

Term Times

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SECOND CHANCE

Dads across the Bradford district are getting the chance to learn a trade due to a partnership between Education Bradford and a local training provider. Education Bradford's Family Learning Team has teamed up with Yorkshire Tiling Academy (YTA) to provide free training for dads and their siblings to improve their chances to earn their full potential and to engage dads in family learning.

If you are a dad who left school without an A – C GCSE Pass in English or maths and have not

been involved in previous family learning activities then you could be eligible to take advantage of these free training courses. The courses include: tiling, plumbing, joinery and ICT and on completion, dads and siblings will receive accreditation.

Some of the courses include an ICT element where dads and their sons or daughters, aged between 14 and 19, are taught how to create a website which could lead to possible future work or their own business/trading venture.

All the training is carried out in individual working areas. Some of the work is done by the young people on their own and some alongside their fathers, thus highlighting the engagement with family learning.

There is great take up and interest in these courses, so dads and their children are advised to register their interest as soon as possible. People are asked to contact Graham Binns, YTA, T 01274 684984 to book onto the courses. See page 3 for b-someone story.



Dad, Kevin with his son, Miles, on their plumbing project

Royal coo

Youngsters at one Bradford school really have something to coo about.

The children at **St Luke's CE Primary** in Fagley have been chosen to become guardians of a racing pigeon.

But this is no ordinary bird – it is a member of the Queen's Royal Loft and even has the letters 'ER' stamped on its leg ring.

Each year the Queen's Loft gives a number of young birds to the Royal Pigeon Racing Association, of whom she is patron, to be trained, and two are allocated to schools.

Headteacher Jo Kurasinski said: "David Higgins, the Vice-President of the Royal Pigeon Racing Association, brought it to school and the children had the chance to see it and ask questions.

"They will be watching its progress online and keeping track of its adventures."



David Higgins with Chloe Jackson, Connor Watt and the pigeon

Record results

Schools across the Bradford district have been celebrating record results this year.

Children in primary and secondary schools, their teachers, school staff, Governors and parents deserve to be congratulated for their hard work in bringing about such improvements.

Teacher assessment for seven-year-olds (Key Stage 1) showed improvements in all subjects.

The results of tests for 11-year-olds (Key Stage 2) were up in mathematics and science.

Examinations sat by 16-year-olds, GCSE and others, were at record levels for straight 5 A*-C grades and also at the national benchmark of 5 A*-C grades including

English and maths.

2009 also saw A level students performing at record levels in secondary schools throughout the district.

The number of schools being judged as Outstanding or Good by Ofsted has also increased this year. Also, the number of schools beating Government targets for rates of improvement at Key Stage 2 and GCSE has also risen.

Denise Faulconbridge, Education Bradford's Managing Director, said: "Schools have produced record overall results in 2009 in almost all areas. This is great news for the district as it shows that the hard work of all involved in educating children and young people is paying dividends."

Every school day counts

Parents are being discouraged from taking their children on holiday during term time to give their child a better chance of succeeding at school.

It is important that children and young people regularly attend school because every school day counts. This helps children and young people achieve their potential.

Family holidays can be of great benefit to a child, but holidays taken in term time can badly affect a child's long-term education. Pupils who miss out on coursework can feel vulnerable and left behind. Seventeen days' absence over a school year relates to one GCSE or SATs grade lost.

Education Bradford's Education Social Work Service works in partnership with schools to improve attendance. One such scheme is a partnership with a local travel company to reduce holidays taken in term time. Money-off vouchers or discounts are available from Co-operative Travel and can be used for holidays taken during the school holidays. The partnership working enables parents to receive preferential rates with either a 7% discount or £50 voucher as well as commission free currency for overseas travel.

Further details can be found on the Education Bradford website at: www.educationbradford.com

The **co-operative** travel

Amazing success

It has been an amazing year for young people involved in the Anne Frank [+ you] Stand Up to Hatred events from schools in the Bradford district.

Throughout the year the children and young people have taken part and been invited to some amazing events thanks to their involvement in the project.

It all started in November 2008 when students from **Tong High School, Queensbury School, Laisterdyke Business and Enterprise College** and **Bradford Academy** met for the first time to film and record their ideas about human rights issues.

They spent time with Lucy Glennon of the Anne Frank Trust UK to learn more about the life and times of Anne Frank. She was a German Jewish girl who gained international fame posthumously following the publication of her diary which documents her experiences hiding during the German occupation of the Netherlands during the Second World War. They looked at Nazi policies, the Holocaust and took part in activities asking them to identify human rights issues affecting Anne then and those affecting issues locally, nationally and internationally.

From these sessions came a wealth of understanding and resources, including a DVD and teaching resource, that has been used to assist pupils and students in schools across the district. The young people involved became Anne Frank Ambassadors.

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Working together

Two secondary schools in Bradford have become co-operative trust schools.

Nab Wood School, which became the first co-operative trust school in the district in April 2009, is working in partnership with Bradford University and Suma, a West Yorkshire wholefood co-operative.

The school forum will be made up of elected members of the trust and stakeholders with an interest in the school are being encouraged to become members.

Buttershaw Business and Enterprise College has also partnered up with the university to become a trust school. The university will act

as the lead educational partner in a trust dedicated to helping the school raise achievement and aspirations and create additional opportunities for all students.

The university will be joined as a partner by Bradford Council strengthening links with the local community.

The school has secured 40 junior university places and ten university mentors who will be working in the school to help pupils in their aspirations to move on to higher education. The university is also sponsoring a new university academy for students who are talented and committed in their studies.

Solar panels

Holybrook Primary School, in Greengates, Bradford, has become the first in the district to be fitted with solar panels.

The panels should save around two tonnes of carbon dioxide and generate enough energy to power a school computer for 33,000 hours. Pupils can check on how well the panels are working by using a monitor in the school.



Term Times

Term Times is produced twice a year for parents, pupils and schools in the Bradford district. It is produced by Education Bradford, part of Serco, to promote local good news education based stories throughout the district.

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Fun on the farm

Children from the country and the city got together for a fun-filled adventure week in the beautiful Yorkshire Dales.

Thirty youngsters from **Springwood Community Primary School** in Manningham, Bradford, and from **Summerbridge Community Primary School** in Summerbridge near Pateley Bridge took part in the first residential course of OurSpace – a project aimed at bringing children together to promote cultural understanding.

During the project, which was supported by North Yorkshire County Council's community fund and the Bradford Youth Service, the pupils learned about subjects as far apart as Kashmiri cooking and new born lambs.



Headteacher Fran Warden with pupils

Springwood Headteacher Fran Warden said: "We had a wonderful time."It was based on principles of community

cohesion, and the opportunity to live, eat and play together meant the children really engaged positively with each other."

Slave trade drama

A dramatic show highlighting the exploitation of children in the transatlantic slave trade and child labour in the old Bradford mills was performed as part of a special week about young people's cultural backgrounds.

The event was one of many organised by Bradford-based charity the Schools Linking Network (SLN) to celebrate the

national Who Do We Think We Are? week, in the summer.

The week explored identity, diversity and citizenship and about 800 Bradford pupils from 26 schools took part in a wide range of productions, activities and exhibitions.

More than 60 Year 11 and 12-year-olds at **Challenge College** and **St Bede's Catholic**

Grammar School performed Unfair Trade: Transported Rhythms at the Theatre in the Mill, University of Bradford.

Marielaire Langstaff, SLN Operations Manager, said: "When schools work together at an event like this it encourages them to understand and co-operate with one another, and it helps to break down barriers."

Trek success

Four members of staff at **Girlington Primary School** in Bradford have walked their socks off in a 100k hike through the Yorkshire Dales to raise cash for the charity Oxfam.

Nursery nurse Michele Sanderson and teachers Stuart Christensen, Andrew Grant and Caroline Wells took part in Trailtrekker, a circular course through the Yorkshire Dales starting and finishing in Skipton taking in Pen-y-ghent, Hawes and Buckden in less than 30 hours.



Teachers ready for the off!

Calling themselves the Girlington Wanderers, they managed to complete the

course in 28 hours and 28 minutes and raise more £1,500 for the charity.

Young designers

Students presented ideas for the design of new schools as part of the district's £400 million secondary rebuilding scheme at a special event in Bradford.

After 80 students travelled to London earlier this year for a study day as part of the Building Schools for the Future programme, they were given a chance to present their ideas in Bradford.

