



EDUCATION 4 CHANGE

BULLETIN 3

2020

The E4C Team wants to take this opportunity to thank all leadership teams that have shared and distributed the bulletin within their schools. The E4C Team has been overwhelmed with the engagement and support of educators in Newham and beyond.

The purpose of the E4C Bulletin is to offer Newham school educators a vehicle to keep conversations going about anti-racism in a safe and focused way. Some schools have already elected E4C ambassadors to lead on these discussions.

Please share this bulletin with your staff team.

Although the project is still in the very early stages of development, we want to keep colleagues alert to the Education4Change agenda with a weekly bulletin. This is by no means a professional publication but simply a way to keep the conversation going with your teams on this important issue.

What's happened since the last bulletin?

- The name **Education 4 Change** has been agreed.
- The **statement on racial equity** has been written for Newham Education Department and is nearly ready. It has been **reshaped into a pledge** and will be **shared in September**.
- A request has been made to NAPH for financial support.
- A **research assistant** has been found and funding allocated in the budget plan to set up and implement the project.
- The three work areas are filling up with volunteers - **Curriculum, Training and Accreditation**, see below.
- **Mike Sheridan, OFSTED regional director for London**, has requested to meet with Lando and Lorna about the project and how OFSTED can support.
- A variety of meetings have taken place to confirm:
 - **Promotion and funding** for the **Education for Change** project. A PR company will handle the launch, application for funding, media/coms and website
 - The launch - tentative date 26th November. High profile guest list.
 - 2-day conference and **training for Heads and E4C school 'ambassadors'**

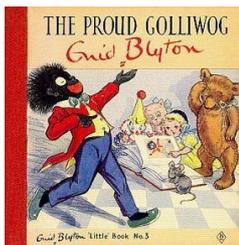
Domain 1: Curriculum and Research Team Leaders: Helen Marriot / Anastasia Boreham/J.Grenier	CPD/ Training Team Leaders: Lorna Jackson / Kirsten McLeod	Accreditation and Funding Team Leader: Lando Du Plooy & Joan Deslandes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ - Sue Ferguson❖ - Violet Otieno❖ - Kath Sewell❖ - Sukwinder Samra❖ - Sally-Ann Norris❖ - Dellis Smith❖ - Kate Mc Gee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ - Natasha Scott❖ - Liburd Henry❖ - Elgan Prosser❖ - Nina Gill (tbc)❖ - Natasha Fowler	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ - Irvin Walters

The theme this week is **courage**. It takes courage to bring about change and below are some examples of courageous acts in the fight against conscious and unconscious bias

Stories from Newham

Did you know... Hartley Primary School in East Ham were proactive in the fight to get rid of the 'golliwog' image used by jam producers, Robertson's. Here's how...

A Y2 class was discussing that the name of the school had a namesake - Hartley's jam. The discussion led to which was best, Hartley's or Robertson's jam. Some children preferred Robertson's as they could collect little badges in the image of a black faced golliwog... Others thought it was unkind to black people and decided to do something about it...



So, in 1981, a group of them decided to write to Robertson's Jam to protest about the company's marketing and loyalty programme, giving out metal badges depicting the horrendous minstrel image. The class wrote several protest letters and finally got a reply stating that not enough people (!) had complained. The Hartley children persevered and so did a lot of other people but it wasn't until 1988 that the offensive image was finally removed.

Golliwog dolls are still seen in places and some people (collectors) say they cannot see what the fuss was about, how it denigrates black people and the obvious links to slavery.

Incidentally, the teacher of that class was a very young Lorna Jackson. Those Hartley School children showed **COURAGE** to take that tiny step that brought about change.



We are still fighting for change nearly 40 years later...



July 2020, Uncle Ben's Rice and Aunt Jemima's pancakes are removing their stereotypical images from their packaging. 'Uncle' was a derogatory term during slavery days in the USA where white southerners would not use the respectful terms of Mr or Mrs to address black people, instead they would use 'Uncle' or 'Aunt', as in the book 'Uncle Tom's Cabin'.

Also this week...

The Washington Redskins American football team has said it will retire its name, long criticised as racist. In a statement on 14th July, the team said it would "be retiring the Redskins name and logo upon completion of a review" demanded by its sponsors. Its major sponsors recently threatened to pull funding from the NFL team unless it considered renaming itself. Money talks. So, the lesson here is that companies are finally recognising the insidious racism perpetuated by **labelling and marketing**. As educators we must be supported, given the confidence and **courage** to stand up and speak out against those that say this is not important, just as those little children at Hartley school did.



Soundbites heard in Newham this week... (non verbatim)

On the subject of unconscious bias:

“I think E4C have done the right thing by starting with identifying unconscious bias. Teachers will feel more comfortable talking about unconscious bias rather than racism. After all we are all biased in some way, aren't we?”

After a lengthy discussion on whether old shows like ‘Love Thy Neighbour’, ‘Rising Damp’ etc. should be taken down:

“It is such a shame as they were not meant to poke fun at black people, it was simply comedy at the time.”

Response: “Well, you could say it is such a shame slavery happened as it was just a response to a labour shortage at the time.”

Conversations have started which is one of the major aims of E4C.

Other news this week for your conversations...

“London Borough of Newham does not have statues related to the slave trade that are council owned or on council property” (Mayor of Newham)

“The Mayor’s Office would also like to add that Newham has a rich and progressive history, and we have much to celebrate, from being one of the birthplaces of the suffragette movement, and also owning the table the anti-slavery declaration was signed upon. We can also celebrate this history and the spirit which unites all of us across our many communities that make up the Newham family.”

If you google ‘slave table Newham’, have a look at what comes up! I wonder what the mayor would say about that...

Introducing...

Each week, we will be introducing you to notable figures in antiracism and education.

- **David Gillborn** is Professor of Critical Race Studies at the University of Birmingham. David’s research focuses on race inequalities in education, especially the role of racism as a changing and complex characteristic of the **system**. Have a look at some of his books for your summer reading list. We hope he will attend the launch of Education4Change.



And finally...

Question: How do I become more **courageous**?

Answer: Start with a deep breath.

*“It is easy to break down and destroy.
The heroes are those who make peace and build.”*

- Nelson Mandela