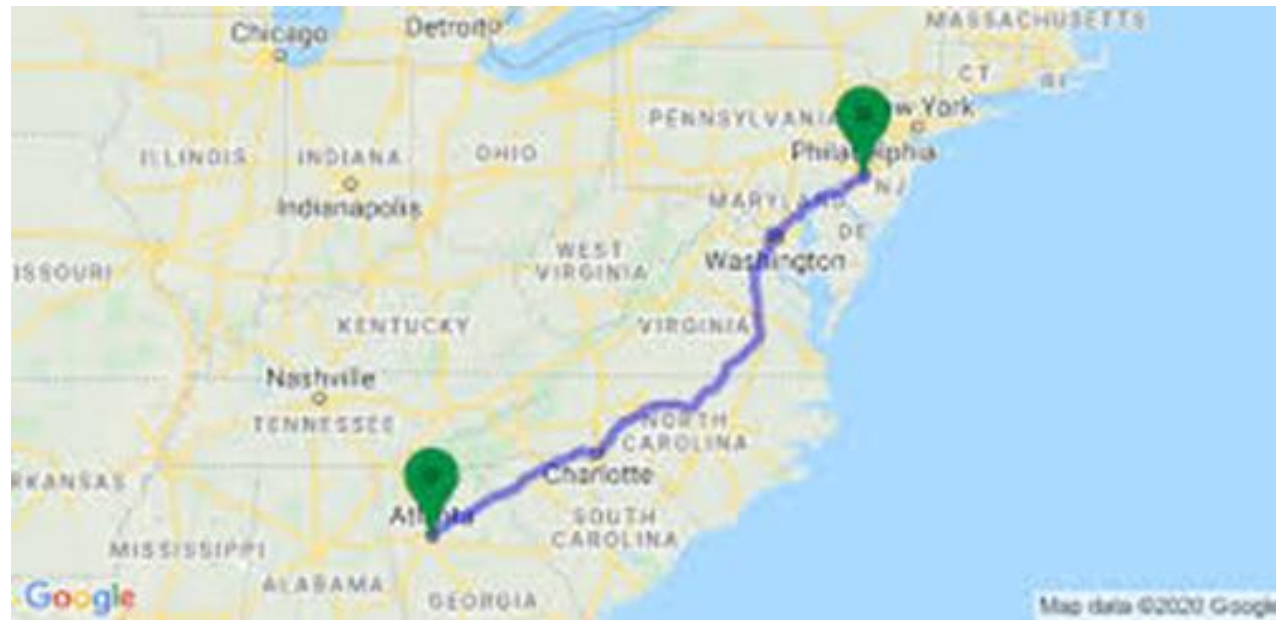
The English Heritage website is an excellent place to find out more about these incredibly important individuals and to find the locations of their blue plaques!

Participants in the research task will be rewarded with achievement points and the best projects will receive prizes from the History Department! Information about the research task will be sent out on firefly after today's assembly.

ELLEN AND WILLIAM CRAFT



THE CRAFTS' 1000 MILE JOURNEY FROM GEORGIA TO PENNSYLVANIA



ELLEN CRAFT'S DISGUISE





THEY FLED TO
LIVERPOOL IN 1850



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- Over the next six months the Crafts toured the country extensively, lecturing (with fellow fugitive William Wells Brown) against slavery in America, and captivating their large audiences. With the support of English abolitionists including Lady Byron and Harriet Martineau, they then spent three years at Ockham School, a trade school in rural Surrey. There they learned to read and write, while Ellen taught handicrafts and William carpentry to fellow pupils.



- The Crafts eventually settled in Hammersmith in west London. From there, they helped to organise the London Emancipation Society while continuing to lecture throughout the UK.
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- After the end of the American Civil War (1861–5), and the legal emancipation of enslaved people that resulted, the Crafts returned to Boston in August 1869 with three of their five (possibly six) children. Funded by donations and investment from British and American abolitionists, they bought a plantation in Bryan County, Georgia, where in 1873 they set up the Woodville Cooperative Farm School to teach and employ those who had been newly freed. Although they had periods of prosperity, the school eventually closed for lack of funding, and the Crafts also suffered attacks from racists. Ellen is believed to have died in Georgia in 1891, and William died at their daughter's Charleston home on 28 January 1900. He was buried in the city's Humane and Friendly Society Cemetery.
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How you can be involved in BHM in school?

- Participate in the BHM lessons run by the History Department
 - Participate in the whole school research task set by Mrs. Ha on Firefly
 - Read the Friday mailing article
 - Use the Hungry for More scheme on BHM.
 - Participate in the workshops on the 1st, 8th and 15th October on African storytelling, African drumming and gumboot dancing for Years 7, 8 and 9
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LET US PRAY

- Compassionate God,
who sent Jesus Christ to deliver us from all manner of injustices and inequalities,
create in us new hearts and enlarged visions,
to see the image of God in every person
irrespective of background, race and ethnicity.
 - May we be generous in our love of others
as we work towards ending racism and injustice;
creating communities of human flourishing,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever
 - Amen.
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