Students from the eight schools taking part revealed their proposals at the Midland Hotel. They were from: **Carlton Bolling College**, **Nab Wood School**, **Belle Vue Boys' School**, **Belle Vue Girls' School**, **Queensbury School**, **Laisterdyke Business and Enterprise College**, **Thornton Grammar School** and **The Holy Family Catholic College**.

Two of Bradford's state-of-the-art newly built schools were celebrated this summer at the final of a national awards ceremony in London. The new flagship **Titus Salt School**, in Baildon, and **Tong High School** were shortlisted as finalists in the Times Educational Supplement's Outstanding, New and Refurbished School award 2009 – the only two in the north of England.

11 million takeover day

On Friday 6 November Education Bradford is looking forward to welcoming 300 Year 6 pupils to Future House. This is an opportunity for pupils across the country to get a taste of the world of work. The young people will experience a variety of tasks in which they can become involved.

Toddle Waddle

Congratulations to the tiny toddlers of **Wilsden Pre-School** who recently completed a "Toddle Waddle" to raise money for the Meningitis Trust.

They braved rainy weather to make a splash in Wilsden for charity. Up to 40 girls and boys took part aged two and upwards all armed with umbrellas and wellington boots! More than £142 was raised from supportive families and friends.

Girl bands battle it out

Students at **Belle Vue Girls' School**, studying BTEC Music, took part in a Battle of the Bands competition to win the chance to perform at Leeds Festival.

The competition was organised as part of Oxfam's 'Oxjam' season of concerts which raises money for the charity through live music performances.

The concert was organised by the Year 10 music and citizenship students as part of coursework for both of the subjects and raised over £750 for the charity.

Students planned and delivered

the whole project as part of their citizenship studies. Six bands took part in the competition and there were performances from rock to rap and everything in-between. Various other clubs joined in the fun too from the MC and DJ club to the school samba band.

The school's music teacher, Tom Howell, was on hand to guide them and help them polish the talent that was already there. Hopefully this experience will inspire the students to put on their own gigs.

Margaret Platts, Headteacher at

Belle Vue Girls' School, said: "It is wonderful to see our young women taking to the stage in a vibrant concert full of energy and dynamism.

"It is a valuable learning experience for young musicians to be able to organise their own places in which to perform. The students worked hard for 6 weeks devising their repertoire, perfecting their performances and setting up the lighting, staging and sound for the gig. It was an excellent example of active citizenship."



Let's rock!

Music and Arts Service - musical opportunities across the Bradford district

INSTRUMENTAL/VOCAL LESSONS: Would you like to play an instrument? Various lessons take place in and outside of school time on all disciplines subject to arrangements within school. Please telephone 01274 385554 for more information. **MUSIC CENTRES:** Want to play your instrument/sing alongside others? Then why not come along and join one of the Music and Art Service's ensembles/bands/groups held at various locations and times across the Bradford district - first term free (or part there of) subject to musical ability – please telephone 01274 385555 for more information.

Hitting the big time

Hundreds of young musicians from schools across the Bradford district were given a chance to shine at events called the Big Sing and the Big Play.

Almost 2,000 pupils gathered at St George's Hall during the summer term to take part in this year's Big Sing 2009 event. Over 60 primary schools across the Bradford district were

involved in this unique event where pupils performed songs together.

The theme for this year's event was 'journeys' with songs such as, Born to be Wild and a medley including Swing Low Sweet Chariot and Oh When the Saints, on the agenda.

The children performed in two groups with 1000 pupils taking part in the morning session and another 1000 in the afternoon session. The event was organised by Education Bradford's Music and Arts Service.

Helen Richmond, Head of Primary Music Curriculum, Education Bradford, said: "This was a fantastic opportunity for children to sing together in a

large group. The staff and pupils worked so hard to learn the songs and had a great time performing them."

Earlier in the year, pupils from across Bradford also had the chance to take part in the Big Play Day. Hundreds of children gathered to play, rehearse and perform together for the fourth annual event.

This event took place at Victoria Hall, Keighley in February. Primary school pupils learning brass and woodwind instruments from over 50 schools in the district were invited to attend and play together. The sessions consisted of fun warm up activities and the rehearsal of new and exciting music; the

whole event culminated in an informal performance for parents, teachers and governors.

The event helped to celebrate the achievements of the pupils who have been working hard to learn the instruments. It also offered the chance for pupils to gain first hand experience of playing and performing in a large ensemble with different children.

The workshop was run by experienced musicians and conductors from Education Bradford's Music and Arts Service and the sessions were also attended by young people from **Challenge College** who assisted with the mentoring of the younger pupils.

Talent shines through

Hard work and long hours paid off for pupils at **Swain House Primary School** in Bradford when they brought the house down with their production of the Broadway musical Annie.

The youngsters wowed parents, staff and their peers when they trod the boards for their abridged version of the show.

Deputy Headteacher Sarah Horsbrough said: "It was the first time we have done anything like

this and it was very hard work – we seem to have been rehearsing for several weeks.

"But it was completely worth it. The skills and talents some of the children showed would never have been seen otherwise. They were all fantastic and there was a real buzz around the school."

Right:"Sandy" played by Sam Gray and "Annie" played by Shauna Townley



Help for young people

The **b someone** campaign marks 2009 as the Bradford district's Year of Education and was launched in January.

For the first few months of the campaign the focus was on children of primary school age. The second phase focuses on young people, including secondary school pupils.

Coun Kris Hopkins, Leader of Bradford Council, launched the second strand on Wednesday 14 October at Bradford University's Norcroft Building.

The first strand emphasised the role of parents and the wider community in early learning. This second strand encourages young people to raise their own expectations for their educational achievement, supported by parents, schools, other education and training providers and local employers.

The campaign aims to show how children and young people can benefit from the encouragement and support of parents and the wider community as well as learning at schools and colleges.

Learning outside the classroom

Fun at Malham Cove

Pupils from town and country have been meeting up for days of fun at Malham Cove in the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

About 28 youngsters from **Eastwood Primary** in Keighley and **Kirkby Malham Primary** got together to undergo the introductory 'Discovery' level of an award scheme run by the John Muir Trust – a UK charity dedicated to the protection of wild land for both nature and people.

Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority staff led a number of activities including stream dipping and tree planting.

Children from both schools were presented with their 'Discovery' level certificates in special assemblies.



Pupils tree planting at Malham Cove

From Cullingworth to Buckden!

Buckden House Outdoor Education Centre is a converted manor house in the heart of the Yorkshire Dales. For over thirty years they have offered adventurous activities in a safe and friendly environment enabling thousands of young people to experience learning outside the classroom. **Parkside School** in Cullingworth has recently visited Buckden House. This is the first time they have used the centre which they booked for 3 weeks. A total of 153 students took part in the weeks which were split into two halves; Monday to Wednesday lunch time and Wednesday afternoon to Friday lunch time comprising 25-30 students at each session. The activities in which they took part were

caving, ghyll scrambling, high ropes and a walk. These activities were led by instructors, except the walk which is self-lead.



Parkside student Maia Owen

From fork to fork



Staff and pupils at the one of the vegetable plots

Pupils in 13 schools in north Bradford are learning about growing vegetables and eating them – from gardening fork to dining fork.

Sixteen vegetable plots at **Swain House Primary School** were officially opened by the former Lord Mayor of Bradford, Coun Howard Middleton, at the start of a pilot scheme that involved children planting, growing and harvesting vegetables, then cooking and eating them.

The scheme is now being extended to **Westminster CE, Peel Park, Our Lady and St Brendan's Catholic, Holybrook, Greengates, Parklands, Killinghall, Thornbury, Usher Street/ Bowling, Fearnville, Green**

Lane and Springwood primary schools.

Swain House Headteacher Dianne Rowbotham, said: "The main aim is for the children to grow and eat their own food and it has been a fantastic project so far."

The project is funded by the North Bradford Area Committee, local firms through the Be Involved business engagement programme and the schools themselves.

All the schools are now developing outdoor classrooms, nature trails, vegetable plots and sensory gardens to boost the learning experience for hearing-impaired children.

Blooming good!

Courgettes and strawberries are among the plants being grown by a group of Keighley schoolchildren in a raised garden built in a joint project.

Local business Link Telecom and the Keighley Campus of the new Leeds City College (formerly Park Lane College, Keighley) are assisting pupils from **Branshaw Special School**.

