

DIVERSITY DROP-DOWN DAY

18th July 2022

HBK students increase awareness of diversity by learning about different protected characteristics from the 2010 Equality Act

Focus for the day:

- Year 7—Physical Disability
- Year 8—Religion
- Year 9—Race
- Year 10—Gender
- Year 12—How Can I Be More Inclusive?



Today’s Diversity Drop-Down Day saw HBK students took part in a wide range of activities involving reflection, teamwork, empathy and open-mindedness.

Sessions included a ‘blind experience’, Paralympics, a Hajj pilgrimage, Sikh langar, gender stereotypes in STEM and in the media and refugee stories.

We talked to Diversity Drop-Down Day organisers, Miss Harris-Clements and Ms Zander, about what they hoped students would get from the day

Q: Do you think that people will open their minds as a result of the day?

A: I think so—you only have to look at break time how people are having conversations about the sessions. Often people don’t feel comfortable talking to parents or families about these topics, so hopefully if they feel more confident talking to their friends now, this will have an impact. And maybe we can also help some people talk about themselves as a result.

Q: What skills do you think people will develop?

A: Teamwork, leadership, respect, oracy and debating,

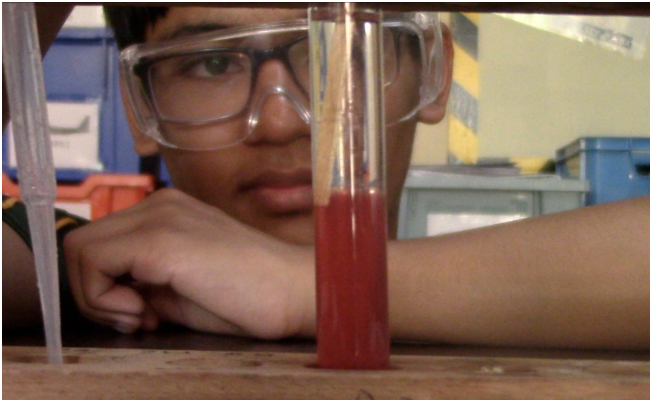
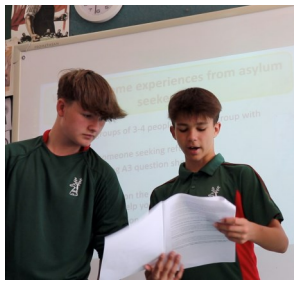
What I learned:

“People don’t just flee their countries because of war”

“How other people’s family dynamics work”

“A really low percentage of sexual assault cases result in a conviction”

“How difficult it is to pass a UK Citizenship test”





YEAR 7 POETRY COMPETITION ON PHYSICAL DISABILITY

In Year 7, we focused on Physical Disability.

We heard from Nathan, a man with cerebral palsy, used vision impairment goggles to replicate different conditions and also learnt how to interact with guide dogs.

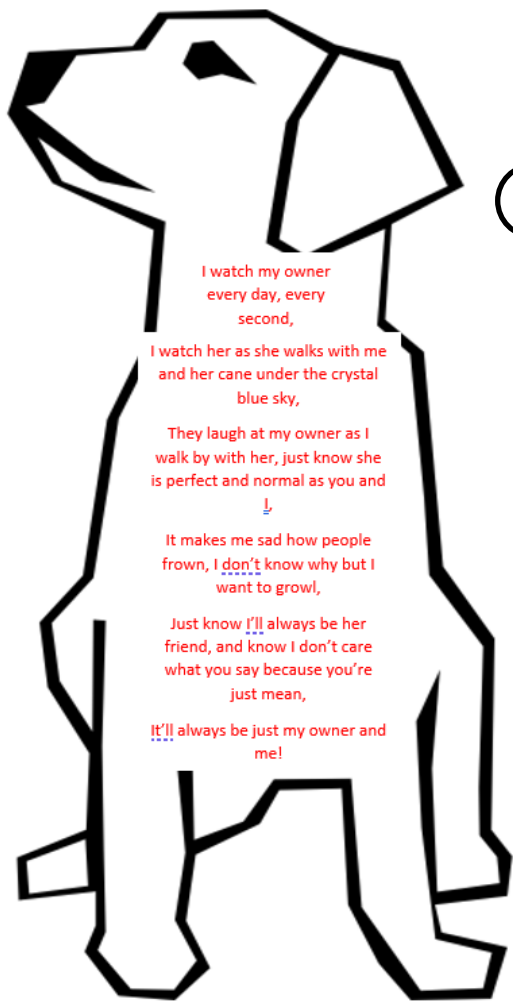
In our reflection time, we created a poem on physical disability. Well done to the winners who have been awarded a £10 Amazon Voucher!

