

TVA NEWS



Drop Down Day 2 Special - 11th December 2015

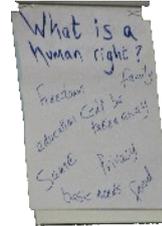
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Rights and Responsibilities

Year 8

Today was the second Drop Down Day, where the theme for this half-term was "Rights and Responsibilities". Every year group had different activities linked to the theme.



In year 8, we are learning all about human rights. Period 1 consisted of an assembly about rights. We had a speaker come in from Amnesty International to tell us what they do to improve human rights across the world.

Freedom, equality, education and peace.

These are just a few examples of our rights. Students looked at the declaration of human rights, which was written in 1948 in response to the atrocities of WWII. From period 2 onward, we did range of activities with different teachers.

Mrs Harvey-Taylor said *"These kind of topics don't form part of our normal timetable so these drop down days are a great opportunity to explore key issues. Students learn about how lucky they really are."*

The year group split into their tutor groups to do various activities including learning about freedom of expression, refugees and the death penalty.

We interviewed a few year 8 students and this is what they had to say:

"We had an assembly this morning, telling us about the lives of other people whose rights have been taken." - Ella 8P

"we've learnt about strong independent people and to stand up for what we believe in." - James 8O

We also had the opportunity to interview Miss Smythe, *"I've been teaching about rights and responsibilities..... Students now understand how this applies to their real lives."*



"I have learnt about cocoa beans and where they come from."

Brooklyn - 7 T



Year 7

Year 7's main focus was Fairtrade, where we learnt about food trade around the world. We took part in Drama, Food and Craft workshops. We interviewed Mrs Morley, head of year 7. We asked her how this Drop Down Day would help the students in the future. She replied by saying *"It will teach our students morals and values about helping and supporting other communities around the world, along with basic knowledge about Fairtrade"*.

Some students were also learning about the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. They wrote campaign letters and read them to the headteacher, Mr Kelly.

Mr Pickup and Ms Steel were teaching the students about where cotton comes from, they were making sock puppets. They did this so that they could learn about how cotton is produced in Fairtrade.

Overall, the year 7 group enjoyed the day and learnt a lot of new information. We can't wait until the next Drop Down Day in February.



Year 9

Year 9 are doing lots of workshops including mock magistrate trials and first aid work. The first aid topics the year 9s are learning about are CPR and heart work.

The **Reece Jeffery Gift of Life** charity have come into the Academy to teach the year 9s CPR and ambulance support. The CPR work gives students the opportunity to use the little Annie dummies to perform CPR on them.



With the paramedics' support, the year 9s had an opportunity to go inside the ambulance and have a look around to see how the ambulance works.

Mr Hallgarth stated *"Everyone is getting involved in all different kinds of activities that make this feel different to a normal school day. This is a great experience for working in teams, and working with people you wouldn't usually work with."*

In the mock trials, year 9 were acting as magistrates, lawyers and witnesses. They were acting out a court case in 4 groups and presented it in period 5 in front of some real judges and lawyers! The winning group gets to enter a national competition. Through this process they learn about the court system in the UK.



Other year 9 students were choreographing a dance based on global warming and the effects it has on the Earth.

They learnt about our responsibilities to protect the planet, and our rights as young people to live in a world that has a future.



Year 10



Some year 10 girls went on a trip about girls getting into construction, as a career.

The point of this was to show girls about different careers, jobs and training available in construction. This was a chance for them to get a view on what it was like. They took part in workshops, woodwork, painting and surveying. There were also some talks from ladies in the construction industry. The trip helped show the girls a wide range of opportunities and open their eyes to careers they might not have thought of.



The Drop Down Day Reporting and filming team

The Drop Down Day reporting and filming team spent the day working as journalists, writing news pieces, taking pictures, interviewing staff and students, and producing this newsletter!

If you want to be a roving reporter, speak to Mrs Harvey-Taylor.

The next Drop Down Day, Relationships, is on 9th February. If you still have your t-shirt at home, don't forget to bring it in!