Six pupils at the school helped build and plant the flowerbeds with a range of herbs, vegetables, fruit and flowers.

Class teacher Sarah Town said the project had been a great help to the 12 to 14-year-olds: "It has been absolutely brilliant. Thanks to the weather, we've been out here most days, planting, watering and pulling up weeds. Not only have the children had plenty of fresh air, but also a huge amount of joy and stimulation, from touching, seeing and smelling the plants. They've also done some beautiful paintings inspired by the space, which has become very special to them," she said.

The garden was one of the focal points of an Enterprise Open Day held by the school, at which the children's flowers, paintings and planters they had helped to make up were sold.

Link's chief executive Gary Fawcett, said: "It was worth every second of our time to see how happy the new garden makes these youngsters. Link will continue to work in this way with local schools."



Branshaw student Vicky Shand, 12, enjoys sitting next to the plants

Pond opening

Water and wildlife have come together at **Priestthorpe Primary School** in Bingley in the shape of a new pond.

Children and parents got to work to create it in the school field and woodland off Binns Street after the Friends of Priestthorpe Primary School successfully bid for cash from the Big Lottery Fund – Awards for All.

The pond was built with the support of construction company Carillion – which is building the new Bingley Health Centre and is working in partnership with the school – and it sub-contractors Howards.

Wildlife Coordinator Chris Leleux, pictured with other pond dippers, said: "The plan was to stock it with nothing other than frogs spawn – because frogs return to the same place each year – and just see what comes into it."

"The first tadpoles are swimming their way around their new home now and pond skaters and various beetles have already found their way

to their new habitat. We are excited about what other creatures we might find in our pond dipping sessions over

the next few months as the pond gets naturally colonised by wildlife."



Chris Leleux with fellow pond dippers!

Family day

Families in the district were able to enjoy a family fun day in Ilkley.

A climbing wall, assault course and mud trails were among the attractions on offer.

The event took place at **Neil Bank Outdoor Education Centre** which is next to the River Wharfe and overlooked by Ilkley Moor.

For the younger members of the family there was the opportunity to catch pond creatures and enjoy the water-splash playground where they could operate the equipment to make water flow along chutes and waterwheels.

Orienteering was on offer for the older children and people of all ages were encouraged to save the ducks from the well.



The stream dippers!

Firms dig deep

Bradford schools have been getting some extra help to make their gardens grow.

Yorkshire Water's One Million Green Fingers campaign involves 750 employees creating sustainable and healthy gardens in 350 primary

schools across the region, including Bradford.

The makeovers are taking place at the same time as firms in the Bradford district are being asked to support environmental scheme Be Involved, which is part-funded

by Bradford North Area Committee.

It aims to carry out green improvements at 13 Bradford primary schools with the help of local businesses, who are asked to donate staff and materials.

What a week!

More than 20 families gathered in Lady Hill Park in Allerton to celebrate National Family Week.

Parents and children were invited to picnics and play sessions in the sunshine as part of the fun and games in Bradford to mark a week celebrating families.

National Family Week ran in May and included races and games, arts and crafts and family photos held at Bradford Council's Children's Centres and Schools.

Thornton Primary School and Children's Centre held a storytime morning for children and play sessions in the nursery in the afternoon.

Youngsters aged five and under were invited to join in play activities and also a day trip was organised for parents, carers and children to Cannon Hall Farm in Barnsley.

University challenge

Pupils at Bradford schools were given a taste of university life and the chance to design their dream city.

The 10 and 11-year-olds from Queensbury primary schools swapped the classroom for a lecture hall when they took part in a three-day event at the Bradford University.

Organised by Bradford Council's Extended Services and the Children's University, the pupils also had a go at drama, science and arts activities in the Richmond building, with the support of students on university courses.

Clowning around

Dads and children had a go at juggling, diabolo, stilt-walking and plate-spinning as part of a special day of circus workshops in Bradford.

Thornton Primary School and Children's Centre in Thornton Road held the sessions with Urban Circus arts group in June.

Organised by Parental Involvement Worker Sally Wilkinson, the event involved children from all year groups.

Celebration event

Education Bradford's Service for New Communities and Travellers Team recently held an evening to celebrate Gypsy, Roma, Traveller History Month and Refugee Week.

The evening, at Education Bradford's main support office, Future House, was opened by Denise Faulconbridge, Education Bradford's Managing Director, followed by a presentation of prizes by Bradford's Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Naveeda Ikram, to winners of an Art competition celebrating Family Life.

Music and entertainment was showcased by representatives from the Refugee and Eastern European Communities with a Hook-a-Duck stall for children (borrowed for the evening from the local Fairground community).

Gypsy, Roma Traveller History Month celebrates their culture and history by tackling the negative stereotyping and prejudices that have led to this situation. It is a partnership between communities and local and central government.

Margaret Campbell, Teaching and Learning Consultant in Education Bradford's Service for New Communities and Travellers



Children at the Gypsy, Roma, Traveller History event

Team said: "We work in partnership with schools and families to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and young people from Traveller, Migrant Worker, Asylum Seeker and Refugee backgrounds. The

team helps families to find school places and gives advice and information regarding the education system. We give support to schools in helping to raise achievement and develop the inclusion of Gypsy Roma

Travellers through awareness training, promotion and loan of resources and home/school liaison."

For more information, contact the team T: 01274 385558.

Praise for award

After over two years of planning and preparation **Tong High School** has been successful in achieving the Investors in Pupils Award.

Tong is the only secondary school in the country to have gained this award across the whole school and the report is

full of praise for students and staff. The final report demonstrates its commitment to the academic and personal development of students and gives clear examples of how Tong High School meets all the Every Child Matters (ECM) standards.



Zulu dancing

Zulus in traditional costumes gave pupils at **St Columba's Catholic Primary School** in Bradford some unforgettable lessons in music, storytelling and dance.

The youngsters had a chance to learn more about the African warriors when members of the Mighty Zulu Nation Theatre Company paid a visit during the school's Africa theme week.

Headteacher Peter Spillane said: "The children had a fantastic time and they learned a lot about Africa during the week. We had various African people who told us about their experiences and we had a range of activities based on making Africa and its people more familiar to our children.

"We also had the parents of some of our African children come into school and talk about their backgrounds."



African warriors meet the pupils

Information day

Wedgwood Community Nursery and Special School hosted an Information Day for parents earlier this year.

Representatives from 17 different organisations and schemes, such as speech therapists, dieticians and physiotherapists were in attendance giving advice on the services they offer.

Other projects involved included Streets Ahead, several respite centres, a toy library which specialises in equipment for children and young people with special needs, the Autism Service and the Oral Health Service.

Free trip

Students from **Buttershaw Business & Enterprise College** in Bradford have won a free trip abroad after entering airline Jet2.com's School Flight Giveaway.

Hundreds of schools in Yorkshire and the Humber had a go at winning 38 return flights to a European destination of their choice by explaining where they would fly, what educational activities would take place and why they deserve to be picked. The group took the prize thanks to an excellent application led by teacher Alan Jordan. It was supported with an advanced mind-map, highlighting how the 38 students would explore and investigate the former concentration camp and ghetto at Tezezin, 50k north of Prague.

Safety events

Parents, carers and people who work with children in the Bradford district were reminded how to keep youngsters free from injury and scalds during National Child Safety Week.

Bradford Safeguarding Children Board hosted a Hot Drinks Burn presentation in City Hall to mark the start of the awareness week in June.

Parents and carers were reminded that if a child is scalded by a hot drink they should place the affected area immediately under cold water for at least ten minutes and then seek urgent medical advice.

Low Fold Children and Family Centre in Exley Road, Keighley, also held a Child Safety Week celebration for families and carers with children under eight.

First for college

Laisterdyke Business and Enterprise College has successfully completed its first year pioneering the new 'Young Apprenticeship' qualification with 14-15 year-old students in Bradford.

In spite of the economic recession, a major factor in the programme's success has been the active involvement of local businesses.

The school is the first in the city to trial the new qualifications, which gives capable and motivated pupils the chance to experience workplace life alongside their school studies. The Young Apprenticeships last two years and may lead to an Apprenticeship at 16, with programmes in Retail and Business being offered at Laisterdyke.

Young Apprenticeships are designed to benefit employers by closing the skills gap and so their involvement is vital. Pupils participating in the programme still pursue their curriculum studies and qualifications, including English, maths, science and ICT, which are delivered in school as normal.

