

## Femsock: Academic Year Summary

*Femsock have had another busy yet successful year filled with many bake sales, assemblies and lots of other events.*

Black History Month - In October, Femsock set up a board in the Foyer in celebration of Black History Month, featuring many Black role models for students. We also set up some food tasting stalls featuring food Black students had brought in with a cultural link. This included food like plantain which several students had the joy of trying for the first time, helping to expose many to different cuisines.

Cost of living crisis - In November, to educate Femsock about the cost of living crisis, a BBC documentary, Panorama, was played in the meetings, introducing many students to the true struggles of the current cost of living crisis.

Rotary Shoebox Scheme - In December, Femsock decided to take part in the Rotary Shoebox Scheme, where students would get to fill shoe boxes with gifts/ useful items to be dispatched to a variety of countries, particularly in Eastern Europe. To make the money to post the shoeboxes, Femsock hosted a cake sale on the 14 of December where we raised £125. We led assemblies with Year 7, 8 and 9 each term to inform them about the different items that they could put in the shoeboxes. So far, around 60 shoeboxes have been sent to countries like Ukraine, Moldova and Romania.

Holocaust Memorial Day - Later on in the year Femsock presented an assembly to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day. The national theme for this year was 'ordinary people'. Nicholas Winton and Josef Perl's stories were shared which helped create a more personal perspective on the Holocaust.

Ramadan- Femsock really enjoyed Ramadan celebrations. One of our favourite moments was the film which was edited by Aiyven M . It included students from our school from a range of year groups answering questions about what Ramadan means to them as well as other areas such as; Do you have any family traditions that are unique to you?, What stupid questions do people ask you about fasting?

Neurodiversity awareness - Femsock organised several events to educate students on dyslexia, and other learning difficulties involving words, reading and spelling. With Mrs Beezley, we presented assemblies to Junior and Senior School in which Rose and Lilia, who are both part of Femsock, talked about their personal experiences. As well as that, a bake sale was organised to raise money for Northamptonshire Dyslexia association and East Midlands Autism association. Thanks to lots of delicious homemade contributions we raised £185. We also offered face painting and bracelet making.

Menstrual hygiene awareness week - To raise awareness of all issues surrounding periods and to help EVE, a local Northampton charity, Femsock offered face painting and nail painting, where students could get their nails painted red. We also held a mufti day where students were asked to wear either red or pink, to show support of the cause. Students weren't asked to donate money, but instead just donate period products that could be given directly to EVE. In the foyer, we set up a board showing information on period poverty, and Menstrual Hygiene Day. We also put up posters on period poverty, and common period myths in school bathrooms.

Pride - As our final event of the year we celebrated Pride month with an assembly and an information board in the foyer. The assembly was super bright and positive but also aimed to educate on the history of Pride and show how far the community have come and how far there is to go.

**Olivia R and Sonya M; On behalf of Femsock**