



The Pleckgate High School Newsletter

December 2025

Pupil and staff shine bright for Save the Children's Winter Appeal

Our Prefect Team played a leading role in our annual Winter Appeal, demonstrating outstanding commitment, teamwork and compassion as they helped raise funds and awareness for Save the Children and supported the school's long-standing Shoebox Appeal.

Our Senior prefects took responsibility for visiting tutor groups across all year groups, collecting donations and encouraging both staff and pupils to get involved.



Reflecting on the experience, Deputy Head Boy, Yassin said: "It felt rewarding to see pupils so eager to support the cause, with many proudly wearing Christmas themed or sparkly accessories to show solidarity."

Deputy Head Girl, Aamna said: "This year's appeal supported vulnerable children and families living through hardship and conflict in places such as Palestine, Ukraine and across Africa."

Head Girl, Aisha said: "Charity events like this truly highlight the strong sense of community at Pleckgate, bringing everyone together to help those beyond our own school."

Alongside this, Prefects were also heavily involved in the Shoebox Appeal, another key part of Pleckgate's charitable calendar.

Head Boy Hamza said: "I am proud to have been part of organising and preparing shoeboxes filled with donated items for people in need across the UK. The generosity shown by both pupils and staff was incredible, and it was meaningful to be involved in a long-standing Pleckgate tradition that promotes kindness, unity and social responsibility within our school."

Achievement Evening highlighted by powerful message from Sally Penni MBE

Our Class of 2025 returned to pick up subject prizes at our Annual Awards Evening with last year's Head Boy Peter and Head Girl Anam saying: "It's a joy to be back. We have enjoyed celebrating everyone's achievements and we want to say a big thank you to the teachers and staff for their dedication and support during our five years at Pleckgate. It's a special school community."

Mrs McGinty said: "The children who have been presented with awards were nominated by the staff and they have been recognised as going above and beyond in terms of their achievements, their commitment and their fulfilment of our school values."

There were Aspire, Believe, Act, Succeed, Enrichment and Head of Year Award from Years 8-11. There were also separate awards covering everything from a Reading Award to various Sports Awards, Anti-Bullying Award, Drama and Law.



Our guest for the evening was Barrister Sally Penni MBE who was an inspirational speaker.

Sally had already met some of our pupils at the Bar Mock Trials where Pleckgate's would-be barristers of the future, won the Northwest Heat and went to the Royal Court of Justice in London to compete in the final.

Sally admitted: "I was so impressed that a High School in Blackburn was competing in a competition against schools and sixth forms from all over the UK and it stood out for me."

Sally told her story of how, although her parents were doctors, she wanted to become a barrister and the setbacks she faced along the way and overcame. She specialises in crime and employment law and is also an author, parent, podcaster and public speaker.

Support over the holidays



During our assemblies and pastoral sessions, we have shared information with all pupils regarding available support, advice and guidance that can be accessed from a range of agencies whilst the school is closed.

Information has been shared with pupils via their Google Classroom areas signposting some of these services.

Additionally, our school website contains lots of useful content, information and advice regarding help that can be accessed by young people, see www.pleckgate.com/pd-pleckgate.

We also have access to The Online Safety Hub which has been designed to provide parents with a range of resources, information, tools and guidance to help protect your children from harm in the online world.

www.educationpartnershiptrust.onlinesafetyhub.uk

It includes information on the latest hot topics when it comes to keeping children safe. These topics include how to manage your child's screen time, understand the latest gaming platforms and what they mean for your child's safety.



Pupils shine at IN4Group Mega Day

Our Year 7 pupils were invited to attend a Mega Day hosted by IN4Group at Blackburn College. Pupils were selected for their dedication to the Computer Science Club or their outstanding attitude towards the subject.

The day began with pupils using block-based programming to create precise algorithms that would program Sphero robots.

Pupils developed programs using micro:bits and explored block-based coding techniques.