During the two days a week (or equivalent) that they are on the programme, pupils study for qualifications in vocational subjects (e.g. GCSEs or Technical Certificates) delivered in a mixture of settings. Pupils divide their time between school, practical training and work experience with participating employers.



Staff from Bombay Stores and Print Plus who are involved in the apprenticeship scheme

Apprenticeships boost

A new apprenticeships scheme has been launched to provide local bricklaying, joinery and decorating jobs for local people in Bradford.

The biggest ever Programme Led Apprenticeship scheme (PLA) was launched by three key partners - Bradford Council's Links 2 team, Accent

Community Partnerships and Construction Skills.

The aim of the scheme is to kick start the Bradford economy by qualifying ten

applicants to NVQ level 2 in three trade construction apprenticeships - bricklaying, joinery and painting and decorating.

Boys into books

A scheme to encourage boys in Bradford primary schools to read books has proved a success.

Bradford Libraries and Education Bradford's School Library Service joined forces to promote the scheme in the Bradford district.

All primary schools across the district were provided with

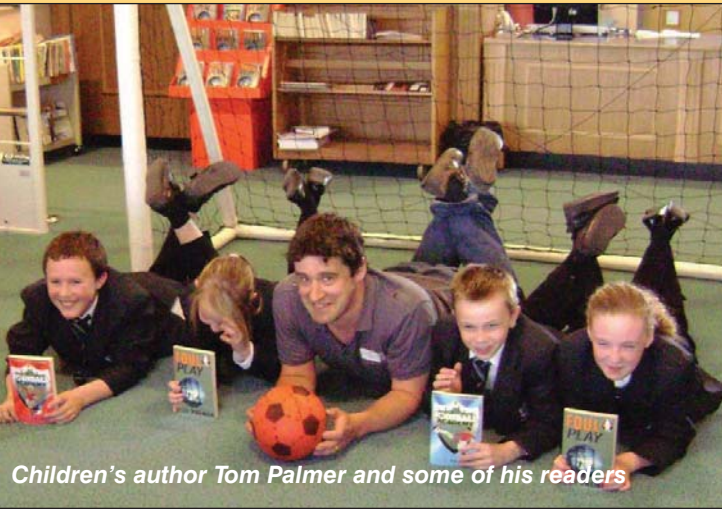
boxes of 20 books in September 2008 and January 2009 as part of the Boys into Books Government-funded initiative.

Some schools used the box as a special reading collection for groups of boys or whole classes (including girls). Others set up reading groups, mentoring groups or used the

books for Gifted and Talented pupils, also for reluctant readers and for storytelling.

A booklet of book reviews from the boys, helping to promote and celebrate reading books, was published. Called "Boys can read Boys do read", the booklet contained reviews of 75 books along with illustrations from the boys'

group at **Glenaire Primary School**. A total of 290 reviews were submitted from schools across the district. The boys who wrote the top 10 reviews were presented with a £10 voucher at an event at the Central Library in July. All the boys who contributed a review for the booklet were also invited and were presented with a certificate.



Children's author Tom Palmer and some of his readers

Special visitor

Reluctant readers at a Bradford school had a helping hand when children's author Tom Palmer paid a visit.

He organised a quiz and reading games for a group of pupils at **Thornton Grammar School** to try to capture their imagination – and it worked, according to librarian Wendy Brooke.

Tom's football detective story Foul Play was selected as part of the Government's Booked Up

literacy scheme and was read by the Year 7 pupils.

"There is always a hardcore of children who think reading is boring – but they also tend to be interested in football," Wendy said. "The aim of his visit was to try to encourage reluctant readers at an early stage of their reluctance in the hope that they might become more interested – and I think it was quite successful."

Creative Bradford pupils

Alyson Hardaker, from EB's Communications Team, has been finding out about the Creative ICT and media-driven work in Bradford schools.



Criteria for production

Schools were invited to take part in the competition which was organised by Education Bradford's Economic Well-being and the Children and Young People's Public Health teams.

A group of between 4-6 young people from either Years 10, 11, 12 or 13 were invited to create a student-led TV production company with each pupil undertaking key roles and responsibilities. The company was to be run as a Social Enterprise and have its own company name and logo. A professional television production company worked with each 'company' and guided them through the whole process. This project was run through the Ed Creates/Ed TV concept which links schools to a range of creative media projects produced and specifically created by young people for young people.

Africa and each Bingley student partnered up with a South African student and became "buddies" for the visit. The students from Bingley noticed a massive difference in the way of life compared to West Yorkshire.

For example, one day, one of the South African students, Wendy, was not feeling very well so the teacher gave her a permission slip and said she should walk to the clinic, which was some distance away. Members of the group from Bradford, said they would take Wendy to the clinic in the car and her "buddy", Sam, went

along too. As soon as Wendy walked into the clinic she was seen immediately; this was because she was wearing a school uniform. All students have to have full school uniform before they can attend school. After being seen by the Clinician, Wendy returned to school armed with her prescription. All this was filmed by the students.

Films also included our students interviewing secondary students, primary students, teachers and the headteacher of a primary school.

On another occasion Sam accompanied Wendy to the water pump and carried some water in a carrier on his head and took it back to Wendy's home; this was gratefully received by Wendy's mum who was not very well. Sam's shoulders and arms were aching badly afterwards. Wendy, and other pupils like her, do this twice a day some days and also walk to school each day, which can take 2-3 hours each way. This was a stark reminder of how fortunate we are to have so many commodities to hand, i.e. water on tap; transport to school and home comforts.

In stark contrast, the students then flew to Durban, 600 miles from Nongoma before their flights back to the UK and could not believe the difference. Their hotel was next to a huge shopping centre, and outside was the most enormous water fountain!

Links have been formed between the schools and the pupils and this will enable Bingley Grammar to work collaboratively with the pupils of Nongoma in the future.

Primary school children across the district were also awarded for their technology skills when



The students at the National Media Museum

they produced digital animation and films. The entries were showcased at the National Media Museum to an audience of pupils, teachers, parents and school staff. The audience voted for their favourite entry using voting keypads and Oscars, certificates and prizes were presented to the winners.

The entries celebrated ICT-driven creative work done in schools supported by Education Bradford's

Curriculum ICT Team and included the production of digital animation, Photostory 3 and digital movies on any theme.

Winning schools included: **Victoria Primary, Buttershaw Primary, Wedgwood School and Community Nursery, Bankfoot Primary, St Anthony's Catholic Primary Shipley, Burley Oaks Primary and Crossley Hall Primary.**



The students in South Africa

School of creativity

Our Lady of Victories RC Primary School in Keighley celebrated being selected as a Creative Partnerships



"School of Creativity". They are one of 26 schools in England to receive the status. They will be engaging in cutting edge research, further developing creative teaching and learning practice and forming innovative partnerships with local schools. The school will receive funding for two years plus its own dedicated education consultant to help develop and promote revolutionary creative learning programmes.

Media and the Arts

Visual and Performing Arts

Fiona Cockerill, of EB's Communications Team, takes a look at how Education Bradford's Visual and Performing Arts can assist schools



Schools across the district can now add a bit of spice to art by taking advantage of support available from Education Bradford's Visual and Performing Arts.

I recall my art lessons to be slightly tedious and unexciting. We were often asked to draw a vase placed before us on a table for the entire double lesson. No wonder I was summoned to the corridor for throwing a rubber at a friend and usually half the class had sneaked off to the tennis courts to gossip.

Things have changed. I guess when lessons are interesting, motivating and engaging, pupils are less likely to lose interest or become distracted. Here are some examples of Education Bradford's visual and performing arts work with schools to keep art lessons interesting.

Byron Primary School and St. James' Church Primary School Album cover artwork day

Tony Bullock, Education Bradford's Visual Arts Co-ordinator, arrives at the school with a collection of album covers and gives pupils a brief history of popular music and its links with visual arts. Many pupils have never seen a music record before. Pupils are mesmerised by Pink Floyd's album "Gatefold" and Alice Cooper's "School's Out". Groups of six are given a song

to listen to. It could be anything from "When I'm cleaning windows" by George Formby or "Intergalactic" by the Beastie Boys. They come up with several rough ideas of a design and experiment with lots of different methods. By the end of the day each group has a 2ft by 2ft album cover design. The beauty of this day is pupil's knowledge of modern culture is extended, musical tastes developed and they experiment with lots of different art skills including digital images, sculpture and collage.

