

Awards' Evening - Class of 2018

Pleckgate High School's Class of 2018 celebrated their success at their Awards' Evening and were inspired by **Special Guest Dr Claire Burke**. She told the students about her journey to her current job at Liverpool John Moores University, which took her to Runshaw College, to a degree in Physics with Astronomy, a PhD in Astrophysics and then a research job in South Africa, onto the Met Office and now her current work, stopping poachers.

"It's great to be here talking to students who are beginning the next step of their journey and who could change the world".

Head Boy Umer won a number of awards on the night including the Technology Award for Achievement and Services to School Sport. He earned a prestigious apprenticeship with Bae Systems during his final year at Pleckgate. "Pleckgate gave me firm foundations to take my next step, it helped me demonstrate my academic strength and build my confidence"

Head Girl Amirah said "Pleckgate teachers and staff made the Class of 2018 believe anything is possible, it's not just about results and grades but it was about our own journeys. We made lifelong friendships, unforgettable memories and spent quality time together in our five years."

Headteacher Mr Cocker said "We are so proud of our Class of 2018, they enjoyed a terrific set of results and the progress of these students was above average for the fourth year running at Pleckgate.

There were outstanding results in subjects and individually but it's about more than just results, it's about sporting achievement, work in the community and contributing to school life in their five years at Pleckgate.

They helped to make Pleckgate the school it is, with the highest intake for Year 7s this year and the school of choice for many in the local community."



Anti-Bullying Ambassadors @ Pleckgate

At Pleckgate, for Anti-Bullying Week (12th November to 16th November 2018) our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors have worked hard to put on different events.

For the first and last day of the Anti-Bullying week, the pupils at Pleckgate could take part in an Odd Sock Event. This was to make the pupils at Pleckgate aware of Anti-Bullying week.

The next event was a Guardian Angel Event where for two weeks the pupils had to do a random act of kindness for a person that they had chosen from an envelope, this was to encourage pupils to be kinder to each other.

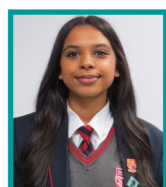
The ambassadors also took pictures of each tutor group and got them to sign a Pledge to Stop Bullying at Pleckgate.

The ambassadors have also created and delivered an assembly for each year group for the theme of this year's Anti-Bullying Week which is RESPECT.

by Jade



AMBASSADORS



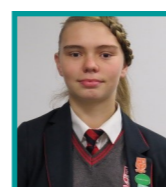
Ammaarah



Adam



Haroon



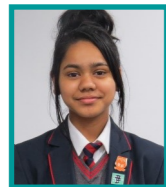
Jade



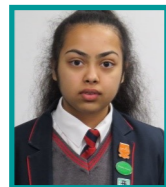
Kiah



Mutahhara



Nazneem



Sana



Sara



Shrish



Tom



Pleckgate News

A newsletter featuring Pleckgate High School's achievements

ISSUE 1

Aspire and Believe, Act and Succeed

RE Department is Golden!



Pleckgate High School's Religious Education department is golden! The department has earned the coveted gold level RE Quality Mark. The REQM recognises high quality RE and gives national recognition to the work done. It has two purposes: it recognises good practice in RE and also provides a powerful tool for development.

Head of RE, Mrs Savage, who works alongside Mrs Raja, Miss Wheatley, Mrs Belshaw and Mr Darbyshire is proud of the award. She said: "I applied for the REQM because, as a subject, we work hard to make a difference to our students both in their lessons and outside by offering a range of different opportunities throughout the school year. As a team we are really passionate about our subject and try and pass this on."



A Mother's Dream

A mother's instinct is always the best,
she knew her son's soul would soon be at rest.
She tossed and turned and stopped to think,
but the horrifying images made her heart sink.

She braved a face
As she braved the war.
She knew it was all a waste.
All her happy moments and happy tears
had turned to her worst moments and her worst fears.

The pans and pots clinked
as the guns and shrapnel incessantly fired.
She stood at the kitchen table,
wondering if her son would come home.
In the trenches he stood,
wondering if he'd soon make it home.

All was silent and all was at peace.
On the 11th day of the 11th month of the 11th hour,
there he appeared.
With his rosy cheeks and golden hair.