Pupils also took part in a high-energy Cyber Security Challenge and all pupils represented Pleckgate with pride and enthusiasm.

(Organisers from IN4Group even commented on how polite and well-behaved our pupils always are!)



Year 7 shining bright in their first term at Pleckgate

Our Year 7 pupils have fully settled into life at Pleckgate. Fizza, Ashaaz, Abu-Bakr, Safaa, Nouran and Rafay have been praising the teaching and the extra-curricular activities on offer.

Fizza said: "I have really enjoyed Pleckgate so far and I have made a lot of new friends. I like the method of teaching as it's fun but we learn a lot"

Ashaaz echoed this: "It's fun. I have made new friends and learnt about new topics. I like the classes as the teachers get you involved in activities. I enjoy Geography and I am also a member of several clubs including Eco Club, Computer Science Club, Football and Debate Club. I love it."

Abu-Bakr said: "The music facilities are good here and I also like Design and Technology. I also attend a lot of extra-curricular clubs including Debate Club, Eco Club, Computer Science Club, Table Tennis Club, Diversity Defenders and Science Club. I am very busy!"

Safaa said: "The staff are nice, and you learn a lot but also feel safe. My favourite lessons are Art and English."

Nouran said: "I love the fact we have a library as I enjoy reading and spend a lot of time in the library. I have also made a lot of new friends and that's something which is special for me. I take part in a number of extra-curricular clubs including Debate Club, Science Club and Diversity Defenders Club."

Rafay said: "I like French and PE. I love being in the football team the most!"

We are extremely proud of our Year 7 pupils, who collected the highest amount of money of any year group during the Winter Appeal. They also enthusiastically took part in a tug of war for charity, showing fantastic teamwork, generosity and school spirit throughout the event.



Roe Lee Primary enjoy art experience at Pleckgate

We were delighted to welcome a group of talented Year 4 and Year 5 pupils from Roe Lee Primary School for a special art workshop.

Our session was led by our head of Art, Mrs Wilson, the session gave pupils the chance to explore new creative techniques and experience what an art lesson is like in a high-school environment.

The children were specially selected by their primary school because of their enthusiasm and love for art, and they certainly brought that passion with them!

During the workshop, pupils learned how to draw a funny bird using precision sketching, oil pastels, and a variety of art techniques.

Mrs Wilson guided them through skills such as: smudging and blending colours, creating bold outlines, using oil pastels effectively and adding expressive details to bring their artwork to life.

Charlie said, "I loved to draw and loved visiting Pleckgate!"

Aaminah added, "I have learnt how to draw after this lesson."

A huge thank you to Roe Lee Primary School for visiting. We look forward to welcoming more budding young artists to Pleckgate in the future!





Senior Prefects attend Blackburn Remembrance Service

Our Senior Prefects were proud to represent the school at the Annual Remembrance Service held at Blackburn Cathedral.

The service provided a poignant opportunity to pay respects to the memories of all those who have lost their lives through conflict.

Pupils joined civic leaders, veterans, and members of the local community in a united act of remembrance and reflection.

Following the service at the Cathedral, a United Service of Remembrance Parade formed on King William Street and made its way to the Corporation Park Gardens of Remembrance, where wreaths were laid in honour of the fallen.

The experience was both moving and meaningful, reminding everyone of the importance of remembering the past and continuing to work towards peace for future generations.



A fantastic afternoon at the annual SEND Bowling Event

A group of pupils were delighted to attend the annual SEND Bowling Event. Pupils enjoyed an afternoon filled with fun, laughter and friendly competition.

The pupils took part in several rounds of bowling, cheering each other on and celebrating plenty of strikes along the way.

The event provided a wonderful opportunity for teamwork, confidence-building and shared enjoyment outside the classroom.

Mrs Ryding praised the pupils' enthusiasm and spirit, saying: "It was amazing to see our pupils having such a brilliant time together. They supported one another, showed fantastic teamwork and filled the afternoon with joy. We are incredibly proud of them."



