

## Super Learning Days

We had our last of 3 Super Learning Days of the year in February earlier this term. All year groups have experienced learning in the 3 core PSHE themes of Health and Wellbeing, Relationships and Living in the Wider World/CEIAG.



Here are a few comments:

"Humanutopia was a great experience as people got to speak openly about their lives and the year group was introduced to the lives of others and how difficult it may be. We were able to interact with one another with people we haven't spoken to before."

**Sareena and Aisha**

"I enjoyed SLD as we learnt how to respect other people's feelings. I enjoyed all of the Super Learning Days."

**Fahimah**

## Race for the Line - Rocket Success

Pleckgate High School year 7 students are hoping to ROCKET to success in the Race for the Line national competition.



The aim is for student teams to design and make the fastest rocket powered car they can and compete with their designs nationally. Every team's car will use the same size rocket and compete over the same track distance.

The students have been working very hard over every lunch-time for four weeks to build and design the cars. They have had to work to shape a foam block to make it aerodynamic and lightweight, create efficient wheels and axles, as well as refining and improving their designs.

**Aniqa, Mariyah, Hakima and India** will now go through to the Regional Finals at the Transport Museum in Bury on 30th April, hoping to qualify for the National Finals.

## Global Acts of Unity

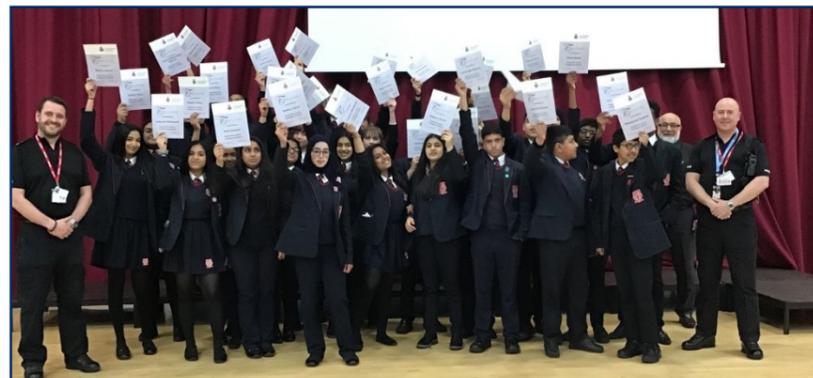


Global Acts of Unity is a campaign promoting unity, tolerance and understanding in schools. Mike Haines visits schools and shares his story about his brother, David Haines, who was murdered in 2014 by ISIS.

He wants people to understand that hatred doesn't get you anywhere, so for this reason he has launched Global Acts of Unity and something positive will come out of this senseless and remorseful act.

**Unaysa & Bismah**

## Restorative Justice Training



Here at Pleckgate High School we learn to Aspire and Believe, Act and Succeed. A few weeks back into February a large amount of students had the opportunity to take part in a course known as 'Restorative Justice'. The Restorative Justice course is where you gain knowledge about issues taking place today such as bullying, robbery, abuse and kidnapping etc. During this course we took part in activities such as role play, acting and in some cases, opening up to everyone. Speaking on behalf of all the other students that took part I would say that this course was a great opportunity for us all and we truly did learn a lot. From this course I myself have a lot more self confidence and feel I have the ability to speak up for all my needs and goals.

**Maaria**

Some of the pupils who took part in the training .....



Zahra 8RCA, Neha 8RCA, Mohammed 8DTU, Mahmood 8EHA, Faisal 9JMU, Maaria 9ABI, Ahmed 9JSN, Rheagan 10ABR 9JSN, Renee 10ABR, Amina 10SES

"At the beginning of my experience, I had no idea what Restorative Justice was. It was a very intriguing topic and I believe that it was and will be very beneficial towards my future and how I attempt to resolve conflict within my own life as well as others. I think that every pupil should be given the opportunity to have an innermost lecture in regards to this topic, as arguments arise in schools very frequently and it cannot only improve the well-being of a lot of students, but also help bring people together, including the teachers, as they can use this technique to rectify any disputes."

**Rheagan**



# Pleckgate News

A newsletter featuring Pleckgate High School's achievements

ISSUE 2

## Aspire and Believe, Act and Succeed

# Pleckgate Rated Outstanding by Ofsted



Pleckgate High School is celebrating an 'OUTSTANDING' Ofsted report - sweeping the board in all four categories.