Her eyes opened, gleaming and alert.
She looked to her bedside, everything was just as it should be.
The door opened and there he stood
with his army suit and red velvet cap
Saying proudly,
"Mum, I'm back".

by Ammaarah and Layba



World War One Remembered

Year 9 students have been writing poems to remembering the fallen who died during World War One. As this year marks one hundred years since the First World War, students in Miss Mulla's English lessons thought it was very important to commemorate this important event.

Ammaarah of Year 9 said that the bond between a mother and a child is the strongest bond in the world and she wanted to explore what a mother would have to endure when her son went to fight in the war through her poetry. She hopes that she and her fellow classmates have done justice to the soldiers and their families through their words.



SILVER QUALITY MARK 2016 -

Pleckgate High School
Pleckgate Road, Blackburn
Lancashire, BB1 8QA



Religious Education Council
of England and Wales



Call 01254 249134
E-mail info@pleckgate.com
Visit pleckgate.com

Super Learning Day

Humanutopia made its way to Pleckgate to allow us and other Year 10 pupils with the opportunity to reflect and feel empowered. It was an opportunity to listen to the life experiences of others and ask ourselves the very important question; 'Who am I?'

The day started with one of the visitors, Lauren, telling us about her own life and how she overcame adversity to get to where she is today. One of the terms she used was,

"filling the bin", a moment which allowed us to take negative words and thoughts, and remove them from our mind-set.



It's not easy standing in front of 250 children and delivering a talk. Let us assure you of this! However every single person was struck with the words that they said to us. The day gave us an opportunity to realise that we have a lot of other things that other people only dream about. It gave us an opportunity to just stop and reflect.

It gave us an opportunity to get out of our comfort zones and challenge ourselves. Was this a useful experience? Humanutopia gave us the chance to boost our confidence levels, reflect and feel empowered. So we would say it definitely was!

by Sameerah & Zaynab

Top Ten Reads for Winter

Don't you just love the idea of snuggling up near the fire with a blanket wrapped around you all whilst sipping on a cup of hot cocoa? We know we do but what if we told you there is a way to make winter even more enjoyable? What you need is a book! Reading during the festive period is a wonderful way to get into the Christmas spirit and enjoy the delights of the holiday season.

What is your favourite fireside read; the book you go back to every winter? Over 50% of people don't have a winter read. Are you one of those people? Its ok if you are because today, me and Zainab are going to give you the top 10 reads to dig deep into over the winter holidays.

The first book on our list is, A Christmas Carol is a timeless classic and perhaps one of Charles Dickens' most celebrated literary contributes. It will give you Christmas spirit and not leave you bored over the whole of winter.

The second book on our list is The Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg. Did you know that for many children, reading this book is a magical, festive tradition? Top 10 to read over the winter are:

1. A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens
2. The Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg
3. The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis
4. The Snow Queen by Hans Christian Anderson.
5. The Nutcracker by E.T.A Hoffmann
6. The Night Before Christmas by Nikolai Gogol
7. The Grinch by Dr Seuss
8. The Snowman by Raymond Briggs
9. Winter by Marissa Meyer
10. The Usual Santa by various authors



So many books to choose from, where does one start? We hope that we have convinced you to read a book during the winter holidays. What are you waiting for?

Go get yours!

by Saba and Zainab

Year 7 Football Success

The inter tutor football was a great success the games went well and there were four finalists which were JSA GWS SMI SH. The teams fought to win but there was only one winner SMI which lost the first two games but came back like a boss. They showed all who were the winners!!

by Mohsin



Transition from Primary to Secondary School

Safa

"The best thing about being at Pleckgate is there are lots of people to talk to, loads of activities and I have lots of fun. I have found that I can be independent as I find my way around school and go to different lessons with different teachers. It is hard work but learning lots: It is not what I expected...it is better than you expected. School Football, I scored a goal at the Blackburn Rovers tournament out of 21 schools.



Amani

"The best thing about being at Pleckgate is finding our way around, work is challenging and we have to think hard. I find the lessons Interesting and different from primary school. There are a lot of extra curricular clubs, I am in the choir and have piano in lessons in school, I'm in the Being Human Club, I am an Anne Frank Ambassador, I am performing in "Pleckgate Has Got Talent", and I am also in the school netball team.

Pleckgate Rewards

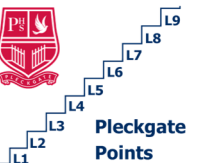
Rewards at pleckgate have changed quite a bit, last year you got vivos and you could use these to buy things from the school shop.