Future legal minds impress at Bar Mock Trial



Pupils have won praise for their performances in the Bar Mock Trial in the past and this year was no different.

The Bar Mock Trial is a Young Citizens competition where pupils defend and prosecute a case that requires careful planning and a good understanding of the law.

Pleckgate's would-be barristers of the future won the Northwest Heat and previously went to the Royal Court of Justice in London to compete in the final against mostly sixth forms and colleges from all over the country.

This year, Pleckgate's pupils didn't get through the Northwest Heats but those who took part in the event at Preston Crown Court found it a valuable experience.

Year 10 Madiha said: "I was a barrister for the defence, and it was a good experience. I had to speak in front of people, and it helped my confidence. Doing this will certainly help me in the future."

Maryam said: "At first, I thought it would be stressful. I was a barrister for the defence. However, once it started, it was fun. I want to go into law, and this opened my eyes and confirmed that it will be the best career for me."

Year 10 were supported in their preparations by Year 11 Prefects who has experienced the competition before.

Year 9 football team continue their incredible climb towards the league title

Our Year 9 football team have shown hard work and dedication to make huge strides this year, with the chance of winning the Blackburn with District League title.

The players voted for new captain Amir and have adapted to a new system of play and their rewards have been some top results.

The boys cruised to victories against OLSJ scoring seven goals with five from star player Hamaan.

They followed this result with a victory against Witton and, despite losing to BCHS in their final game, they are still in a strong position for the league going into the final league game in the new year.

Head of PE and Sport Mr Haworth said: "The Year 9s have made vast improvements from last year and now look a fantastic side. The boys have been playing at lunchtimes and have found better commitment to extra-curricular practice"





Headteacher's Breakfast celebrates outstanding pupils

Our Heads of Year regularly select pupils to be rewarded with a Headteacher's Breakfast with Mrs McGinty.

Mrs McGinty was delighted to chat to the pupils over croissants, fruit and more about why they were provided with a school treat.

She told them: "You have been specially selected by your Heads of Year because you are fabulous individuals. It may be that you have been super polite; you may have attended school every day; you may have achieved something special in school; you may have been nominated for an award, or you may have overcome a challenge. You have all stood out for going above and beyond."

Year 11 Amina said: "I made a promise to Mrs McGinty to improve my attendance and I have done that. I make an extra special effort to make sure I am in school every day."

Year 7 Essa said: "I won a Reading Award at our recent Achievement Evening. I am in the library all the time and when I have finished a book, I start another."

Year 11 Millie said: "I won an award at the Achievement Evening too for drama, for appearing in our production of Annie. It helped my confidence."



Eco Club pupils take action to create a better world

Our Eco Club hopes to play their part in changing the world for the better.

They meet every Monday and have been discussing the quality of water as well as carrying out experiments to test whether water is safe to drink.

Year 7 Ashaaz said: "We have been looking at the quality of water and talking about pollution and safe water. We have learnt how many communities don't have safe water to drink."

Year 7 Nouran said: "I was an eco-warrior at my primary school so was keen to join the Eco Club at Pleckgate and learn more."

Jasmine said: "I enjoy geography and visiting different places and this helps to link in with Eco-Club."

Daliya said: "I enjoy learning more about the climate and I want to make it better."

Abu-Bakr explained: "At Eco Club, we learn about the climate and how we can make a difference which is important."



Pupils get creative with clay skull constructions

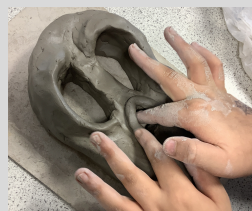
Pupils have begun work on their exciting clay skull constructions, and the Art Department is already buzzing with creativity and imagination.

Pupils have been developing their designs and bringing them to life through sculpting techniques, exploring shape, texture and detail as part of their project.

The early results have been fantastic, with a range of unique and expressive pieces already taking shape.