Here are some of the winning pieces !

- Winners of our Poetry Competition:**
- Emily Prescott*
 - Daisy Brown*
 - Isabella Maddock*
 - Oliver Holland*
 - Justyna Baganik*
 - Kamalesh Subramaniyam*
 - Jenni Roberts*
 - Zizzi Hide*
 - Poppy Maia Jarman*
 - Louisa Brown*
 - Lucinda Brown*

Free as a bird, they shall not be judged,
Resilient against all the hate,
Each and every one of
them; confident
Each and every one of
them, perfect
Disability does not make
them weak
Only makes them stronger
against the hate,
Maybe one day they will be
treated with equality

By Emily Prescott



Darkness fills my view like space,
It always feels somewhat wrong,
Sometimes I'm lost in many a place,
Unfamiliar noises, skrrttt, Bish, Bong

At first, I longed to see again,
Now blindness is part of my life,
To me life now is just the same,
No sight does not mean trouble and strife.

My guide dog helps me every day,
It takes me where I need to go,
Blindness does not affect who I am,
In my brain I've got a plan of who I want to be,

All the time I think about
the way people see me
I hope they see without a doubt
Someone full of glee

B
Kamalesh Subramaniyam



YEAR 8 ARTICLE ON PILGRIMAGE

In Year 8, we focused on pilgrimage—a religious journey.

Students were educated on Hajj and the Western Wall. They also experienced their own langar (free kitchen) and ate cauliflower curry, roti, rice and dhal.

As a reflection piece, students created their own Lonely Planet article. The top 12 are listed to the right and received a £10 Amazon voucher for their hard work.

Winners of the Lonely Planet Articles:

Janet Baiju

Penny Lotter

Millie Braithwaite

Sophie Tipping-Laird

Charlotte Brathwaite

Nate Woodmore

Maja Baczyńska

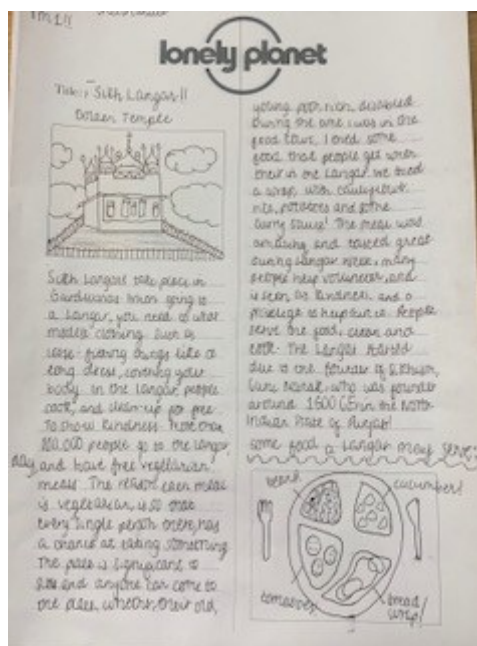
Samuel Plumtre

Alise

Aerin Dempster

Esme Norton

Dalcie Kelly



Students also created their own flags/signs for their tour guide.