St. Bede's Catholic Grammar School Dracula drama workshop

This is hosted by Alex Fellows who is a Freelance Performing Artist. One day Alex may arrive at a primary school as "Fagin" and work with pupils to produce Oliver Twist. The next he may be a historic figure extending pupil's knowledge of the Second World War. Days are very varied and are planned in conjunction with school staff. Alex visited St. Bede's recently and arrived as a 500 year old vampire, working with the boys to bring Bram Stoker's gothic novel to life.

What else is on offer?

Indian Dancing Day. This includes history of the art form performance as well as an opportunity for pupils and staff to take part.

Maori Poi "Poi" is the Maori word for "ball" on a cord. The Poi was used, many years ago, by the Maori people of New Zealand to increase their flexibility and strength in their hands and arms as well as improving co-ordination. Our expert in "Poi" explains the history and traditions of Poi followed by a performance and workshop in Poi techniques.

Bringing History to life: Our

expert is a local historian and dramatist who arrives at the school in historical dress to give interactive presentations to classes as year groups on a chosen historic period.

Visual Arts: Our freelance artist uses the art and techniques of the Australian Aboriginal culture in contemporary and meaningful pieces of art.

Wilsden's School Life Mural I visited Miss Macey and her pupils at Wilsden Primary School to view the recently created "School Life Mural" created with assistance from Tony Bullock.

Eleven children aged between 5-11 took part from Years 1, 2, 3 and 6. The project involved creating and designing images to sit on the walls of the school's playground with the theme being "Wilsden School Life".

In preparation for the mural, Tony assisted the pupils with ideas and designs. He demonstrated mixing different coloured paints and discussed what they would be painting – using their combined designs to finalise the mural.

Working over a two-day period, pupils transformed these designs into a 12ft long wooden mural with 3D detail. This included an image of the school along with the pupils' ideas on school life.

The older children from Year 6 were asked to choose a theme for the mural to be mounted outside Wilsden's reception class. Together they chose "Mr. Men" and created and painted Mr. Bump together with a collage of various Mr. Men characters including Mr. Happy, Mr. Tickle and Mr. Nosy all dressed in Wilsden Primary School uniform!

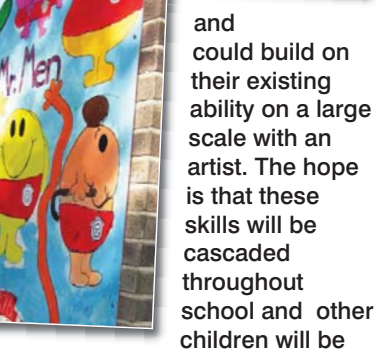
The project was aimed at



enhancing and extending creative skills and learning experiences. The children selected show a natural interest and talent

Winter art

A showcase of pupils' creative artwork will go on display in December. The Winter Art Exhibition is the ninth event of its kind to take place and gives parents and students the chance to see these artistic masterpieces on display. The artwork adorns the walls of Future House. These events are very well attended and very enjoyable. The winners of the Anne Frank This is Me art competition, were in joint first place Amber Aziz of Peel Park Primary and Emma Hardaker of Keelham Primary. Joint second place were Connor Housecroft of Wilsden Primary and Shazia Parveen of Greenhead High School. The winners will be presented at the exhibition. The entries from schools across the district were of an extremely high standard and were judged by a panel which included Coun Michael Kelly in September.



and could build on their existing ability on a large scale with an artist. The hope is that these skills will be cascaded throughout school and other children will be

inspired by the completed project, as well as benefiting from a visual improvement in the outdoor area.

Vicky Macey, Reception class teacher and organiser of the School Life Mural said "I feel the whole experience has been a beneficial one, with a successful outcome but also the important process and journey the children all undertook has inspired and enthused creativity. It has also encouraged a mixed age group to take part, interact and become an effective team."

Artsmark awards

Eighteen schools across the Bradford district gained various levels of the Artsmark Award in 2009.

They were among the 1648 schools to gain an award under the Artsmark scheme in the year and among 10,000 awards nationally made since the awards scheme started in 2000.

A school must dedicate a minimum of 10 per cent of its curricular teaching time to the arts to receive an Artsmark Award; 12% wins a Silver Artsmark and 15% qualifies for Artsmark Gold.

Local artists and arts groups are used by schools to help develop their arts skills. The Bradford schools are as follows:

ARTSMARK GOLD:
Eldwick Primary School
Long Lee Primary
Moorfield School
Nessfield Primary School
Parkside - An Arts College
Russell Hall Primary School

ARTSMARK SILVER:
Clayton Village Primary School

Hoyle Court Primary School
Immanuel College
Lees Primary School
Sandy Lane Primary School
St James' Church Primary School

ARTSMARK:
Grove House Primary School
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
St Mary's Catholic Primary School
St Peter's Catholic Primary School
Steeon Primary School
Thorpe Primary School

Holiday Art Clubs are available at Future House for children aged between 7 and 12 years. For further information please contact Tony Bullock T: 01274 385551

Creative energy

Children from **Midland Road Nursery School** have been putting their creative skills to the test. For example they entered the Young Open Exhibition at Cartwright Hall. They didn't win a prize but theirs was the biggest entry!

The collage the children made was a culmination of work done on visits to the

Impressions Gallery in Centenary Square and a completely different visit to St. Ives Park in Bingley. Using cameras and drawing materials the children explored the two very different environments. Back in school they projected their images, looked at their drawings and reflected on their experience. As a group they decided on which images to

include on their large collage.

When they visited Challenge College our children and their parents were welcomed by the students on a joint creativity project.

Ten children and parents walked to Challenge and had an exciting time using the Art Room. Parents, children and



students at Challenge used clay, paint and a variety of techniques in their work. For some parents it was the first

time they'd worked with these materials. The children used cameras to take photos of what they saw on the journey.

Ready for blast off!!

Children at **Eldwick Primary School** were soaring high this year after being crowned champions of the Blast Off Bradford 2009 competition at the Yorkshire Planetarium, Harewood House.

Pupils from Bradford's primary schools spent months designing and creating rockets for the competition.

Teachers took part in rocket science workshops at the WOW Academy in Bradford and the STAR centre in Keighley. They were given ideas and materials to help guide pupils with their designs.

The 24 rocket entries were all

launched and the entry from Eldwick Primary School managed to reach an incredible distance of 145 metres to claim the top prize.

Blast Off Bradford was piloted by Space Connections and supported by Bradford Council's Kickstart enterprise support programme and the Young People's enterprise Forum.

The aim and purpose of Blast Off Bradford was to inspire children into science, technology, engineering and mathematics subjects and to develop their enterprise skills.



Pupils get ready for blast off!

Rocket science success

Designers of the future at a Keighley school are over the moon after beating off all-comers to win first place in a rocket building competition.

Four pupils from **The Holy Family Catholic School** blasted opposition out of the skies with their creation to win the intermediate category of the Bradford West Rotary Club technology tournament.

The 13 and 14 year olds were given a range of materials including cardboard and pieces of wood and had to design and build a rocket powered by elastic bands.

Holy Family's Head of Technology Paul Quinn said: "It was brilliant – they had a great time."

Car designers

Children at **All Saints CE Primary School** in Ilkley proved they have an eye for design and a feel for electronics when they set about building their own cars.

The Year 5 and Year 6 pupils were studying how times have changed since the 1930's and they decided to look at vehicles. Once they had chosen which one they liked, they had to build it out of wood and connect up a motor.

Maths coordinator Claire Clark said: "Some chose to design vehicles relating to World War Two while others picked vehicles from the 50s and 60s – there were lorries and tanks and hippy wagons and sports cars. We had a whacky race afterwards and they really enjoyed it."

The winner of the whacky race was Alice Edwards, centre on picture.



Pupils from All Saints CE Primary with their cars

Robot wars

Six Bradford school teams of budding engineers competed in the first NG Bailey Robot Challenge.

Loosely based on the popular television programme Robot Wars, the teams were judged on design and planning, manufacturing process, innovation and testing, team building and the use of recycled materials.