The project allows pupils to experiment with artistic styles while building confidence in working with clay.

A brilliant start to what promises to be an impressive collection of artwork!



Pupils enjoy spectacular performance of Miss Saigon at Westholme



Our pupils recently had the wonderful opportunity to visit Westholme School to watch their impressive production of the musical Miss Saigon.

The performance was truly memorable, showcasing exceptional talent, powerful storytelling and an outstanding level of professionalism from the cast and production team.

A heartfelt thank you also goes to Westholme School for inviting us to share in this special occasion.



A promising season for our Year 7 football team

Our Year 7 boys football team have been celebrating plenty of goals and are strong contenders for the Blackburn with Darwen League title!

Mr Haworth and Mr Clegg have been delighted with the commitment of this side which has been displayed in the B team tournament, and the A team fixtures.

Led by the team captain Adam, the boys beat Witton Park in the opening game of the season 8-7 with a last-minute winner from Ibrahim M. The boys drew with TIBHS 1-1 in a close game before overcoming OLSJ 4-3. They concluded this term's games with a 6-0 thrashing of BCHS.

Head of PE and Sport Mr Haworth said: "They have made a fantastic start this year."

"This has started with the commitment of lots of boys in the year group playing football every lunchtime and attending extra-curricular football practice every week."

"This team is an exciting prospect with some fantastic pupils who are a credit to the school in terms of their attitude, behaviour and talent."



Pupils' triumph at Cyber Security and eSports Tournament

Pupils had a fantastic opportunity to attend a Cyber Security and eSports tournament at Blackburn College University Centre, competing against schools across the Blackburn with Darwen area, including Darwen Aldridge Community Academy, Tauheedul Islam Boys' High School, Tauheedul Islam Girls' High School, Our Lady & Saint John R.C and Blackburn Central High School.

The event, organised by CyberFirst in partnership with the In4Group, was a celebration of talent and dedication in the field of Computer Science.

As part of the day, pupils also visited the Blackburn College eSports Hub, exploring the cutting-edge facilities and learning more about the wide-ranging career opportunities in eSports.

This gave pupils a valuable insight into how their passion for gaming and Computer Science could evolve into future professions.

The competition concluded with the knockout rounds, where Mohammed Zayn and Ariba once again excelled, remaining unbeaten and securing victory in the grand finale. Their flawless record of eight wins out of eight ensured that Pleckgate proudly brought home the tournament trophy.

The Computer Science department are immensely proud of the pupils' achievements. Their hard work, both in lessons and in extracurricular clubs, continues to highlight the incredible talent, teamwork and ambition of Pleckgate pupils.



Young Enterprise team in full bloom with eco-inspired floral venture



Our Young Enterprise teams will be delivering sustainable flowers and are encouraging cooking for young boys.

Year 10 Sumaya already had a company called Eternal Florals and the Young Enterprise girls' team have adopted this and are going to take it further.

Sumaya said: "I made flowers from ribbons; it takes me around a day to make one. I already do this, but we decided to use it as our base and expand it."

"We are going to crochet bees to go with the flowers and try and use it to encourage people to talk about the environment. We will donate money from the flowers towards buying seeds to plant flower patches which will attract bees, making bees flourish as they are endangered and need our help."

The boys are making chopping boards out of the ends of worktops which are normally thrown away from B&Q. They are promoting cooking to young boys by adding engraved designs of cars and football clubs on them in the corner. They want to promote this age group to help with mental health and make the stigma of cooking being a "woman's job" disappear.

As a Young Enterprise team, the pupils will each have a role, such as a Treasurer or Marketing person, and it's all about how to run a company successfully. They will compete against other Young Enterprise teams in events.





Our Computer Science Club are sending messages to space!

In Computer Science Club, pupils have developed programmes using Python code that will be sent up to the International Space Station.