The school is proud to be able to inform everyone that Pleckgate has been judged:

**Outstanding** in effectiveness of leadership and management.

**Outstanding** in the quality of teaching, learning and assessment.

**Outstanding** in personal development, behaviour and welfare.

**Outstanding** in outcomes for pupils.

The report also stated:

**"Pleckgate High School pupils are proud of their school and are keen to tell you about it."**

It continued to highlight Pleckgate as a 'harmonious school' and stated: 'Pupils at Pleckgate are extremely well-prepared for their next stages in education and training.'

"We are absolutely delighted" said Headteacher Mr Cocker. "It's down to the dedication of the staff, the pupils, their parents and carers, the governing body, academy trust, the wider community and everyone connected with the school."



View the full Ofsted report on our website: [www.pleckgate.com](http://www.pleckgate.com)

**Pleckgate High School featured on BBC Northwest Tonight with Mr Cocker and pupils, here is how some of them felt representing the school on national television:**



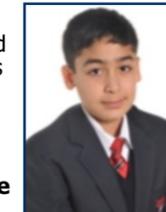
"Being able to represent the school on the BBC was a great honour and a good experience, the school has done so much for our education so it was about time we gave back."

**Sifa**



"It was very nerve-racking being filmed talking about our school. I was terrified I would mess up. Being on television is very different to performing in front of people. The presenter was really nice though and I think I did ok!"

**Jade**



"I was very proud to represent the school and give an interview to the BBC, it is such an achievement for the school to have been given an outstanding judgement from OFSTED and all the pupils have been talking about it. It means a lot for the reputation of the school and will be brilliant for me to say that I have been a pupil at such a well thought of school in the future. Watching myself back on the TV was strange at first but it has helped to build my confidence and all my family were very proud of me. Overall it was a fantastic experience."

**Haris**



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Religious Education Council of England and Wales



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E-mail [info@pleckgate.com](mailto:info@pleckgate.com)  
Visit [pleckgate.com](http://pleckgate.com)

## Anne Frank Ambassador Training

The Anne Frank Trust came to train the peer guides who wanted to become ambassadors.

The first thing we did to refresh our knowledge about Anne Frank was watch a short video clip that lasted twenty-five minutes about Anne's lifestyle. Then Keziah showed us the PowerPoint she made, which included a few quotes from Anne's diary and we talked how Anne might have felt whilst she was writing in her diary during this hard time.

We were each given an outline of a foot. Inside it we had to draw the apps we use. On the outside, we had to write why and for how long. After this we were given an outline of a person and we had to write prejudice and on the inside how. We got into teams and chose what we wanted our teams to talk about. My team chose #girl power. In addition to this we had to create a PowerPoint and a poster for our school and for Roe Lee primary school where we were going, we created a PowerPoint. While we were busy doing this, Keziah called us all together and told us that we had to go to Anne's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday at the Town Hall and read out a few lines each as the council thought we were amazing peer guides during the exhibition.

In the end we were all awarded a certificate and a badge that said Anne Frank Ambassador. I had a really good time and can't wait for the next thing we are going to do as Anne Frank Ambassadors.



By Selina

## History Comes To Life



Year Nine students were rapt as they listened to a testimony from Holocaust survivor Tomi Komoly as part of a visit organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET).

Tomi, who was a Jew in Hungary and is now 82, talked about his experiences during the Second World War and after the Nazi invasion.

He talked of the roar of German tanks coming up the street in Budapest in 1944 when he was seven years old and how he became a refugee, and was welcomed with open arms in Austria in the 1950s before going to university in Glasgow and working as an engineer in ICI for 30 years.

"I was pleased to see in Pleckgate's newsletter a story about their anti-bullying ambassadors," said Tomi. "Bullying should not be tolerated anywhere and bullying was one of the United Nation's origins of genocide or mass killing."

Head of RE Ms Savage said:

"It was a privilege for us to welcome Tomi to our school and his testimony will remain a powerful reminder of the horrors so many experienced."

The testimony was followed by a question and answer session to enable students to better understand the nature of the Holocaust and to explore its lessons in more depth.

## Year 8 Visit to BAE

Year Eight Pleckgate High School students have been inspired by their trip to BAE Systems at Samlesbury on a Support Products Workshop.



The students were so impressed that many of them now want to be engineers and work at BAE Systems.

**Student Ali said:**

"I enjoyed the Tornado fighter jet and the astonishing engine and seeing how good the place was."

"In future I would love to work with the people at BAE Systems, the staff were friendly and they knew a lot about planes. My dream at BAE Systems would be to fly and test the planes of the future."

**Huzaifa said:**

"When I went to BAE Systems it was a really good environment. The people that worked there were very friendly and supportive. The exciting bit was when they were showing a fighter jet."

