



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and carers,

It's my pleasure to be able to share this week's bulletin with you. I hope you are finding this communication informative and useful. In a week of speculation in the media about school's re-opening, please rest assured that as soon as I have any information to share with you, I will. In the meantime, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring that learning continues at home. To reassure you, we understand that adjusting to this 'new normal' has been tough, and we want you to know that you are not alone.

We are living in extraordinary times and we understand that learning will also be different. We also know that this is a new and changing situation and that we must be both ambitious for our learners, yet realistic too.

Not all learning, will be done online or through digital channels or platforms. We know that there are many other learning resources and activities, including books, television, radio, and creative activities that will help with learning at home.

It is important that you understand that daily engagement with learning is important, but we would not expect children to be working for 5 hours at a desk each day. It is important for children to have time for themselves or with family.

I hope you enjoy the bulletin and I wish you and your families continue to be safe and well.

Best wishes



Mr Cocker Headteacher

Pleckgate Celebrates VE Day - 8th May

Friday 8th May is a huge celebration for VE (Victory in Europe) Day.

You can find further information about VE Day and get some great resources from the Royal British Legion from the following link:

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/teaching-remembrance>

#bakeforvictory

The challenge to bake a cake or cupcakes to celebrate the anniversary. See below some examples

Aisha from Year 7 has been busy baking this fabulous looking cake.

Great start **Aisha!**



Amina from Year 7 has used red, white and blue to decorate her cake.

What a fantastic looking cake!



Mrs Dean will be selecting a winner which will be announced on Twitter <https://twitter.com/PleckgateHigh>

Thank you to all pupils and parents for taking part and making some wonderful designed cakes!

Mr Mulla's Amazing Charity Story

Pleckgate High School's IT Technician Mr Mulla is playing an important role in the community during Covid-19.

Mr Mulla has already taken part in multiple charity work over the years including helping out when the UK was flooded as well as travelling abroad to deliver food to refugees.

Pleckgate pupils and staff have helped him fundraise for various causes by holding events in school, such as bringing in non-perishable food and bucket collections.

Mr Mulla, with friends and family, started his own charity Benefit Mankind in January and, with the coronavirus outbreak, they have had to spring into action straight away.

"We started taking donations of money and food and I would say we deliver between 150-200 meals every day. We have around 40 volunteers and they have been brilliant. Not only do we deliver food but we have a helpline number for the elderly and vulnerable and that has been busy. I think altogether we have **raised around £10,000** so far and this has helped us to deliver around 7000 meals and we have also have been delivering PPE. It's been unbelievable, I am still working from home for Pleckgate, but it's amazing helping the community in this way at this time."

For more information or to donate, the website is <https://benefitmankind.co.uk/live-feedback/>



Useful Tips & Links For Pupils & Parents

Mental Health First Aid England

Please see the link below for May's newsletter:

<https://mhfaengland.org/mhfa-centre/news/may-2020/?cldee=aW5mb0BwbGVja2dhdGUuY29t&recipientid=contact-64c9128bcc81e711810de0071b65ed51-d0800d0460224bc4bfb92ae3d53cfc72&esid=88ec5f9d-a48f-ea11-a811-000d3ab19dd4>



I am me T-Shirt Competition Design

Do we have any budding fashion designers? There's a competition for you from The Lancashire Adviser Network, use the link below to enter.

<https://lancashirean.co.uk/2020/04/24/i-am-me-t-shirt-design-competition/>



Steam School

This is a virtual activity club for 9 - 14 year olds who want to boost their knowledge of real world science and futuristic technology.

Use this link below <https://steam-school.com/>



Young Minds

Young Minds has great support for helping you navigate your feelings through the Coronavirus lockdown. Use the link below

<https://youngminds.org.uk/>



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.

Your child with SEND : learning at home during lockdown

If you're a parent/carer of a child with SEND who is struggling or feeling under pressure to help their child complete work set by schools, you can get help and advice here:

In the first instance, contact your child's teacher at school to ask about how best to complete the work with your child.

The Special Educational Needs and Disability Support Service (SEND SS) staff are also available to help parents/carers, of children with SEND, who would like to talk about helping their child complete the work school has set, or about helping their child to manage the unusual situation of being home all day and not going to school.

If you are not already in touch with a member of SEND SS staff, and you are a parent/carer of a child with SEND, you can access support from SEND SS Service by email- ing robert.robinson@blackburn.gov.uk

The team have also produced a whole host of helpful guidance to support your child's learning at home which can be viewed here.

In addition to the above, any Personal Assistants (PAs) that are still supporting or care providers can support families with this aspect too.

Use the link below:

https://www.bwd-localoffer.org.uk/kb5/blackburn/directory/service.page?id=nq6qf9B_dU4&localofferchannel=0

Any concerns, queries or issues then please contact your child's individual teacher through pleckgate emails address or the school SENCO Ms Knowles.

Staying Connected

Please send any photos and information for the next weeks newsletter 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.

Quote of the Week

Chosen by Mrs Parry (Maths Department) from her mountaineering days

"Sometimes life will test you but remember this, when you walk up a mountain, your legs get stronger "

Author Unknown

Stay connected and follow us on Twitter

<https://twitter.com/PleckgateHigh>