Every year the European Space Agency partner with Raspberry Pi to allow pupils across Europe to develop programmes that will display a 8 x 8 bit image for the astronauts aboard the ISS to remind them of home.

Programmes have been submitted and pupils will receive a certificate from the ESA in June with full details of where and when the programme was run.

Next term, we will be hosting a Computer Science, Business and Technology competition on "Mission 2040: The Smart Eco School of the future".

Year 7 Abu-Bakr said: "Computer Science Club is a great club. We build Lego, we learn more about coding and we sent a message to the space station. It has a bit of everything."



A historic cricket season for Pleckgate High School



The 2024–2025 cricket season was one of the most successful in Pleckgate High School's history, with every team winning their league. It was an incredible clean sweep across Years 7, 8 and the combined Year 9 & 10 squad.

Year 7 made an outstanding debut season, going unbeaten with mature performances built on teamwork and sharp fielding. Atif impressed with calm, consistent batting while Khadijah shone as a superb all-rounder. They also reached the Lancashire tournament final, narrowly missing out on the title. A brilliant achievement that signals a bright future.

Year 8 were equally dominant, showing power, discipline and unity. Zain set the tone with fast starts at the top of the order, and Junaid added reliability and flair, finishing games confidently and contributing with the ball. Their strong season secured another league title for Pleckgate.

The combined Year 9 & 10 team blended energy and experience to form a formidable side. Shawaiz top-scored with consistent, high-quality batting, while captain Pardesi led with maturity, ending the season as leading wicket-taker and delivering multiple match-winning spells.

This remarkable across-the-board success reflects the dedication, talent and hard work of our pupils and staff. Each team played with pride, discipline and true sportsmanship.

BBC Bitesize Careers Roadshow inspire our pupils



"The pupils asked thought-provoking questions" was the assessment from host Yussek Rafik after BBC Bitesize Careers Roadshow came to Pleckgate.

Pupils from Years 7–10 were introduced to three guest speakers who told the pupils about their jobs, how they got there and what they enjoy about their careers.

Class of 1997 Pleckgate pupil Reyhana Ismail, who is an illustrator and designer of mainly children's books, was one of the panels alongside Nathaniel Hutchinson, a producer on BBC Sport, and Ermal Sadiku, a university technician, as the roadshow is run in partnership with Technicians: We Make a Difference.

The pupils were told about BBC Bitesize and about the different career paths and which qualifications they may need. They got to ask the panel questions about their careers through an interactive rugby ball, which had a microphone.

Reyhana said: "It's lovely to come back, even though it's a different building to what I was in at school. I wanted to make and sell cakes when I was in Year 9! I didn't even know what I wanted to do when I was 19 but I was always creative."

Nathaniel said: "I wanted to be a footballer when I was younger but now, I get to find out the stories behind the footballers and athletes. We got some great questions here!"

Ermal said: "It's my first time on the BBC Bitesize Career Roadshow Panel but I have enjoyed coming to Pleckgate."

Yussef said: "I enjoy hosting these events and coming into schools. It's my first time at Pleckgate and they are nice kids who are engaged and have asked some thought-provoking questions."



World Mental Health Day at Pleckgate

In October, pupils celebrated World Mental Health Day with a powerful and inspiring set of activities aimed at raising awareness and promoting wellbeing across the school.

Our Wellbeing Champions, supported by the Mental Health Team, led a whole-school assembly which was streamed across Blackburn to highlight the important work of Young Minds UK.

Activities focused on understanding mental health, recognising signs of struggle, and encouraging pupils to speak openly about their wellbeing.

It served as an important reminder that support is always available and that no one must face challenges alone.

It was a meaningful and impactful day for our entire school community.



Pupils explore low-carbon technology at Blackburn College STEM Day

Our pupils were invited to the Motor Vehicle Department at Blackburn College for their annual STEM Day, where they had the opportunity to explore the exciting world of modern automotive technology.

Throughout the day, pupils took part in a range of hands-on activities, learning about the innovative engineering behind low-carbon and electric vehicles.

