

## Dementia Awareness Training for Pupils

On Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> of July One Voice Blackburn came into Pleckgate to talk to over 270 pupils about dementia. By the end of the session, we knew so much more about dementia and how to support those living with dementia. All pupils who attended the sessions received a badge to show that they are now Dementia Friends. The five key messages we got from the session and have promised to spread to others are:

- Dementia is not a natural part of ageing
- Dementia is caused by diseases of the brain
- Dementia is not just about losing your memory – it can affect thinking, communicating and doing everyday tasks
- It is possible to live well with dementia
- There is more to a person than the dementia

As Dementia Friends we now have an awareness of dementia in our community and are committed to helping those with dementia.

By Fatima 10PMU & Nida 9LR



## Year 9 Pupils at Physics Olympiad

Nine year 9 pupils represented Pleckgate at the annual Blackburn with Darwen Ogden Trust Physics Olympiad.

The pupils competed in 6 events including construction of towers and bridges; and designing landing crafts, boats and timers. Two of our three teams claimed joint bronze medal places.

All teams were fantastic ambassadors for Pleckgate. They worked tirelessly to problem solve, and showed their natural flare for Physics.

**Well done to Mehrin, Sara, Areebah, Khalisah, Sarena, Mohamed, Danny, Ubaid and Arafath.**



## Pupils WOW Audience with "Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat" Production

In July 90 year 7 pupils took part in a stage production of Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat. They performed to an audience of 200 primary school pupils as well as parents and Pleckgate teachers. Hours of rehearsal time was rewarded with an outstanding presentation.



## Farewell to our Year 11 - Prom Night

On Friday 21st June we said farewell to Mr Cadman's year group with a Prom Night which was held at Blackburn Rovers Football Club.

We wish them farewell and happiness in all their future endeavours.



**Aspire and Believe, Act and Succeed**



# Pleckgate News

A newsletter featuring Pleckgate High School's achievements

ISSUE 3

**Ofsted**  
Outstanding  
Provider

## BREAKING NEWS Pleckgate Wins Secondary School Outstanding Award

The Education Business Awards were held on the 4th July at Leonardo Royal Hotel, London, St Paul's this year. The winners of the 2019 Education Business Awards sponsored by Schools Advisory Service, recognised operational excellence in 24 categories, and were presented by television presenter Angellica Bell.

Representing Pleckgate High School at the event were **Mr Cocker** and **Mr Hamilton** to receive the award for:

### Secondary School Outstanding Progress Winner

Maths GCSE results at **Pleckgate High School** this year has put its pupils high achievers in the top one per cent in the country under the new Progress 8 measures and is hailed as a 'Beacon of Success' by the Department for Education, it was also judged **Outstanding by Ofsted** in January this year.

**Mr Cocker said " This is a testament to everyone's hard work and dedication and everyone should be proud, well done!"**



## Pleckgate Welcome Year 6 Pupils on Transition Day

On Wednesday 3rd of July Pleckgate High School welcomed year 6 pupils from primary schools across Blackburn for their taste of things to come when they start their new secondary school education at Pleckgate from September 2019. Here is what **Dawy, Uzair & Faiza** had to say .....

When I came to Pleckgate I enjoyed doing science as we needed to make a tower out of dry spaghetti and marshmallows.

When I came to Pleckgate I enjoyed the school dinner because it gives me the experience of having a school meal. I also enjoyed play time because I got to meet new people.

When I came to Pleckgate, the thing I enjoyed was that the tutors were kind also the headteacher was very kind and they made sure we were safe and we were enjoying ourselves. Something else I enjoyed was making a tall tower out of spaghetti and marshmallow.



