

Principal's Blog

Friday 25th June 2021

StopHate UK

Hate crimes are sadly on the increase across the UK with over 105,000 hate crimes reported to the police last year alone. At Outwood Academy Freeston, we take a zero tolerance approach to hate crime and we understand the important role education plays in teaching students about this. One of the ways we are educating our young people is by partnering up with StopHate UK, a charitable organisation founded in Leeds. A group of 16 students are taking part in a series of workshops which will educate and inform them of how prejudices and stereotypes can affect people and cultures. From this, they are going to take what they have learned and produce a video for the charity in which they promote their anti-hate presentation.

The first session focused on stereotypes and generated some interesting debates and discussion. Throughout the session, students showed a mature and thoughtful attitude towards quite delicate subject areas, offering compelling views on each of the topics discussed. Students came away from their first session with some valuable insights into how people of different cultures are perceived and the prejudices they face daily. Next week's session looks at how to support those who are the victim of hate crimes. A very interesting project and I will update you again when we are further into it.

Solutions for the Planet - National Final

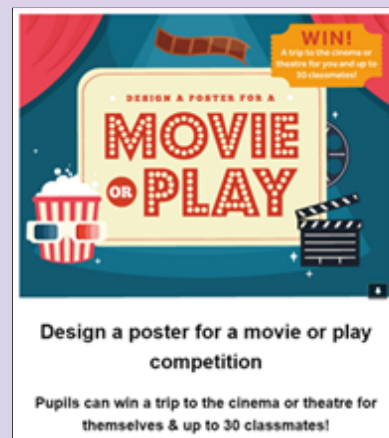
We started our journey for Solutions for the Planet way back on the 10th of February where we did a whole day online session as a year group and as small teams. The students then showed how much passion they have for the environment and their ideas, they continued with after school sessions meeting tight and



often stressful deadlines. In the end we had 3 teams into the regional final and managed to have a team chosen as a wild card entry for the National final. I am so proud of all their hard work and achievements and the way they worked together even though they were all on separate teams! This week has been amazing doing a COVID safe National final, meeting all the other teams, judges and everyone who mentored and helped us from local companies. Well done all!

Cinema Competition Winners

Students have recently taken part in a poster competition. We are delighted that one of our students won this. This comment stood out from the judges "I am delighted to let you know that one of your



entries has been chosen as our branch winner of the Poster competition. Your school's entries stood out and it was overall a hard decision. The one we have chosen is titled 'Haunted'.

Congratulations Matthew and well done to all that entered.

Information Site to access support can be found here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y4pwhzqa>

Guardian Summaries

We often receive from parents questions about how they can further support their child. One method is by signing up to **Guardian Summaries**.

A detailed support area for this is here

<https://classroom.freeston.outwood.com/home>. Guardian Summaries will allow you to see what work your child has been assigned.

Keep in contact with us at:

enquiries@freeston.outwood.com

[@OutwoodFreeston](https://twitter.com/OutwoodFreeston)