"The most interesting fact was that the speed of the jet was just under the speed of sound. It inspired me to get a job there and be an engineer. They gave a lot of facts about the jets, who designed them and who manufactured the jets and what they were used for."

**Daniyal** described BAE Systems as 'breath-taking.' "I enjoyed seeing the Tornado fighter jet and I loved seeing the inside of the jet. It was a good feeling."

"I learnt lots of facts and it has inspired me to become an engineer. We also took part in the virtual reality experience which was amazing."

## Pleckgate High School is Now Generation Global

Pleckgate High School signed up to be part of **Generation Global**, which is part of the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change. It aims to make globalisation work for the many, rather than the few, by helping countries, their people and their governments, to reduce poverty, inequality, extremism and conflict.

We signed up as a school because videoconferences immerse students in an entirely new experience. Generation Global connects classrooms across the world, allowing students to explore, articulate, and develop their own views, while encountering and considering the views of others.

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 25 Year 9 students took part in a videoconference with 20 girls from Noor al-Huda Girls School in Palestine. Here is what some of our students said about their experience:



**Mehrin** - "Generation Global was a great opportunity to communicate with different schools around the world."

**Haniya** - "It was an amazing experience to speak to the girls from Noor al-Huda Girls School in Palestine. I'd love to talk to them again."

**Lathifa** - "Sharing my identity, my school life and hobbies was a great way to become friends with people I thought were different, but actually had so much in common with me."

**Mahnoor** - "I am so grateful to Mrs Savage for letting us take part in this excellent, enjoyable event."

## Tug of War for Cancer Research Raises over £200

Year 9 were involved in a tug of war charity event to raise money for Cancer Research. Head of Year 9, Mr Pickup, said he was "unbelievably proud to be leading the year group and see the whole year quite literally pull together for this worthy cause. All students were impeccably behaved and supported each other and the efforts of everyone were second to none."

**Bilal** said "We had a good strategy and were well organised. We put a lot of thought into how our team was structured and got stronger with each round. Miss Rose was a great coach and encouraged us right from the start."



**Natasha** said "We had a plan about how to win; we decided that the best chance we had was to all make sure that we pulled the rope at exactly the same time. This worked really well as we were a team working together and put all our strength in at the same time. We were very confident from the start and very proud of what we achieved."

**Haseeb** was the rock in our team without him, we might not have been quite so successful. We really enjoyed taking part in this and we raised over £200 for Cancer Research."

**Bilal Patel and Natasha Khan from 9LR** who were part of the winning team in the charity tug of war event for year 9.

## Penalty Shoot-Out Raises £214.93 for UNICEF

**Qasim** said "We raised £214.93 for UNICEF after a penalty shoot-out which we won through classy penalties and teamwork. We hit the hoops like Lionel Messi!"



## Year 10 Football Team Rising from the Ashes

**Danyal 10 MST Captain** said

"We got trashed by everyone while in year 7 but now we are a strong team who gives everyone a game and have pitched



up some really good wins. We were inspired by our overnight trip to Manchester City to see their academy and football museum. We were unlucky to lose against Witton Park in the cup, playing a Real Madrid style brand of football."

## Cookery Competition with Reg Johnson at Blackburn College



I really enjoyed myself at the cooking competition, the chefs and the people from Blackburn College were really nice and welcoming. They helped me out if I needed it. Lucy and I made seared duck breast with summer berry jus and garlic mash. All of the people that came up to us said that our dish looked really good and told us we were the youngest ones there. The competition overall was an unforgettable experience, I would definitely do it again.

Maya

In the cookery competition I created seared duck breast with summer berry jus, garlic mash and honey roasted carrots. I really enjoyed the process and seeing the end product was definitely worth all the effort. I was also really proud to have had the opportunity to represent Pleckgate. I hope to get involved in more competitions in the future.

Lucy

It was a once in a lifetime experience for me. It was amazing, I had a lot of fun. It's not always about winning, it's about taking part and having fun.

Petra

It was a little stressful but a lot easier than I thought, I did enjoy it.

Nadia

## World Book Day - 7th March 2019

Our pupils enjoyed celebrating World Book Day this year. They were busy in the weeks running up to the big book event, decorating the library with colourful bunting and displays promoting authors and books.

On World Book Day the pupil held a Book Mark making workshop and held the official WBD Big Bonanza Quiz in the Library so their peers could celebrate their enjoyment of reading and books. Pupils embraced this year's World Book Day theme 'share a story' by talking, writing and creating a display based around their favourite books in the Library.

**Around school the pupils and staff were busy decorating their classroom doors with depictions of their favourite stories and characters.**

