

Meaningful Learning Experiences

Strategic Commitment	✓	Whole school event
Curriculum Provision		
Employer Partnerships	✓	Developing existing business relationship
Reflective Young People		
Informed Career Choices		

140 Year anniversary strengthens primary school's link with local employer

Purley Oaks Primary School in Croydon celebrated its 140th year with a week-long Arts exhibition and festival. Students from all year groups were involved in producing shows, art work and learning about the history of their school.

The school was keen to engage with a local business to help showcase the students' work and worked with Centrale Shopping Centre, which provided a space in their busy town centre site to display the artwork. The school had previously worked with Centrale on a previous student project and the exhibition provided an opportunity to develop the relationship. The display was open to public viewing for 2 weeks.

The children visited the reference library in Croydon to look at the archives and history of the school and obtained some old photographs, which are displayed in the school's Learning Resource Centre. A variety of special events were organised and students, parents and the local community were invited to attend.

The Arts Festival strengthened the school's position in the community and helped to encourage the development of parent, school and student relationships.

The Children were extremely proud to see their work on display in the school and at the Centrale Centre. They enjoyed performing to the guests and they found the whole experience rewarding.

Impact on the Students:

- Learnt about the history of the school
- Enjoyed creativity of the event
- Very proud to see their work on display
- Had fun working on a whole school project
- Helped develop their overall confidence

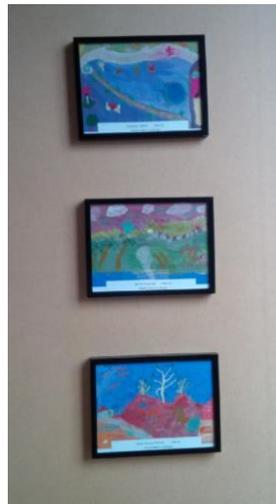
Impact on the School:

- Developed their relationship with a large, local business
- Raised the school's presence in the community
- Allowed the whole school to work with one shared goal

- Motivated children to complete projects to a high standard
- Inspired children to continue a high standard of work
- Teaching staff enjoyed the activities and celebration

Impact on the business partners:

- Extended a past link with a local primary school into a potentially long-term partnership
- Raised awareness and interest in the Centre within the local community and school children



Building on an existing relationship with Centrale Shopping Centre, Purley Oaks Primary School displayed student art work as part of a celebration of their 140th anniversary.

Old photographs of the school were displayed in the school's Learning Resource Centre and parents were encouraged to visit the final display in the shopping centre with their children.

