

Considerations

I was passionate that my Inspirational Person project needed to feel organic to our school and not become a gimmicky approach to teaching culture and diversity to our children. I made sure that the people the children learned about were diverse for a number of different reasons. It was important to me that our Inspirational People were diverse but also included individuals who our white, working class children could relate to.

I generated a shared document which gave staff the opportunity to recommend Inspirational People for our weekly assemblies, making it a whole school effort and giving everyone an opportunity to get involved. I held a staff meeting to share my ideas and support staff in choosing inspirational people to link to their topics. I monitored each year group's choices to ensure a wide and varied coverage.



Who is inspiring us this week?

The introduction of Inspirational Person of the Week assemblies and choosing an inspirational person for topic lessons has meant that children have learnt about a wide range of people who have helped to shape the world.

Examples include:

- Ruth Bader Ginsburg (Justice of the Supreme Court)
- Stormzy (Rapper and activist)
- Lauren Potter (Disabled actress and equality activist)
- Sir Ian McKellen (Actor and co-founder of LGBTQ+ charity Stonewall)
- Greta Thunberg (Climate change activist)



Impact

“Every time Miss Beadling says that it’s time for Inspirational Person of the Week I get so excited! Inspirational Person is a great way to learn about other people and what they have done for things like equality or our environment”

- Year 4 pupil

“I was inspired to run for charity after learning about somebody in school. I raised £850 for charity and still volunteer in other activities to raise money”

- Year 6 pupil

“I enjoy learning about people who have stood up against what is wrong”

- Year 4 pupil

“So, so happy that this week’s Inspirational Person is in regard to Pride. I am really grateful Miss Beadling does it”

- Year 3 parent

“For topic I think that it’s brought diversity and took away from white, middle-class males always being the focus. We are going to look at Hidden Figures for our space topic and it will really develop our children’s aspirations”

- Year 5 class teacher

