

JUNIOR BULLETIN



THIS IS EDUCATION

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HEAD TEACHER**

Every two years here at Palma College we suspend normal classes to hold a Diversity Day of learning. This is a day when the community comes together to experience new ideas, activities and interests. Journalist Jan Edwards was present to hear and see what our students were being asked to do.

The day began this year when, instead of a famous key note speaker, a student spoke to the audience about her journey as a refugee from Iraq and how she even-

tually was placed by the International Red Cross in Majorca. A more moving or intense speech has rarely been heard by the young students and through many tears we learned, and saw in graphic pictures, how she and her family had to become illegal immigrants; live in refugee camps; cross the Mediterranean on a flimsy inflatable boat and lose all their possessions. We are so proud of her and as a College proud to be able to offer her an education.

The students were not told in advance what the day would consist of but the first thing we asked of them was to hand in their mobile phones for the whole day.



The noise of conversation amongst them rose and many of them commented on how great it was to actually speak face to face to new people. An interesting result and one which perhaps we could all benefit from.

The activities were varied, and we have many people to thank who gave their time freely to work with the students. Paula from Movimiento Expresivo shared *Disfrute en movimiento*, and Janis from Cross Fit Mallorca led two very active sessions in the morning where we even had teachers joining in! Refugees Welcome Illes Balears came to talk more about the life of refugees in Majorca, whilst another group got busy making items for the Krista and the Cancer Support Group Christmas market and helped Micky from Proyecto Micky Almohada del Corazon.

Klaus from The Artist Mallorca led a session on voice coaching, whilst Joachim from Educación Training brought in his brilliant dog and gave advice on training. In another room Anny from African

Dance Revolution led an extraordinary energetic hour on Afro Beat dancing which the students then demonstrated to the senior staff.

After a community picnic lunch (still no phones!) half of the college went around Palma on a Geo Scavenger hunt, the winning team having done it at a run, whilst one group made goodie bags for dogs for Jackie from Age Concern to sell at their markets. The success of Hazel from VIP Services was evident as the students did not want to finish learning how to iron shirts and sew on buttons – a first for some!

The activities ended with a 'blind' football competition in front of the Cathedral and it was hard to distinguish who was more competitive, staff or students.

At the end of the day we came together for a final viewing of the film that had recorded many of the day's events and activities. The enthusiasm and enjoyment of the students was evident. How I wish every day could be like this!



**Registration Now Open
for September 2019**

Palma College is now interviewing
for places in both their A Level and
IGCSE courses

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students per subject

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