This year we have changed things such as trips, workshops etc. Some of the trips are reward trips and some are educational like history trips (find information about Year 8 history trips from Mr Clegg)

Another thing about this year is that we now have Pleckgate Points.

The way you get Pleckgate Points is by just doing the simplest thing like your homework or helping in the lesson.

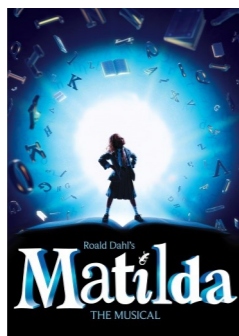
A lot of people do a simple good acts and there you go by the time you say hello 50 times you should have about 200 Pleckgate Points (PPP) Pupil Pleckgate Points.



by Zainab

Year 7 go to see Matilda

45 Year 7 students went to the Palace Theatre on Wednesday 21st November to see an evening performance of 'Matilda - the Musical.' Many of the students had never been to the Palace Theatre and were amazed by how big the theatre was and there were no empty seats in the house. They felt really lucky that they were able to go to see the show with school as they had seen the film and really wanted to see the live performance. This is the second trip for Year 7, who went to Waddow Hall in September for an activity day, which was also really enjoyable.



Safa from Year 7 said, " the show was extravagant, the moment the show started, it was mesmerising, I could not take my eyes off the stage and the performance. Mr Wormwood, who is Matilda's dad, was my favourite character he was so funny as he made lots of jokes about how he did not like children who were smarter than him."

Amani from year 7 said "the show was amazing for the whole two hours, everyone involved in the cast had so much energy and nothing went wrong. There was fantastic singing and dancing from everyone, some of the characters were very young, Lavender who was Matilda's best friend, looked like she was only five. Mrs Phelps was my favourite character, she was the Librarian and Matilda told her lots of stories, full of excitement and adventure".

The girls said they loved the show so much they wished they could go and see it again. Mrs Millest and Miss Roxby also really enjoyed the performance and are looking forward to taking Year 7 to the next show.

by Amani 7JSA, Safa 7JSA

Geography Field Trip

Mohammad 11FMU:

As part of our Geography GCSE, on Monday 16th October Miss Mullen's Geography class went on an adventure of a lifetime to the source of the River Wyre and ended our day at Garstang. Our journey started by analysing the river's characteristics and how they changed as the river made its journey downstream. This was interesting but also a fun activity to do.

Aarshiya 11TMO:

We went to the Trough of Bowland and measured the depth, width and flow rate of the upper and middle course of the river Wyre. We used specialist equipment and of course dog biscuits as floats! It was really fun seeing the different processes and how they affect the river. It really brought our learning in lessons to life!



Girls' Football at Pleckgate

Zahra in Year 7 has played football since primary school and is now a member of the girls' football team at Pleckgate.

Zahra says "I play in loads of different positions such as midfield, goalkeeper and striker but I play best when I am a striker. I find it easy to get the ball and score. A few weeks ago, me and the rest of the football team took part in a tournament at Blackburn Rovers stadium and we played five matches. We didn't win but I scored a total of eight goals which I was pretty happy with. We work hard in the team and did Pleckgate proud."

by Zahra



Year 8 Football Success

Our Pleckgate football team was very fortunate last year and won the B team league, this year we did get on to a bad start but we rose from the ashes and have currently won 2 matches out of 4 and hopefully will win the rest that we play.

Last Year our football team was in the Lancashire Telegraph as we were first in the league, see below a quote from the newspaper and picture:

'Pleckgate Year 7 football team, captained by Ali Master, won all their four matches to be crowned champions of the Blackburn with Darwen B Team League with Ayaan Aslam scoring a hat-trick in every game.'

Both left winger Zayan and midfielder Abdullah attend the Development Centre at Blackburn Rovers and many others in the team are playing football at weekends for various teams to the delight of Mr Haworth.'

This year we have played against:

Westholme Vs Pleckgate=10-0

Ribblesdale Vs Pleckgate=9-3

Who scored what goal

Ayaan Aslam x6, Abdullah Zaffar x4, Ayaan Aslam x3, Ayaan Aslam x2 and Aaron Khan x1

I hope the Year 10s, 9s, 8s and 7s win trophies this year.



by Mahmoon