They engaged with real industry equipment, explored how sustainable vehicle technology is developed and discovered the science and engineering skills needed for future careers in the sector.

A highlight of the visit was a guided tour of Blackburn College's brand-new HEAT facility, allowing pupils to see cutting-edge training spaces and state-of-the-art technology used by pupils and apprentices.

A fantastic experience for all involved!



Our pupils marked Anti-Bullying Week with powerful school-wide activities

Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors proudly marked Anti-Bullying Week with a series of impactful activities designed to promote kindness, respect and unity across the school community.

All schools within the EPT trust took part in an engaging Anti-Bullying Workshop, where pupils explored the importance of empathy, positive behaviour and how to support peers who may have been experiencing bullying.

The workshop encouraged open discussion and helped pupils understand the role they play in creating a safe and inclusive environment.

This was followed by a whole-school assembly that focused on standing up for others, celebrating differences and reinforcing Pleckgate's commitment to ensuring every pupil felt valued and supported.

The week served as a powerful reminder of the importance of compassion and collective responsibility and principles at the heart of our school ethos.



Art pupils inspired by trip to York Art Gallery and Van Gogh Immersive Exhibition

Our pupils enjoyed an inspiring cultural experience as they visited York Art Gallery followed by the spectacular Van Gogh Immersive Exhibition.

The day began with pupils exploring a range of stunning artworks at the gallery, giving them the chance to appreciate different styles, techniques and artistic movements.

They were able to observe masterpieces up close and discuss how artists use colour, texture and composition to express meaning.

The visit continued at the Van Gogh Immersive Exhibition, where pupils stepped inside the world of Vincent Van Gogh through breath taking large-scale projections.

The trip was a memorable and enriching experience, encouraging pupils to think more deeply about art and its power to inspire.





Drama pupils inspired by Dancing at Lughnasa at the Royal Exchange Theatre

Our Drama pupils enjoyed a fantastic afternoon at the Royal Exchange Theatre in Manchester, where they watched an outstanding performance of Dancing at Lughnasa.

The production offered pupils a powerful example of live theatre, giving them valuable insight into performance techniques, staging, characterisation and atmosphere, all of which will support their live theatre evaluation for GCSE Drama.

Pupils were captivated by the brilliant acting created within the theatre's unique setting.

The experience deepened their understanding of the play and sparked thoughtful discussion on the journey back to school.

An inspiring and memorable trip for our young performers!



Pupils inspired by BAE Systems, RAF and Royal Navy AI Roadshow

Pupils enjoyed an exciting and unforgettable experience as the BAE Systems, RAF and Royal Navy Roadshow visited Pleckgate to deliver an amazing AI workshop.

Pupils were introduced to the fascinating world of artificial intelligence, learning how it shapes modern technology and impacts our daily lives.

The workshop was packed with hands-on activities, including creating their own song and music video, navigating a human maze, and interacting with Fluffy the AI dog, which quickly became a crowd favourite!

The interactive session not only sparked curiosity but also showcased the creativity and teamwork of our pupils. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to see how STEM skills can be applied in fun, real-world contexts.

A brilliant experience for everyone involved!



Pupils were spellbound as Rupert from Redheart Theatre brought Two Gothic Classics to life

Pupils were truly spellbound as Rupert from Redheart Theatre delivered an electrifying performance of two Gothic classics: "The Tell-Tale Heart" and "The Red Room."

The immersive storytelling experience captivated pupils from start to finish, offering a vivid exploration of suspense, tension and atmosphere.

Rupert's dynamic performance brought the texts to life in a way that deepened pupils' understanding of character, mood and narrative technique.

The session also encouraged pupils to think critically about how writers build fear, mystery and emotion through language.

It was a brilliant and memorable way to engage with Gothic literature, leaving pupils inspired and eager to continue their studies.



New skills and new friendships: Year 10 complete DofE Bronze

A group of our pupils have achieved their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award and said they have learnt skills for life.