Mr Cocker the Headteacher welcoming Year 6 Pupils on Transition Day



Year 6 pupils making a tower out of spaghetti and marshmallow



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Pleckgate Road, Blackburn  
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## Trips into HISTORY

Pleckgate History Department have been very busy organising trips for pupils to visit local places of interest such as:

**Clitheroe Castle, Samesbury Hall, Blackburn Museum and Leeds Thackray Medical Museum**

Here is an article from **Dan** when he visited Clitheroe Castle. I got picked for the Clitheroe Castle trip on May 2nd. I loved the history trip and all the facts that I learnt, it was a great experience and a wonderful time there. In the future I will do all I can to go on another trip because it's always fun. Clitheroe Castle has an amazing view and I could see Waddow Hall and the grassland, it was all an amazing experience.



Blackburn Museum



Leeds Thackray Medical Museum

## Football Tournament Raises £63.60 for Soccer Aid

Year 9 & 10 footballers played a tournament to remember the massacre of 8000 Muslim men and boys in 1995 on a football field in Srebrenica.

The boys raised £63.60 for Soccer Aid and held a minute's silence.

Haris said "It is very moving to think such an awful event happened on a football field. Hopefully by remembering we can help to prevent it happening again."



REMEMBERING  
SREBRENICA

## Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

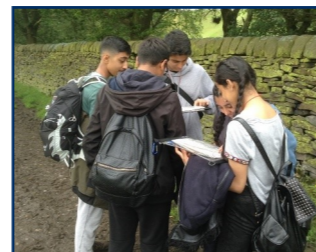
Fourteen excited Year 9 students have undertaken their Duke of Edinburgh bronze award.

They participated in a navigation day at Witton Park, learning how to work as a team, reading maps, using a compass and planning routes. They have also taken part in a training day to pitch tents, use a gas stove, learning first aid, as well as finding out what to take and how to pack a rucksack for their expedition.

They will complete a practice walk on Darwen Moor and a final qualifying expedition which will include overnight camping around Rivington.



D of E Pupils using their map reading skills



## Year 9 Visit to Edgehill University

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May, a group of us lucky students had the opportunity to visit Edge Hill University. I speak on behalf of all the students who attended the trip when we say, we thoroughly enjoyed the experience. For the vast majority of us, it was the first time stepping into a university campus and it was an amazing experience. We were able to see the facilities that a University has to offer along with meeting current students of Edge Hill. Speaking to staff and current students opened our eyes to the potential benefits that university life has to offer. We took part in a number of activities that helped us understand our interests and our talents which helps us to focus on what matters to us. From this experience, we are now able to make better decisions to help us achieve our goals. This visit left a positive impact in the minds of students, inspiring us to achieve our full potential.

By Sara



## Blackburn with Darwen Town Sports Day

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June, 52 Pleckgate students represented the school at Blackburn with Darwen Town Sports. All the students involved thoroughly enjoyed the day and did a fantastic job representing Pleckgate across a large number of events. The year 8 boys had a particularly successful day, with the relay team (Tyler Kelly and Ikram Jalil) achieving a bronze medal and Ikram Jalil winning gold in the Year 8 Boy's Discus event.

Well done to all who participated.

We went to the Town Sports to compete against all the other high schools in Blackburn and Darwen. We competed in a variety of different athletic events. The day was fun overall and one of our year 8s won a gold medal in discus. We were all jumping for joy. Even though I didn't win any medals I enjoyed the day.

By Hafsa 7SBE

I was proud to be selected by PE staff for all the hard work I have done throughout the year in PR and to represent the school with 2 medals - 1 gold and 1 bronze.

By Ikram 8LIA



## Pleckgate Staff Fast for Ramadan

### # I'm Not a Muslim But will Fast for One Day

Fasting during the holy month of Ramadan is one of the five pillars of Islam. To fast, Muslims abstain from eating, drinking, smoking and other worldly acts from sunrise to sunset. Muslims follow the lunar calendar, which means Ramadan arrives ten days earlier each year. Many teachers from different religions took part in a one day fast during Ramadan. Some teachers even fasted for the whole month! Pupils were proud of the teachers that took part in the fast and they also felt very blessed as teachers of a different religion wanted to experience what Muslims and the pupils go through so they could empathise with them.

