



Pleckgate Weekly Newsletter

A weekly newsletter for pupils and parents during the school closure

Week Ending: Friday 1st May 2020

Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you, your children and families are all well.

It gives me great pleasure to introduce another of our weekly bulletins, to share important information and interesting news about the school. I am sure you will agree, that now more than ever it is important that we keep in touch and stay strong as a school community.

Although we are operating in far from normal circumstances, I am pleased to say that we are still moving forward as a community. Teachers are continuing to set daily work for your children and we really appreciate your support ensuring they complete what they can to the best of their ability. Please be reminded that if you have any issues regarding work, you can contact teachers to get their support. This can be done either through Doodle, or electronically via email (staff name initialsurname@pleckgate.com for example wpatel@pleckgate.com)

As always, the government guidance for parents and carers on the closure of educational settings and the support available to help parents educate their children at home can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>. The latest guidance and video on hand washing can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19information-for-the-public>.

I hope you enjoy this week's edition, and if you have any examples of interesting or exceptional work/activities that your child has been completing during the lockdown, please send them through to info@pleckgate.com. They might just feature in a future edition of this publication!

Stay Safe.

NB: For any further information please contact us at info@pleckgate.com and add the details of your request in the subject line.



Mr Cocker Headteacher

Happy 100th Birthday to Captain Tom Moore



Pleckgate would like to wish Captain Tom Moore a very happy 100th birthday.

His recent achievements of **raising over £29 million for the NHS** by doing laps of his garden is nothing short of amazing.

Happy Birthday Captain Tom Moore from everyone at Pleckgate.

Aspire and Believe, Act and Succeed

Pleckgate Helping Our NHS

Pleckgate is doing its bit to help the **NHS** at the **Royal Blackburn Hospital**.

Mr Karbhari and Mr Turnbull collected safety goggles to be used as eye protective wear and other available PPE gathered from the Technology and Science department



Meanwhile **Miss Morris** has been doing her bit for the **NHS Bolton Hospital**.

By spending her time sewing for the NHS, 40 sets of scrubs and 20 scrub bags have been finished and are on their way to the hospital.



Useful Tips & Links For Pupils & Parents

Looking After Your Mental Health

Whilst you are staying at home it is equally important that you look after your mind as well as your body.



The NHS has some really useful advice to promote positive mental health.

Use the link below:

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-at-home-tips/>

Parental Support - The Expert Parents Guide to Childhood Anxiety

The Expert Parent's Guide to Childhood Anxiety

Use the link below:

<https://tutorful.co.uk/guides/the-expert-guide-to-help-your-child-with-anxiety>

100 Things to Teach Your Teen While You're Stuck at Home



Here are some ideas for teaching LIFE SKILLS to your children while at home.

Use the link below:

<https://grownandflown.com/soft-skills-for-teens/>

Childline

Remember that organisations such as CHILDLINE remain available to help provide support and guidance through this lockdown period.

Use this link: <https://www.childline.org.uk/>

childline

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

Free 3 Months Guitar Tuition From Fender



Who will be next to perform in **Mrs Millett's** show case? Fender are offering FREE 3 months of online courses for acoustic, electric guitar, bass or ukulele.

Lets keep making noise and play though this together.

Use this link: <https://try.fender.com/play/playthrough/>

Safeguarding

Remember you can find safeguarding information via the website or follow us on twitter for regular updates. Although we might not be in school the Pleckgate safeguarding email address can still be used by any student to share concerns. This can be done by signing in and sending an email by anyone with a Pleckgate email domain.

Request any help via safeguarding@pleckgate.com

This can help to arrange to provide support, information and guidance

Radicalisation Threat, Risk, Vulnerability update:

It is likely that the risk of radicalisation has increased for a small number of vulnerable people, as the pandemic is driving vulnerable individuals to spend more time online and is exacerbating grievances which make people more vulnerable to radicalisation.

With the removal of the safety net of schools, colleges and social workers, we need statutory partners, parents, friends and family to be aware of what young or vulnerable people in their care are looking at online - and most importantly what they can do to help.

Included with this newsletter is a parent/guardian online radicalisation information sheet.

Staying Connected

Please send any photos and information to info@pleckgate.com by **Thursday lunchtime**.