As part of the award, pupils must spend some time volunteering, boost their physical activity, learn a new skill and take part in a two-day expedition to tick all the boxes.

Our 41 pupils volunteered at the mosque, in school and in workplaces while they learnt skills like programming, baking, a new language and more.

They also had to be more physical, improving their health, and go on an expedition where they camped overnight at Rivington Pike and spent two days using a map and compass.

Madiha said: "It was fun and it meant you made new friends which was good. I learnt survival skills and it also helps you be independent."

Ramen said: "You shared an experience, so it made everyone closer. Everyone had a part to play whether it was reading maps, using the compass or cooking. I did the cooking which I loved."





Coffee Morning welcomes parents

We were delighted to welcome parents into school for our regular Coffee Morning, creating a relaxed and friendly space for conversation and connection.

Guests enjoyed a selection of delicious biscuits and cakes, all baked and beautifully served by our talented Year 11 Catering pupils, who showcased their skills and professionalism throughout the event.

The Coffee Morning offered a wonderful opportunity for parents to meet and chat with members of our Senior Leadership Team and Pastoral teams, strengthening relationships and offering valuable insights into school life.

It was a warm, engaging and enjoyable morning for everyone involved.



Pupils enjoy a trip to The Lowry to watch Blood Brothers



Our pupils experienced an unforgettable day at the theatre as they travelled to The Lowry to watch a live performance of Blood Brothers.

The production captivated the pupils from start to finish, bringing the powerful story, characters and themes vividly to life on stage.

For many, it was their first time seeing a professional theatre performance, making the experience even more memorable.

The trip proved to be a fantastic opportunity to deepen their understanding of the text while enjoying an engaging and emotional performance.

A brilliant day for all involved and one the pupils won't forget!

Pupils enjoy a festive trip to the Bolton Octagon for A Christmas Carol

Our Year 11 GCSE English pupils visited the Bolton Octagon Theatre to watch a live performance of A Christmas Carol. A highlight of their English curriculum and a valuable enrichment opportunity.

The visit allowed pupils to see Dickens' iconic characters, themes and moral lessons brought vividly to life on stage.

Watching the performance helped pupils deepen their understanding of key scenes, explore character motivations and experience the atmosphere and tension that can sometimes be harder to capture on the page.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the performance, and many said it was the perfect source of inspiration as they continue preparing for their assessments.

It was a memorable trip that brought learning to life in an engaging and festive way.



Year 10 pupils visit Vital Energi in Blackburn

Our Year 10 pupils recently enjoyed an inspiring visit to Vital Energi at their Blackburn offices, where they gained a valuable insight into careers within the energy and sustainability sector.

During the visit, pupils learned about the wide range of roles available at Vital Energi. Pupils also explored the apprenticeship pathways on offer, helping them to understand how they can enter the industry through hands-on training while continuing their education.

Vital Energi specialise in designing, building and operating low-carbon energy solutions. Their work focuses on reducing carbon emissions and supporting the UK's journey towards net zero through technologies such as heat networks, energy-from-waste and renewable energy systems. Pupils were particularly interested in how the company's work has a real-world impact on communities and the environment.

Miss Faruki, Careers Manager, said: "Visits like this are incredibly important for our pupils. They help pupils see how the subjects they study in school link directly to real careers and give them confidence to explore different pathways."





Join us at the Pleckgate Careers Fair

We are excited to host our annual Careers Fair on Thursday 5th February 2026.

The event gives pupils the chance to explore future pathways, meet employers and discover opportunities in a wide range of industries.

We are inviting local businesses and organisations to take part and help inspire our young people. If you run a business or know a company that would like to get involved, we would love to hear from you.

To register your interest, please contact: info@pleckgate-ept.com



Thank you all parents and carers for your support during the Autumn Term. We look forward to welcoming pupils back to school on **Tuesday 6th January 2026**.