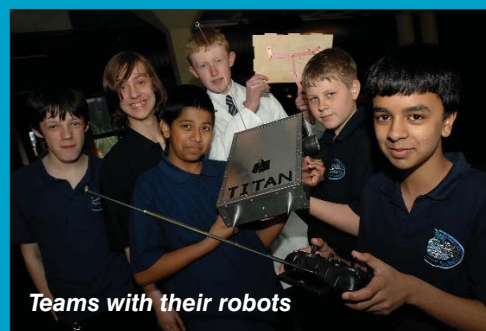
The competing schools were **Queensbury School, Grange Technology College, Carlton Bolling College, Laisterdyke Business and Enterprise College, Bradford Academy and Titus Salt School.**

The school teams met at their after school clubs and received external support from Bradford University's UCAN Volunteers Team and engineering mentors from local employers.

The University Students' Union hosted the event, which proved to be both noisy and exciting. The teams demonstrated their robots' speed, power, agility and weaponry in a solo run before the final showdown.

The judging criteria was devised to allow the students to develop skills that are often cited by employers as essential including, problem solving, enterprise and team working. The use of mainly recycled materials matches the sustainability ethos of the sponsor, national building services provider, NG Bailey.

A trophy was donated by NG Bailey and it is hoped that the challenge could become an annual event. It was organised by a partnership which included the Education Business Partnership, part of Education Bradford.



Teams with their robots



Making use of junk

Students from **Immanuel CE College** in Thackley got their sleeves rolled up when they paid a visit to Yorkshire Water's waste water treatment works at Esholt.

The group had a simple brief from the company – turn a load of old junk into a seating area good enough to go into a new, £500,000 environmental

visitor centre located in Esholt. Assistant Headteacher Adrian Sugden said the job the design students had taken on was similar to the TV series Scrapheap Challenge.

"All the material left over is thrown on a pile there – pipes and valves of different sizes," he said. "We work with

Yorkshire Water quite a lot and they approached the school to see if we had any A Level students doing project designs who could recycle some of it."

Each of the students will produce their own designs and Yorkshire Water will convert those into the real thing.



Junktastic!

Sizzling success!

Pupils at **Parkside School** prepared food for their dinner ladies in an innovative role swap exercise which was voted a sizzling success.

The 60 pupils from Years 7, 8 and 9 linked up with local butchers Ellisons to take part in a sausage recipe competition.

A winner from each year was chosen and invited to Ellisons Butchers for the day to make their own bangers for the Parkside dinner ladies.

The dinner ladies were so impressed by the signature sausages made by the pupils, they plan to serve them as part of their menu at the school.

Catering Manager, Isobel Evans, Jackie Cordingley and chef Barbara Carroll chose Year 9 pupil, Laura Masson as favourite.

The winners and their bangers were as follows and pictured are the pupils with their dinner



Parkside's young chefs

ladies and a member of the Ellisons team.

Year 7, Ellisha Blackwell aged 11 – Pork, apple and honey sausage.

Year 8, Sam Ellis aged 13 – pork, lemongrass, ginger, soya sauce and egg sausage.

Year 9, Laura Masson aged 13 – pork, apple, sage and red onion sausage.

Parkside's head of technology, Jane Love said "We gave the pupils an open brief, telling them that while their sausages must be made of meat, the choice of flavours was entirely up to them. It was a design

task in essence, involving an educational link-up with a local supplier that allowed students to learn about making food in a business setting rather than a normal school kitchen. It proved extremely worthwhile as all our pupils really enjoyed the experience."

Cooking up a treat

Workshops have been held at **Ley Top Primary School**, Allerton, to encourage families to improve their diet and eat healthily.

The 'Cook and Eat' sessions involved adults and children cooking together to make a range of different recipes, such as tuna burgers, risotto, soup,

pizzas, bread and blueberry muffins.

The weekly classes helped adults and children learn more about healthy eating and to try

different meals, introduce different tastes, and to get the message across that healthy food is delicious and exciting, and not boring.



Hot topic

Pupils from across the district's secondary schools had the opportunity to discuss the conflict in Gaza earlier this year.

Approximately 80 young delegates represented 41 countries in the discussion as they took on the role of diplomat to debate the position papers which they had previously prepared.

The debating competition was organised by the Schools Linking Network whose aim is to encourage schools to link with each other and to find ways to improve relationships between

people of different backgrounds and learn about different cultures.

The secondary schools involved were: **Beckfoot, Bingley Grammar, Bradford Grammar, Carlton Bolling College, Challenge College, Feversham, Hanson, Holy Family, Laisterdyke, Nab Wood, St Bede's and Titus Salt.**

A number of delegates were selected to represent Bradford at the 36th annual National High School MUN (Model United Nations) Conference which takes place in New York during March next year.



Amazing Success - continued from page 1

An amazing year followed. In January 2009 the Anne Frank Ambassadors were joined on Holocaust Memorial Day – Bradford Remembers – by children from **Keelham and Home Farm** primary schools and **Tong High School's** Ignite Drama Group. In February the Ambassadors were invited to visit

the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam as VIPs.

They were joined by students from **Bradford Grammar School** and in March planned the launch event of the major Anne Frank [+you] exhibition at Cartwright Hall in Bradford. The Ambassadors worked at the Hall

throughout March, guiding schools around the exhibition.

In April they offered their services to primary schools in the district supporting work in history, English and citizenship along with members of Education Bradford's Diversity and Cohesion staff who were behind the Anne Frank [+you] concept. The Ambassadors and the Project were honoured with one of

Bradford Council's Community Harmony Awards at City Hall. In June the Ambassadors won the Group Award in the national Anne Frank Awards organised by the Anne Frank Trust UK and held in the House of Lords.

In recognition of the Ambassadors' efforts the Anne Frank Trust in Amsterdam has gifted one of a few very special saplings to the people of

Bradford. This sapling is an offspring of the 'Anne Frank' tree in Amsterdam, a chestnut tree which is in the garden of the warehouse, in which Anne and seven other people hid from the Nazis during the Second World War. The tree could be seen from the 'Secret Annexe' and Anne mentions it in many of her diary entries. The tree was one of Anne's few links with the outside world.

Week of fun

Pupils at **Cophthorne Primary School** enjoyed their annual week of fun at the end of the summer term.

This yearly event involves interesting and exiting activities linked to personal, social, health, citizenship and emotional development.

Classes were provided with a £5 budget to cook a healthy meal. Children were also requested to investigate the food miles clocked up by their produce and encouraged to think about the effects this has on the environment.

A range of interesting physical activities to challenge pupils further were also arranged which included a climbing wall, trampolines, a giant slide and lots more.

A team building day was arranged and Pentagon Sports made and donated a pair of giant skis, which the children had to work together to move the skis and complete a set course.

The week also included visits from the police, the health team, drugs awareness team and road safety.



Pupil's working together



Eco awards

The environment is a hot topic for many Bradford schools and efforts to become 'greener' have led to some schools achieving the international Green Flag Eco School award.

Long Lee Primary School and **Haworth Primary School** both achieved the award this year. This is the second Green Flag Award for Haworth Primary who had the prestigious award renewed after expanding their eco activities.

The whole school is now involved in the Eco-School themes and different groups have their own action points to discuss and work on. Improvements to the schools eco activities include a cookery classroom, growing boxes for each class, a community nature garden, orienteering course, hens and a fruit garden.

Headteacher, Janet Parkinson, said: "Children attending our school are learning to live in a sustainable way and it could not be achieved without the fantastic teamwork of all our staff, parents and pupils."

Pupils at **Long Lee Primary** have also been busy creating a number of outdoor learning areas including an environmental classroom, a sensory garden, a pond, a fruit orchard and a composting area. Green Check, a programme of Groundwork, which supports communities in need, has helped Long Lee transform its pond. The Groundwork project has been funded by United Utilities and West Yorkshire Grants, with additional funding from Toyota GB.

Jill Martin, Deputy Headteacher at Long Lee, said: "We have developed some exciting outdoor areas to enable the children to take part in a range of environmental activities. Through this work, pupils have learnt to respect the world around them and to show some responsibility for the protection of its natural resources."



Haworth students celebrate



Long Lee pupils with their green flag

Student voice

Young people from the Bradford district were involved in two events which gave them a chance to have their voices heard in the Houses of Parliament.

A member of the Get the Life U Want (GLUW) group, which is made up of young people who are or who have been in care, Anthony Reed, joined others aged 13 to 25 for a debate in the House of Lords.

The debate involved 170 young people and was organised as part of the national Shine Week festival.