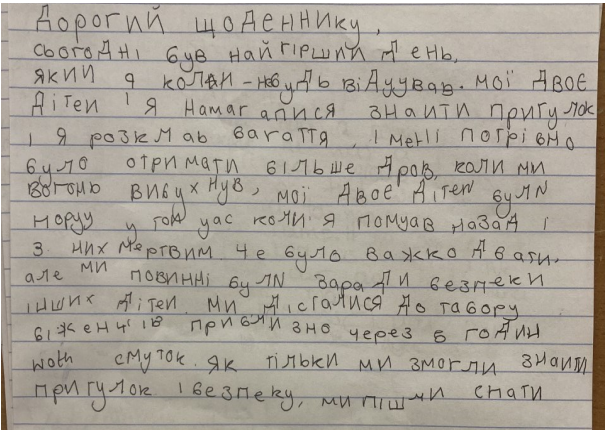


YEAR 9 DIARY ENTRY ON SEEKING REFUGE

In Year 9, we looked at a multitude of refugee stories from across the world—Blessing from Libya, a family from Syria, Jenson from El Salvador and many more.

We looked at someone's pursuit to safety and what decisions those fleeing their homes may make.

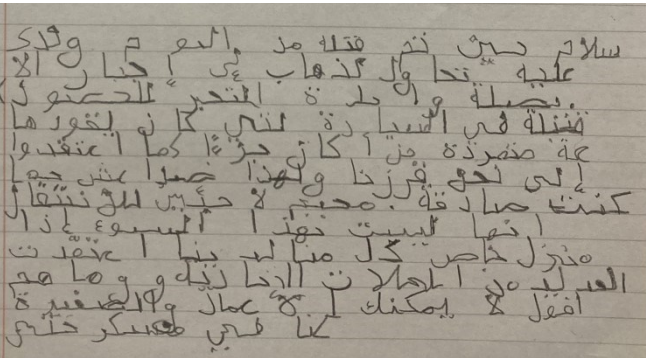
We also explored how to be anti-racist and as a reflective piece, wrote our own diary entries from the perspective of someone fleeing danger. Here are our winning pieces:



Some students decided to write in Ukrainian & Arabic!

We looked at refugees from all over the world!

- Winners of the Diary Entry Competition:
- Fraser Feasby
 - Isaac Nimmons
 - Lia Dear
 - Jamie Nesbitt
 - Grace Shaw
 - Zhi Chang Xu
 - Daisy Ritchie
 - Neve Morgan
 - Ellee-Mai Thorpe
 - Leah Wagstaff
 - Rosie German
 - Ruby Brace



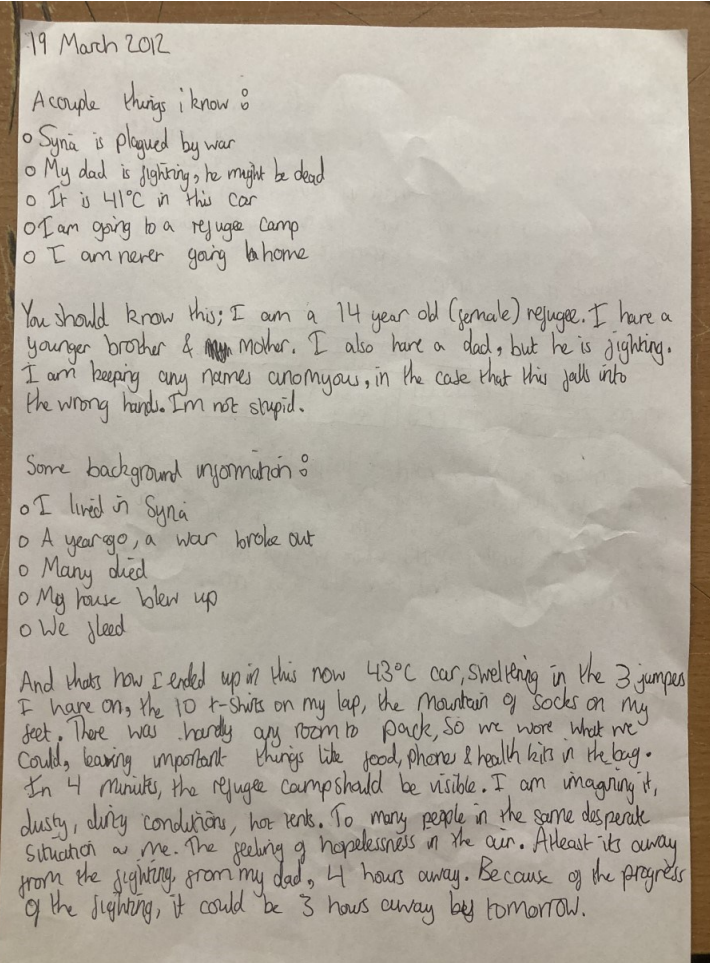
Today I left my home... loud bangs woke me up. I jumped to my feet, my mum screamed. I grabbed all I could. Toys, phone, pictures and anything that was worth any value. I screamed. Run, Run, Run is all I could hear. It repeated over and over again in my head.