If you have any queries or questions relating to the newsletter please use the email address rather than phoning into school.



Farewell Mr Cozzolino (IT Manager)

We say farewell to our ever popular **IT Manager Mr Cozzolino** who has tirelessly worked hard with pupils and staff over the years and is now moving on to a new job.

We wish him all the best for the future.

Quote of the Week

Chosen by Mr Karbhari (Science Department)

"If you look at what you have in life, you'll always have more. If you look at what you don't have in life, you'll never have enough"

Oprah Winfrey

Stay connected and follow us on Twitter

<https://twitter.com/PleckgateHigh>

Online radicalisation - Parent/guardian information and support

We recognise that this is a difficult time for parents and guardians and that the [Coronavirus](#) is having a significant impact on young people and families across the world.

The closure of schools means that opportunities for children to talk to and play with friends will be limited to online interaction. This will almost certainly lead to children spending more time online.

Parents working from home may not be able to monitor their children's use of devices as they usually would



Unfortunately, whilst rare, there are negative influencers and online groomers who use the internet, social media and online gaming to spread their extreme ideas, which children can be exposed to. Some of these ideas may be considered radical or extreme and when a person starts to support or be involved in them, this is called radicalisation.

Our experience of radicalisers is that they may link their extreme views to the global, national or individual response to Coronavirus which could be shown through films, images and discussions as;

LET'S
TALK
ABOUT IT

- **Conspiracy theories**
- **Blaming other people for the virus and its impact on life.**
- **Hate against groups because of race, religion, sexuality and gender.**

Radicalisers will want as many people as possible to believe their ideas and sometimes encourage them to take action, which might break the law. This can be how people are drawn into terrorism.

What are the possible signs of online radicalisation?

Boredom could cause children to engage with new groups or individuals and this could make them vulnerable to those looking to influence young people.

Online radicalisation may be hard for parents to notice because it is a complex issue. There are a possible signs that someone may need some help (although a lot of them are quite common among teenagers), but look out for increased instances of:

- Exploring new and unusual websites, chat forums and platforms due to boredom or frustration.
- Joining new or secret groups since isolation.
- Speaking with new friends or being secretive about chats during online gaming or in forums.
- A strong desire to seek new meaning, identity and purpose.
- Using language you wouldn't expect them to know.
- Watching, sharing or creating films online linked to religious, political or racial hate.

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Radicalisers can target young people by sending friend requests on popular sites and platforms to see who responds. They may strike up a conversation to build a relationship with a child and ask them to chat privately.

These chats can then happen on forums such as [2chan](#), [4chan](#) and [8chan](#) which are anonymous posting and discussion forums for over 18s. The content is often unsuitable for children and not a safe place to have discussions and learn about issues.



What can you do...

These are indicators that they might need help, but you know your child best and we advise that you speak with them first. Check in with them and ask them about what they are viewing, who they are speaking to and how they are feeling. This might feel difficult, but here are some tips to help you:

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- Listen carefully to their fears and worries. There are some helpful tips [here](#).
- Avoid complicated and worrying explanations that could be frightening and confusing.
- There is advice and support to help them [understand Coronavirus](#)
- If they are finding it hard to cope with bereavement and grief - advice can be found [here](#).

You can get more information from the following websites, these will help you understand why people sometimes need more support if they have been radicalised, what is available and how to access it.

NSPCC



internet
matters.org



COUNTER
TERRORISM
POLICING



 parent**INFO**
FROM CEOP AND PARENT ZONE

childline
ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME
childline.org.uk | 0800 1111

If you have any worries or concerns...

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Firstly, we advise that you speak with the **Dedicated Safeguarding Lead** at your **child's school or college**. They will know your child and have had extra training to know how pick up on concerning behaviour. They can talk through your concerns, give advice and get extra support should you need it.

If you'd rather speak online, these websites can help you share your different concerns:

- If you live in Wales, [share your concerns about radicalisation here](#)
- You want to report any suspicious [terrorism concerns](#)
- If you need to report a [hate crime](#)
- You've seen something online that supports, directs or glorifies terrorism including websites, films or images [report them here](#).
- The **NSPCC** have a helpline 0808 800 5000 to talk to someone or an online form to share your concerns about your child



ACT

ACTION
COUNTERS
TERRORISM