Pictured left to right: Miss Salthouse, Miss Roxby and Mrs Savage



By Juayl

### Mrs Coulthard fasts for whole of Ramadan:

Fasting all Ramadan for the first time as a year 7 student was difficult, especially on the days I had P.E. The late nights and early mornings were particularly difficult. What I found extremely amazing was that my tutor - Mrs Coulthard fasted for 31 days, even though she is not a Muslim. It was very caring and considerate of her to fast so that she could support the year 11 students sitting their GCSE exams. Mrs Coulthard says "I found it quite difficult to fast during the 31 days as I had never gone without water before for such long periods of time. However it did make me feel very grateful for everything we take for granted each day. Ramadan is a month that allows us to reflect on the poor and be thankful for all the goodness we have been blessed with."

I must say Mrs Coulthard has been very brave to go without food and water for such long hours. It just shows how much she cares about her students. We are all lucky to have such a wonderful teacher and I am even luckier to have such a great tutor!

By Ahmed



Pictured: Mrs Coulthard

## Being Human Club - Charity Events - Secret Santa & Secret Shaikh

The Being Human Club is a fun and educational club which helps to educate a large group of students about the major problems in the world. In the club, we discuss worldly problems and we run charities for the school to help people in need.

At Christmas all years donated items like scarves and clothes which we took in to Springfield Care Home as some of the residents may not have family to give them presents.

At Eid we collected toys, games and teddy bears for those less fortunate, we were inundated with gifts, everyone was really generous so every child could take part in the celebration of Eid.

By Hafisah & Safa



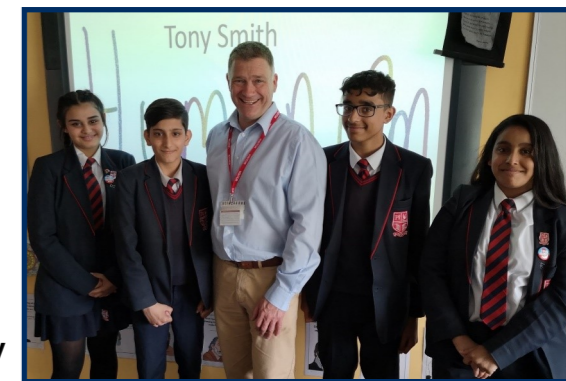
## Humanism UK Talks with Year 8 Pupils

On Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> May, Tony Smith and Keith Pennington from Humanist UK came to talk to our year 8 class about Humanism and what it meant to them being a Humanist. We learnt that most Humanists are atheists or agnostics, so they are not a religion, but they respect religious beliefs and share many common ideas.

Humanist UK promote respect, democracy, human rights, cooperating with others for common good and celebrate human achievement. They spoke to us about their belief that the big bang created the universe and how they do not believe in life after death. They also spoke to us about different rituals they have like Humanist marriage ceremonies, birth ceremonies and funerals.

We learnt a lot from Tony and Keith and are really grateful that they came in to talk to us.

By Mya & Lucy



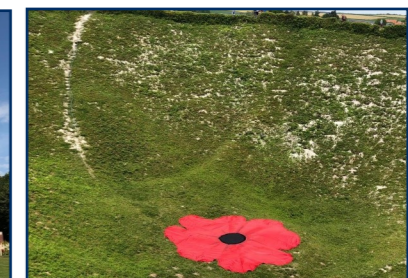
## Pupils Visit Somme and the Thiepval Memorial

My favourite part of the trip to France and Belgium was visiting the Somme and the Thiepval Memorial, I found this so interesting because it was so big and contained the names of over 72,000 missing French and British soldiers who have no known grave. It was also interesting to see the different headstones used by the British and the French.

By Safa



Students spent the afternoon at Thiepval Memorial where the lives of 72,000 unnamed French and British soldiers are remembered.



Pleckgate Students at Lognagar Crater, created by the British troops at the start of the Battle of the Somme by using 60,000 tons of explosives. The crater is 100 metres wide by 30 metres wide.