FLASH, BANG, BOOM.

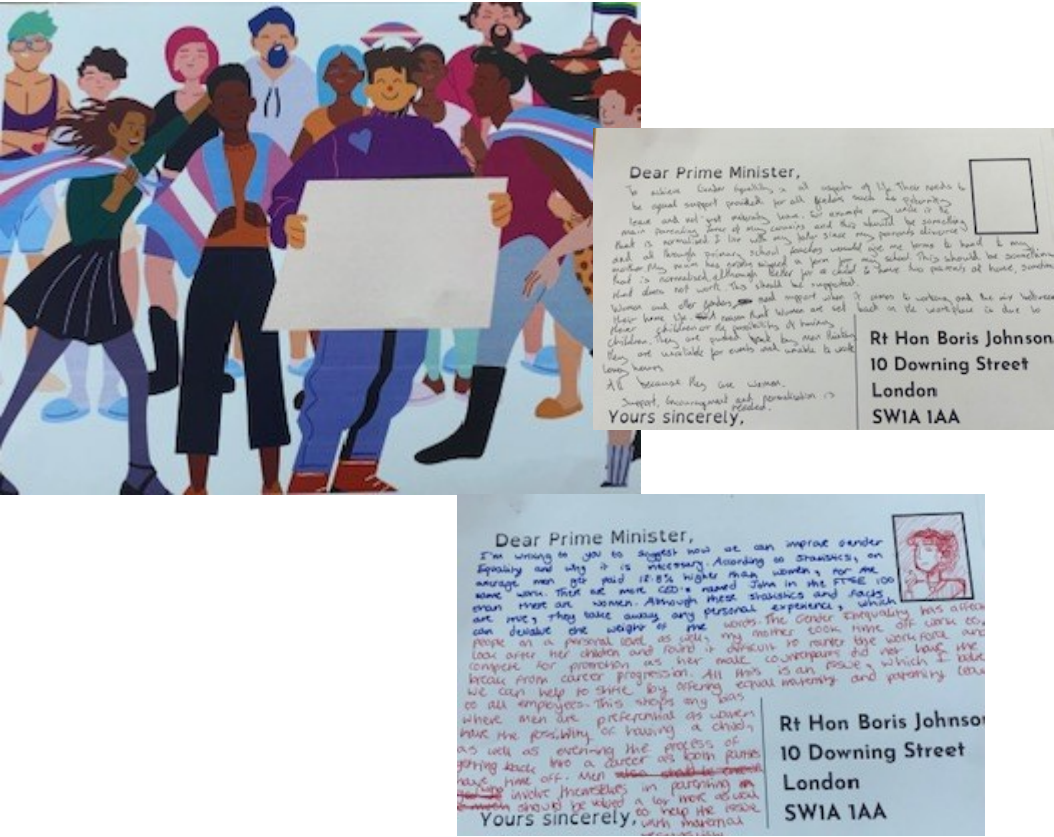
I fell. Thump, thump, thump. My Dad came rushing to save me. Luckily I was ok. He grabbed me and my belonging and shot out to the car. We drove to the border. It took us four hours.

