

Dear Parents and Carers,

21 October 2022

**RE: Black History Month Celebration Evening, Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November: 5:30pm-7:30pm**

We would like to extend a warm welcome to you and your families to join us for our second annual Black Excellence Celebration Evening to commemorate the end of our Black History month celebrations.

Throughout the month of October and beyond, we at St Mark's are celebrating Black Excellence (BE): the excellent contribution that black people have made - and continue to make - to our community, our country and our world. As a diverse Church of England Academy underpinned by the values of love, hope and trust, the focus has been affirming and celebratory of identity, inspiring our students to BE everything they were created to be.

The event on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November will be a night of inspirational music, dance, poetry and spoken word, celebrating Black Excellence with our students, staff, families, guests and the local community. The evening will include:

- Our Academy Steel Pans Band
- Our Academy Choir and soloists
- Performance Poetry
- A special live DJ Black History celebratory music compilation
- A special presentation from our recently formed 'Black Is Great' student leadership group
- Delicious Cultural Refreshments and more.

Our special guests include:

- Patrice Campbell, BBC Songs of Praise Gospel Singer of the Year 2022
- Nathaniel Smith, football coach and his daughter Niyah Smith, recently signed by Arsenal Girls Youth Academy (Under 12s)
- Romeo Bremmer, an inspirational 14-year-old young black author of eight books and his mother Juliet Coley, author, publisher, education leader and community champion. Books from both authors will be on sale on the evening.
- Eric Boateng, British Professional Basketball Player
- DJ Milktray- BBC 1Xtra DJ, motivational speaker and youth and community champion
- Kwajo Tweneboa, community activist, TV and radio presenter (former student and staff member of St Mark's)

You are also free and encouraged to wear cultural clothing on the evening if you desire to. We want to celebrate the rich diversity of our community on this evening.

**Please turn over for how to book tickets to attend the event.**

How to book:

The event is completely free however you must register with Eventbrite and present an E-ticket (or you can print a copy) on the evening. Any Year 7-11 student that wants to attend must attend with a parent/carer (only Year 12 and 13 students can attend unaccompanied). There is a maximum of three people per family that can attend and all their names must be registered with the person who makes the booking online. You can access the link to book tickets by clicking this link:

[Black Excellence Celebration Evening Tickets, Thu 10 Nov 2022 at 17:30 | Eventbrite](#)

or simply visiting our website [www.stmarksacademy.com](http://www.stmarksacademy.com) and clicking the link in the pop-up box.

Tickets can be booked from today, throughout the half term and up until Tuesday 8th November. However, once bookings have reached the capacity figure, we are unable to issue any more tickets. We therefore encourage you to book early.

Any queries or issues, please do not hesitate to email Rev Andrew Wignal, the event coordinator on [awignal@stmarks.anthemtrust.uk](mailto:awignal@stmarks.anthemtrust.uk).

Yours faithfully,



Hannah Fahey  
Principal

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**St Marks**  
**Black Excellence Celebration Evening**  
**Thursday 10th November 2022, 5:30-7:30pm**  
St Mark's CoFE Academy Acacia Road, Mitcham CR4 1SF

A night of inspirational music, dance, drama, poetry and spoken word, celebrating Black Excellence with our students, staff and guests.

The evening will include:

- Our Steel Pans Band
- Our Academy Choir and Soloists
- Performance Poetry
- Dance
- Cultural Dress Celebration
- Words of Inspiration
- Black is Great (BIG) Student group Presentation
- Cultural Refreshments and more!

**GUEST:**  
Romeo Bremmer  
14 year old Author

**GUEST:**  
DJ Milktray

**GUEST:**  
Juliet Bremmer BCA,  
Author,  
Educationalist and  
Community Champion

**GUESTS:**  
Nathaniel Smith,  
Football Coach and  
daughter footballer  
Niyah Smith, age 10  
(signed to Arsenal  
Under 11s Girls'  
Football Academy)

**GUEST:**  
Kwa Jo Tweneboa,  
Social Housing  
Activist and TV and  
Radio Presenter

**GUEST ARTIST:**  
Patrice Campbell,  
BBC Songs of Praise  
Gospel Singer of the  
Year 2022

**GUEST:**  
Eric Boateng,  
British Professional  
Basketball Player,  
Team GB

You can only attend by registering for an EventBrite ticket via our St Mark's Academy website [www.stmarksacademy.org](http://www.stmarksacademy.org). Tickets are free. All students must attend with a parent or carer.

Come wearing cultural attire if you would like to