



Year 8 Culture Day

On the last Thursday of term Year 8 spent the day off timetable to learn more about British Values, Democracy, Individuality, Rule of Law, Tolerance, Freedom and Respect, within various subject areas.

The students in the English session with Mr Theivamanoharan and Mr Sweeney were also lucky to have Mr Kerry Pollard involved with their day, former Member of Parliament. Mr Sweeney started the debating session by explaining the difference between democracy and dictatorships, examples of debating in action and how some of the best debates use humour. Mr Pollard spoke to the students about his experience in Parliament and his successful campaign that finally led to the law banning fox hunting and the procedures that were involved. Whilst an MP he joined the Parliamentary Armed Forces scheme and saw 30 days of active service choosing to join the Navy as his father had served with them. He also told the students about a visit to Iraq before the Iraqi war.

The motion for the students to debate was 'Is our school democratic?' The students were given the key debating skills needed.

"I really enjoyed my visit to Marlborough - I found the students very well behaved, attentive, eager to learn and to my surprise already knew quite a lot about parliament and how it works - the level of debate and engagement was quite exceptional - the students are a credit to the school." **Mr Pollard**

The Learning Research Centre reintroduced students to some traditional old fashioned games that used no technology. Students played paper battleships, squares, word games, consequences and created chatterboxes. They enjoyed amusing themselves while learning to follow rules, fairness and helping each other.



In Maths with Ms Greenwood and Mrs Gustafson, students learnt about the British Values link to charity. Students were given a fictitious sum of money and asked to research three charities, Shelter, RSPCA and Oxfam, describe the charity they would support and make a small presentation as to why we should support that charity.



Dance with Miss Fox whilst learning the British value of mutual respect and tolerance of different cultures and faiths, the students learnt about the dance style 'Capoeira' which is a form of martial art originating from Brazil. Students watched some dance clips and then starting with a warm up and then did some similar moves. At the end of the afternoon, some of the students who had been in the Dance session then showcased a short two minute performance mixing Capoeira with Bollywood.

In Food Technology with Mrs Cuell students looked at regional foods and where on the map they came from. They learnt that there were some very strange names for genuine foods from the UK including Hawick Balls, Bara Brith, Abroath Smokies and Skirlie Mirlie. They all had the opportunity to bake and taste some of these regional biscuits.

'I enjoyed cooking the biscuits and trying all the different biscuits the other students had baked' **Jack**



Miss Haines' music students were to identify the British Values that music encourages, by understanding the importance of music and creativity has in school and in life. Students were asked to consider three of the British values discussed to apply and develop when rehearsing Cee Lo Green's 'Forget You'. There were some performances at the end of the session.



Art with Mrs Rutherford studied the work of Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth who were modernist artists and Marlborough is fortunate to have a genuine Barbara Hepworth sculpture called 'Turning Forms' on our school grounds. The students then had the opportunity to draw pictures in the modernist art style using the wax resistance technique.



The last session was held in Da Vinci and was a culmination of what the students had learnt that day. The Drama students and Miss Mitchell had spent the day with two magistrates, Alison Boyd and Andrew Bayram, to learn more about the British justice system and then acted a short drama piece of a courtroom scenario. The students had learnt about all the procedures that take place and the roles all the people play within a courtroom.



'We had Drama all day to rehearse a scene about a rule of law trial. We have learnt about the different roles people play in a courtroom and the legal system. The visiting magistrates came into our session so we would understand the script and different positions in court. We found this experience really interesting. We also enjoyed have some further support from the sixth formers'.

'We were impressed with the enthusiasm of the students, they were very interested and asked some really good questions. We have had the opportunity to talk with them throughout the day and impressed with their interest in the justice system. The sixth formers worked so well with the younger students and there is a real feeling of integration in the school across all ages and staff/student relationships.' **Alison Boyd and Andrew Bayram, Magistrates**

Mr Pressland's History group showcased a timeline from the 1850s of the evolution of democracy in Britain and how this improved living standards as they progressed.



'I found the culture day very exciting and fascinating. I learnt new things that I did not realise before. For instance, even in music, British values such as democracy, tolerance and individual liberty are respected in team work. I enjoyed my experiences that day and hope to do it again next year.' **Jarin**

In Media Studies with Mr Salih the students started the lesson by identifying the importance of the NHS and the impact their social awareness campaigns have had on society over the last 50 years. We looked at a range of NHS posters and identified what makes an effective campaign. They then had the task to create an NHS poster for a social awareness of their choice. In such a short time period the end result was great. Below are just some examples of the amazing work the students produced.



'The Year 8 Culture day on British Values and how we incorporate them in to everyday life at Marlborough, making them our very own Marlborough Values, was a great success. The student's interest and enthusiasm in the subjects and listening to our guests was fantastic and it was nice to see them all so engaged and enjoying their day. We were very lucky to have five guests come in to talk to the students and help take part in lessons, the students had a lot of questions for them and our guests enjoyed the experience. Overall it was a fantastic day and one we hope to repeat for our Year 8's next year.' **Ms Eastwood**