

# BBC School Report

## The BIG Day

19 March 2015

For this year's BBC School Report BIG Day we decide to go with the **following topics**:

- 1. Social cohesion (a big word for us of year 7 students) and religious acceptance in schools**
- 2. Self-harm**
- 3. Homelessness**
- 4. Animal testing and**
- 5. Things we have done to raise fund for BBC Comic Relief 2015.**

As we are offered to go to BBC Birmingham Mailbox to work and be trained for online news with the BBC Birmingham journalists, we decide to move all the filming and writing articles a week earlier so that we could have time to edit our reports.

**Tuesday 10/3...** We sit down with our teacher Mrs Nguyen at tutor time (1:10 -1:30 pm) so that we can tell her how the plans are going to be. It is very busy everywhere with lots of students in and out... we have to keep focused. We do get involved in a lot of activities after school so we have to plan for our reporting work properly.

The most challenging topic is number 1. We need to invest more time and decide Jamila and Courtney of 7A would start voxpop their parents and friends how they think about religious education in schools and how schools could do more to make students feel welcome regardless which religion they come from.

We agree that filming starts on Wednesday 11/3. Our teacher, Mrs Nguyen is going to be away to London with our Post 16 ex-student reporter Pavani. Pavani is going to take part in the Benjamin Franklin Fellowship Debate at English Speaking Union (ESU) Headquarter. How exciting for Pavani!



**Jamila and Courtney**



**Courtney and Miss Marsh – our teacher**

**Wednesday 11/3**....Jamila and Courtney are ready for the filming. Last night they spent time to talk to their parents and their nans.

Jamila tells us she finds the topic on religious acceptance and social cohesion very hard and it is a tough task to do. She wants to do it though!

Mrs Nguyen invites three teachers Mrs Elliott (PE and Citizenship teacher and also our Assistant Vice Principal), Miss Marsh (our Opening Minds and History teacher) and Miss Burton (our Geography teacher). The teachers are going to come to the Learning Resource Centre (our homebase) to talk to us about this challenging topic! Thank you teachers!

**3:20 pm** Miss Marsh comes and starts talking to Jamila and Courtney. You could see the feeling of relief on the girls' faces.

Joe of 8A (our more senior reporter) starts filming. Everything goes on well. Miss Marsh makes Jamila and Courtney feel comfortable to talk to her. You can watch the interview at this link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=231DX0\\_D8mk&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=231DX0_D8mk&feature=youtu.be)

**3:50pm** Mrs Elliott and Miss Burton come. The show goes on!

We finish all the filming and interviews! Wow!

Time to go home.... It is 4:45 p.m. Quite a number of us have to take the buses home.

It is still very windy and cold outside.



***Mrs Elliott and Miss Burton***

**Thursday 12/3** .....we do the second part of our video clip for BBC School Report BIG Day.

We have to skip our P.E lessons. Mrs Nguyen has asked for permission for us to stay in the LRC. We have to finish our entire detailed plan during these two periods (around 100 minutes more precisely).

The remaining topics for today are: homelessness and animal testing. Tamara of 7C is very passionate about animal testing and wants to take the lead while Taylor M (there are two Taylors in our team: Taylor B. of 7C and Taylor M. of 7B) is the main person for the topic homelessness. Taylor M has five reporters to help her with. Tamara works with four.

They all go around computer area and do their research for 30 minutes.

All of us are in position including me (Erin) and Carris of 7D. The whole big LRC room goes quiet....

We feel the intensity of the work.... The team working on homelessness goes first.

I have to say the first team has to go through some takes, again and again. Abbie wants to share the story of someone she knows has been homeless. She manages to deliver her story so well!

Later when we ask Holly how she feels, Holly says: "I feel sad for homeless people because they might feel isolated".

Kian responds; "I have mixed opinion because some people like to live on the streets. They might have taken things for granted what they already have".

Now it is the last filming for the topic: **Animal testing**

Tamara's team seem very confident and quite clear about what they are going to present.

All members in her team do not like the fact that animals are on-going used for tested. One reporter says: "Would people like it if animals would do tests on humans?".

**3:10 pm** - end of the day of 6 lessons... we also finish filming! Wow!

Some more filming will be done on Wednesday 18/3 before we go to BBC Birmingham Mailbox!

We are happy with our report product!



*Tyler O with her topic Comic relief*



*Calum, Taylor, Selina and Tyler*

**Wednesday 18/3/2015**

*Written by Tyler O and Selina*

This afternoon, Tyler O of year 8 and Selina, Taylor B and Calum of year 7 are allowed to miss lessons 5 and 6 to produce a small video about Comic-relief at Whitley Academy. It was on Friday 13 March (last week).

To start with Tyler O (me the person who interviewed Mr Michael Gove in March last year 😊) talks about the fact that Whitley Academy as a whole, raised a generous amount of £1,000.88. Tyler also talks about some of the fund-raising activities which included a bake-off, a tug-of-war and a talent contest.

Tyler then asks Selina her views and thoughts about the day, which in response she replies: “Comic relief at Whitley Academy was a great success, the day was full of exiting events and smiles were all around” 😊

Tyler then interviews Calum about the tug of war challenge between the Maths department and the P.E department. Calum says: “The contest and was amazing with different strategies that were used. I thought Maths Department would win ...But it turned out the PE team won 😊”. He also says that in the future he would love to take part in events and raise as much money as possible.

Lastly Tyler has a chat with Taylor B about the Talent contest, which we were all amazed about as it was a wonderful opportunity for students to share their wonderful talents and another great opportunity to raise as much money as possible.

From this you can tell that Comic Relief 2015 was a huge success and was a great day for everyone! Come on Comic relief 2016!!!

***See you in our coming reporting opportunities!***