We found a little hole in the fence, we climbed through and ran to the boat. But we were spotted. I heard an ear curdling scream. BANG! My sisters friend was shot. But we had to leave her... I jumped on the boat.. My mind was blank.

Isaac Nimmons



YEAR 10 POSTCARD TO BORIS JOHNSON ON GENDER EQUALITY



Winners of the Post-card competition:

Agatha Leach

Jay Wiilain

April Doherty

Kate Boswell

Cody Higgins

Toby Foulds

Maranatha Offie-Nunoo

YEAR 12 LETTER TO BORIS JOHNSON ON RACISM

Winners of the letter competition are:

Harry Goodjohn; James Redferm; Ethan O’Connell


“Culture and diversity is something the UK celebrates with great pride”


Megan Edrey; Ashter Walker; Anastasia Reid

“We are students writing to inform you of the relentless racism shrouding our country”



REFLECTIONS ON THIS YEAR

**WHOLE SCHOOL EQUALITY AGREEMENT**



Our mission is to provide high quality education for all our students so that they are well-rounded young people ready to take the next step in their lives. We aim for all students to be nurtured to develop the moral integrity to become tolerant champions of social mobility and equality. HBK students will become responsible global citizens, that are accepting of all, and relish in celebrating differences and the continual learning of experiences and perspectives of all within the community (irrespective of gender, race, religion, disability, sexuality) so that they may take their place in society with confidence after their journey here. We are confident that anyone associated with the Hinchingsbrooke learning community, students or adults, will leave richer for their experience.

Our form sign our full name below as proof that we agree to abide by Hinchingsbrooke school's diversity mission.		
1.)	12.)	23.)
2.)	13.)	24.)
3.)	14.)	25.)
4.)	15.)	26.)
5.)	16.)	27.)
6.)	17.)	28.)
7.)	18.)	29.)
8.)	19.)	30.)
9.)	20.)	31.)
10.)	21.)	32.)
11.)	22.)	33.)

During this academic year, HBK have made good progress towards ensuring equality and inclusion and celebrating diversity. At the start of the year every student signed an equality agreement with in their Forms to symbolise everyone's commitment to ensuring equality and standing up to discrimination. Throughout the year we have built upon this in tutor times looking at race, religious festivals, LGBT+ and disability to name a few.

To promote student voice, we held applications for a Diversity Council. We now have a varied group of students who share their views on key issues and give new ideas on next steps for inclusion here at HBK. Some of these students were part of our press team on the Drop Down Day!



We have made progress in attaining the Rainbow Flag Award, a nationally recognised award acknowledging our LGBTQIA+ friendly community. This has been supported by Ms Wells and her fortnightly Pride Club. In December, students in Pride Club held a Christmas Party and decorated their own cookies. We have also had some students present ideas to the Senior Leadership team on ways to be more inclusion—thank you for your courage! Thank you also to Ms Wells and all those students who have created a safe space for LGBT students and allies.

Lastly, on Monday 18th July, we held a collapsed day, focusing on different aspects of diversity. Despite the incredible heat, students and teachers had an amazing day celebrating diversity and inclusion. We had a range of activities—from science experiments, hearing from Key Note speakers, to our own Paralympic Games and much more. A video of this day will be released soon!



WHAT'S TO COME NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR?

From September, Miss Newman will be taking over from Miss Clements and Miss Zander as Diversity Champion.

We aim to continue our commitment to diversity, and work on promoting equality and inclusion. We will share our plans for the next academic year soon.

Thank you for your continued support as we educate and celebrate diversity here at Hinchingsbrooke.



Kindest

Miss Clements & Miss Zander