Other members of the GLUW group attended a reception in the House of Commons to showcase the results of their survey of young people who are in care to assess what could be changed to improve services and make sure they got a good start in life.

The young people were supported by Bradford Council's Integrated Youth Support team.

Close look at science

Ancient glue was just one of the topics Bradford school pupils had the chance to study when the University of Bradford's School of Archaeological Science threw open its doors for National Science and Engineering Week.

Staff hosted a 'Science of the Past' workshop that enabled around 40 students to get involved with some 'hands on' archaeological science including using electrical and magnetic measurement to detect buried remains without excavation and making and analysing prehistoric glue.

The workshop was one of a number of events at the University during the week and Pro-Vice Chancellor (Learning and Teaching) Professor Geoff Layer said: "It is crucial that young people are enthused about a career in science and engineering if we are to create the highly skilled individuals needed to meet the economic needs of the future."

Best at maths

Burley and Woodhead CE Primary School pupils are world class when it comes to maths – and that's no idle boast.

The whole school took part in an online World Maths Day and, hours later, Year 4 pupils were celebrating being named top school in the UK and 39th in the world.

Headteacher Julie Speight said: "They did literally thousands of mini-maths tests – they just got hooked on it, which is great as far as we are concerned. There were hundreds of schools from all over the world competing so the result was fantastic – especially as they were the youngest class playing."



Flower power

Selling flowers has proved to be a real moneyspinner for a group of pupils from **Thornton Grammar School** in Bradford.

In fact, the business they set up to market the blooms they produced on an allotment was so successful that they sold out.

The 12 students, all aged 15 and 16, planned a repeat performance on other special days during the year.

Business enterprise manager Gary Hiley said: "The group is involved in occupational activities like landscaping and farming and they decided to sell the flowers on Mother's Day. They brought them in and we made up bouquets and then put advertisements round the school to see if anyone wanted some – and we were inundated with requests."

Sales were so successful that the group raised about £120, which has gone to charity.

Back in time

Nab Wood School students went back in time as they watched a display of medieval jousting and were introduced to a marvellous collection of birds of prey.

Warwick Castle's Medieval World team visited the school in Cottingley. Actors and stunt riders put on a display of medieval jousting to coincide with the whole school project whereby they explored medieval history for the week. The teachers dubbed the module "the Nab Wood Time Machine". The week was designed to coincide with the national 'Who do we think we are?' week and also celebrated Nab Wood School's Humanities Specialism.

There was a falconry display featuring some of the world's largest raptors, including a golden eagle, vultures and an eagle owl.

Money skills

Young people in Bradford are learning how to mange their money thanks to a new game.

Bradford Council's Neighbourhood Service is supporting the national project Money Skills. This project was launched in Bradford at the Bradford Bulls Grattan Stadium, Odsal, earlier in the year.

Players used cardboard box characters and cards

suggesting different options and the session culminated in a board game.

Pupils from **Tong High School** got to grips with the game including six different stereotypical characters – such as a student, single mum, and a highflier – and explored different aspects of finance like budgeting, banking, illegal money lending and credit reports.

Pupils from **Bradford Academy** also took part in a special performance which was based on the projects themes.

Money Skills has been developed by Barclays in partnership with West Yorkshire trading Standards and it supports the Government's Every Child Matters agenda.

Puppet show

An old Sicilian story was brought to life when pupils at **Springwood Primary School** in Bradford staged their own puppet show.

The youngsters were taking part in the two-year Comenius Project, which is funded by the British Council and aims to teach youngsters about Europe and European citizenship.

Andrew Whitton, the Manningham school's Creative Arts Manager, said: "We are friends with schools in Norway and Sicily and a few months ago some teachers from Sicily came over and brought the story with them about this man with 13 children."

With the help of outside experts, the pupils made puppets to act out the story for mums and dads as well as a DVD and a ballad.

"There were all sorts – everything from hand puppets to full size puppets. They did a fantastic job," he said.



Pupils from Springwood with their puppets

Gifted girls



The 'Gifted Girls' with illustrator and author Stephen Waterhouse. Picture courtesy of Spenborough Guardian.

Pupils at **Shirley Manor Primary School** have been working with an artist to create storyboards in the hope of producing their own books.

Illustrator and author Stephen Waterhouse, from Hartshead, visited the 'Gifted Girls' group to offer some guidance.

As well as helping them with their storyboards Stephen, who has illustrated many children's books, was also interviewed by the girls for a pod cast.

The school received funding from the Extended Schools' Service and they decided to set up the group to reward those who have good attendance, work hard and have a positive attitude.

Family Learning fun

Encouraging parents to get involved with children's learning is a key aim of the b-someone campaign.

Families will have the chance to learn together through almost 100 events in October.

The Family Learning Festival begins on Saturday 17 October and runs through to Saturday 31 October at various locations throughout the district. There will be workshops in over 30 libraries where families can make story boards and pretend fireworks or design and decorate their own book-bag. Other sessions are also being held at museums where families can be creative with felt or make lanterns. Learning about local wildlife is on the agenda at Brackenhall Countryside Centre.

The National Media Museum is running workshops with acclaimed animator Joanna Quin and families can enjoy performance story telling about famous Bradford events at the Central Library.

Full details of the family learning festival can be found at www.bradfordfamilylearningfestival.org.uk

Inclusion Chartermark

Three Bradford schools are celebrating an award for demonstrating inclusive practice. **Newby Primary, Dixons City Academy** and **Nab Wood School** were all reviewed against rigorous regional Quality Standards and judged to have outstanding inclusive practice.

Parents of pupils at all three schools described how staff invariably 'go the extra mile' to make sure their son or daughter is included and learning to their full potential.

The schools received the Education Bradford Inclusion Chartermark 2009 at an awards ceremony at Education Bradford's main support office, Future House. Students from the schools joined staff at the event and gave wonderful performances taken from activities they had done in school.

Army event

Young people from Bradford have battled it out to scoop first place in a gruelling regional army challenge which was the first event of its kind.

The event was aimed at bringing together different communities from across Yorkshire and the North East. Whilst providing the participants with new skills it also gave them the chance to have some fun and meet new people.

Members of Highcroft B team from Highcroft Youth Centre in Wrose, Shipley, are celebrating after they won the top trophy in the first Army Community Challenge 2009.

Organised by Bradford Council's Integrated Youth Support, the team was one of 20 from across Yorkshire and the North East who took part in the physically and mentally demanding day, which involved an obstacle course, aerial ropeway, archery, paintballing and mountain biking.

The centre's B team also came third, while Laisterdyke Community Centre's girls' team won the top prize for the best female team.

Olivia's a winner

A Bradford schoolgirl has come home from holiday with an American beauty queen title under her belt.

Five-year-old Olivia Marie Warner from **St Luke's Primary School** in Fagley wowed the judges when she entered the Florida Sweet Pea Pageant.

Headteacher Jo Kurasinski said: "It was a bit of fun for Olivia. Her mum came running into school to see me first thing after the holidays."

Her success means Olivia can enter the Miss Florida contest – and possibly win a place in the Miss USA event.

Marking 10 years

Congratulations to staff and pupils at **Shibden Head Primary School** for becoming the first Bradford primary school to receive a 10 year commemorative plaque from the 'Basic Skills Quality Mark Agency'.

The school first achieved the Quality Mark back in September 1998 and has successfully re-assessed three times since.

The Quality Mark recognises good practice and high standards of teaching and learning in the core areas of reading, writing and mathematics.

Headteacher, Carole Holdsworth said "Receiving the plaque was a lovely surprise. We are very proud to have held this Quality Mark for 10 years and feel it reflects the consistent and significant effort made by a fantastic team of people at Shibden Head - children, staff, parents and governors".

Healthy lessons

Children at two Bradford schools have been raising their awareness of the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

Pupils at **Thornton Grammar School** used special 'beer goggles' to understand the effects of being drunk during an awareness day organised

by Bradford Council's Bradford West Area Co-ordinator's Office.

Sessions were led by police officers and members of Bradford Council's Children and Young People Alcohol and Drugs Team and provided information and advice on a

number of health and legal issues.

Meanwhile, Year 9 students at **Laisterdyke Business and Enterprise College** created a 10-minute film about the dangers of illegal drug abuse as part of a health project.

It looked at the health problems caused by abuse and at ways of tackling it.

The film was made with help from performing arts charity Kala Sangam, with funds from the Bradford and Airedale Teaching Primary Care Trust.

SMILE week

Children at **Bowling Park Primary School** had a great time when they experienced SMILE week at their school.

The **Super Magical Inspirational Learning Environment** week was aimed at providing exciting, creative and innovative activities that helped to promote learning and the Every Child Matters agenda.

The week launched with a Super Learning Day which looked at focussing the brain and positive thinking. Activities during the week included class breakfasts, Street and Bollywood dancing, circus skills, drama workshops, samba band, creating a quilt to reflect their different cultures and many more.

Pupils explored their different learning styles, learnt about the importance of healthy lifestyles and internet safety as well as looking at tackling racism and bullying.



Rock Challenge

Students at a Bradford school are among the best in the country when it comes to dancing.

A group from **Buttershaw Business and Enterprise College** took to the stage in the national finals of the Rock Challenge competition in the Sheffield Arena – and came out in fourth place

Drama teacher Kay Reardon said: "I am immensely proud of the students – they are a true credit to not only the school but for also flying the flag for Bradford.

"The Rock Challenge is a fantastic organisation that promotes a "drug free high" to all the students who took part.

I have been involved for seven years now and both myself and all the students who take part love every minute of the experience"

A group from **Thornton Grammar School** was also among the 12 schools competing in the Rock Challenge, which is organised by the Be Your Best Foundation and backed by Yorkshire Forward and Pulse Radio.



No car day

Addingham Primary School's No Car Day earlier this year was hailed a huge success.

The vast majority of children walked to school and even those whose parents had to drive, parked a little further away from the school and walked the last part of the route.

At the school gates, children were met by their Headteacher, Mrs Drake along with school governors and Parish Councillors.

All week school assemblies focussed on road safety and the benefits of walking to school and the school was scattered with posters that the children created, which really emphasised that they have

caught on to the environmental message. "Please look after our planet for us" was the wording on one such poster.



Above: Not a car in sight!

Left: Headteacher Mrs Drake with organisers and participants of the No Car Day

FOCUS ON THE WORLD

From Low Moor to Laval

Pupils from **Hill Top Primary** enjoyed a week long trip to France.

The Year 6 students left their school in Low Moor and travelled to the Mayenne district of France. They stayed at Chateau Beaumont, a historic chateau which is surrounded by the rolling hills and valleys of the French countryside, just north of the Loire Valley.

The week was split between action / adventure type activities and cultural and sight seeing activities, where they experienced fencing, aero ball (a cross between trampolining and basketball), zip wires, climbing walls, archery, swimming in the outdoor pool and initiative exercises.

One of the trips was to the Laval Market where the pupils were encouraged to try out some French speaking which they had learned. They also made a visit to a Goats Cheese Farm as well as the beautiful typically French



village of Chailland where they sat by the river and had afternoon tea at the local cr perie.

An action packed week concluded with a visit to Disneyland, Paris. The pupils then made their way to Calais before heading back to Dover.

Pupils take five in Mayenne!



Enterprising students

Year 9 students at **Greenhead High School** in Keighley cooked up and served Spanish-themed food for local politicians, business leaders, teachers and school governors, as part of a series of Enterprise Days.

The event involved 440 pupils across the whole school. While there was a strong accent on food preparation, other activities included making eco-bags and looking after the environment in general by working outside growing plants, constructing a pagoda and building bird boxes.



Beach party

Students at **Laisterdyke Business and Enterprise College** have raised nearly £700 for a 'Book Bus' travelling across Zambia.

The 'Nurture Group' of students, all of whom have special educational needs, came up with the idea and pitched for a budget of £100 to a 'Dragons Den' involving the Principal and Vice

Principals. The students used the money to print t-shirts and buy resources for games and activities, which included naming the parrot and a sand search, as well as serving chilled fruit punch alongside a palm tree cooler. Staff in grass skirts completed the tropical effect. SEN Co-ordinator Terrie Johnson said: "The theme

really got all the students engaged and enthusiastic about the work and it was great to see such support from other students and staff for our Nurture Group. By making this an enterprise activity, we were able to present a real challenge to the students and they recognised that they had helped to make something happen in the school."



Laisterdyke Business and Enterprise pupils in their shirts raising money for the book bus

African award

Three students from **Nab Wood School** have won the African Achievers Award 2009 for their consistent positive attitude to school and extra curricular activities.

Jabu Phiri in Year 8, Tami Saya in Year 9 and sixth form pupil Tiniashe Nhubu, were each nominated for the award, which is run by the NILE African Development Organisation, by school staff. They then had to undergo an interview process by NILE staff and were then selected for the award.

The students attended a grand ceremony at Bradford University to collect their awards and celebrate.



The students with Nab Wood teachers Mr Gerwitz and Mrs Majid who nominated them for the awards.

Cuban adventure

Young people in Bradford have been given the chance to sign up for a once-in-a-lifetime adventure in Cuba.

Organised by Bradford Council's Integrated Youth Support (IYS), the 16 to 19-year-olds will take part in a nine-day placement at a school in a disadvantaged town where they will work with children and arrange sporting activities for them to enjoy.



Olympic heroes give top advice

Olympic athletes gave an extra boost to the first intake of a new sports academy at **Buttershaw Business and Enterprise College**.
Rower Debbie Flood, who won silver in Beijing last year, and Campbell Walsh, who picked up a canoe slalom silver in Athens in 2004, handed out certificates and kit to pupils selected for the internal academy, watched by Sports Minister and Bradford South MP Gerry Sutcliffe.
Business and enterprise network manager Susan Stewart said:

“To be selected, their grades, attendance and behaviour have got to be good and we give them specialist training in their individual sports, which can range from hockey or football to dancing or judo. We hope they will inspire other children to follow suit.”
Earlier this year the school had a visit from another Olympic champion, bronze medallist butterfly swimmer Steve Parry, pictured, who gave a motivational talk to the same sports academy students.



Community Sunday



An event to bring different communities of Bradford together through sports took place earlier this year.
The event, called Community Sunday, featured football tournaments, entertainment and information providers and was organised by Khalil Hussain of **Springwood Primary School** and Ibrar Hussain of **Nab Wood School**.

Over 3,000 people attended the event which attracted 14 primary schools, 8 secondary schools and 8 junior football clubs. The winners of the primary schools tournament were **Woodlesford Primary School** in Leeds and **Bradford Academy** were crowned the winners of the secondary school category. The junior football club team winners were Wyke Wanderers.

Coaching for future stars

The Youth Sport Trust has designated **Tong High School** as a Top Link Conference Delivery Centre. This conference is designed around educating young people on how to plan, organise and deliver sport festivals. Tong delivered the inaugural conference in June. The PE assistant curriculum leader, Jonathan Murby, trained up 20 of the school's student leaders to show another 32 schools' prospective leaders how to plan, organise and deliver their own sport festivals on

their return. More than 120 students from 30 other West Yorkshire schools were involved, receiving intensive training both in classrooms and on the field from our students. The world Thai boxing champion, Rachel McKenzie, helped launch the day with the Director of Specialism, Steve Gates, on the importance and impact of sport in life. The day was a huge success, and already Tong has set a day for the next conference on 26 March 2010



Girls on the ball

Six Bradford schools participated in a recent girls-only football tournament to promote the sport amongst schoolgirls.
The Zara girls football tournament was held between six Bradford primary schools including: **Brackenhill, Heaton, Allerton, Heaton St. Barnabas, Lidget Green** and **Westbourne** who all competed in mini matches against each other.

Zara Sports Centre at **Belle Vue Girls' School** hosted the final between **Heaton St. Barnabas** and **Allerton** primaries with the heated game going to penalties and Allerton pinching the title.

Learning Mentor, Sanjeb Kumar from **Heaton Primary**, said "We organised this because there are not many, if any, football tournaments for girls in the area. The atmosphere was spot on. It was brilliant and all the girls enjoyed it."

Cycling hopes

A new cycle track at a Bradford primary school will put cycling on the timetable for local children.
The 300-metre track at **Brackenhill Primary School** in Great Horton will mean children at schools in the area can learn to cycle safely, away from busy roads.

The scheme came about after residents raised concerns about children riding bikes on roads in the area.

The project was driven forward by Matt Hannan, Extended Schools Project Manager for the Great Horton and Clayton Heights area, whose role is to develop extra curricular activities with local schools.

