

APPRENTICE HIRED AT WESTMORLAND

Pupils at Westmorland School have been taking part in their own version of The Apprentice.

Cumberland School Head Teacher, Martin Hayhurst, was specially invited to visit Westmorland School to play the role taken by Sir Alan Sugar in the television series.

Sue Asher is Head Teacher at

Westmorland School, she said: "We decided to host our own version of the hit TV show as we held a similar event based on Dragons' Den last year which the pupils responded really positively to. All classes were given the challenge to design a circus and have spent the last few weeks putting together a television advert, a radio advert and jingle with

Chorley FM to go alongside their final presentation."

Martin Hayhurst said: "I thoroughly enjoyed the day and was extremely impressed by all the presentations that the children prepared."

"It was a shame that I couldn't hire all the teams involved as so much time and energy had clearly gone into each pitch."



You're hired - Martin Hayhurst with his new apprentice

INTELLIGENT TRAINING AT JBE

JBE Training and Development says it will help teachers develop their emotional intelligence (EQ) through a new two day programme.

'EQ For School' contains hands on dynamic instruction, activities and practical projects based on the 'Self Science' curriculum featured as a model in Daniel Goleman's Emotional Intelligence.

Participants will experience an EQ learning environment and discover how to use a range of effective tools that can be adapted to their needs.

Mark Bowes, Trainer/Consultant, said: "The programme helps teachers to understand current research on the brain, emotions, behaviour and learning. It also offers skills and knowledge that support and enhance the delivery of social and emotional aspects of learning (SEAL)."

To discover more contact Mark Bowes on 015395 67400 or email admin@jbetraining.co.uk.

www.jbetraining.co.uk

CHILDREN'S HOME RESEARCH

Witherslack Care and Education Initiatives has commissioned a piece of research among the staff and young people from two of its children's homes.

The research was conducted by Dr Madeleine Portwood, an internationally renowned Chartered Educational Psychologist and Statistician, Dr Gillian Bell. It focused on the emotional wellbeing of the young people and what they felt was important in the running of a

successful children's home.

Those taking part were asked to talk about their likes and dislikes of the provision, personal qualities that they thought were important in staff and to numerically rate aspects of provision. Staff were similarly asked to rate the provision, aspects of personal characteristics in themselves and their own work within the home.

Mike Davey, Managing Director

of Witherslack Care and Education Initiatives, said: "It is vital that we listen to the views of our young people and what they think about the service we provide. It was also important for this to be an independent piece of research and focus on gaining quantitative as well as qualitative data."

"The research revealed that their emotional wellbeing is being supported and that they really value what we do."



Dr Madeleine Portwood

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newsletter

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Beth Tweddle (centre) with pupils from Lakeside School

LAKESIDE'S OLYMPIC VISIT

Olympic gymnast Beth Tweddle swapped the parallel bars for Park Road Sports Centre when she met pupils at Lakeside School.

The former World Champion surprised pupils by dropping in on their PE lesson to present their British Gymnastics Proficiency Awards.

Vicky Size, Head Teacher at Lakeside School, said: "The pupils had no idea that Beth was coming to see them and were absolutely delighted to meet one of their sporting heroes."

"They have all worked really hard, so we wanted to give them a day they would remember."

"All the pupils at Lakeside are taught gymnastics for one term a year as we have found that it is an excellent way of

improving balance and coordination for all, and in particular children with Dyspraxia. It has also helped many of our children to build their confidence and self esteem."

Beth Tweddle said: "I can remember what it was like when I first started gymnastics, so it was great to be able to meet the children and hear about what they have been learning at school."

"They have all done really well to get their certificates and it is fantastic to see how much they enjoy gymnastics and how much they are getting out of it."

SCIENCE DAYS TAKE OFF AT CUMBERLAND

Students from Cumberland Upper School in Blackburn have been getting their sticky tape and scissors at the ready for two days of fun activities with a scientific twist.

The Year 9 students joined forces with pupils from Cumberland School in Bamber Bridge to work on a number of projects including a volcano made out of newspaper and a

water rocket made from recycled plastic bottles.

Jackie Rhodes, Head Teacher at Cumberland Upper School, said: "The two days have been a great opportunity to put the pupils' problem solving skills to the test and to teach them about team work."

"Everyone has worked really hard and had a lot of fun in the process."

GREEN FINGERS AT GRIZEDALE FOREST



Shane Lowe (pupil) with Mykola Hrynyk at Grizedale Forest

CUMBERLAND PROVISION PRAISED

Cumberland School has been praised for its quality of education and facilities in a recent Ofsted report.

The school, which caters for secondary school pupils aged 11 to 16, has also been credited for the good relationships between students

and staff and the provision for additional support and therapy where needed.

Martin Hayhurst, Head Teacher at Cumberland School, said: "I am absolutely delighted with the results of this inspection and see it as a real achievement given that we have only been open for 15 months."

"The staff deserve to be recognised for their hard work and enthusiasm and we hope to build on this success in the future."



Pupils at Cedar House School are blossoming thanks to an environmental awards scheme.

The John Muir Award was introduced to the school in 2006 and encourages awareness and responsibility for the natural environment.

Gillian Ridgway, Head Teacher at Cedar House, said: "We decided to take part in the scheme as it offers pupils a nationally recognised certificate whilst gaining valuable work experience. It is also a fantastic opportunity to discover, enjoy and care for the environment."

"Pupils have been taking part in a variety of activities from maintaining footpaths in Grizedale Forest to creating a wildlife garden for residents at a local retirement home."

"The scheme has made a big difference to school life and has boosted the confidence and self esteem of all participants."

EXCELLENT OFSTED FOR CHILWORTH HOUSE

Chilworth House School is celebrating after an excellent Ofsted inspection.

The Oxford based school 'makes outstanding provision for the personal development of its pupils' and provides a happy, welcoming and motivating learning environment'. Inspectors highlighted its values based curriculum, the quality of provision and overall welfare, health and safety of pupils.

Bob Marchbank, Head Teacher at Chilworth House, said: "My staff have achieved so much since our opening three years ago and it's great that their dedication and professionalism has been recognised in this way."

"Following our success in providing a much needed specialist provision in this area, we are increasing our pupil capacity over the next twelve months to meet the need of local authorities."

Jim Bowers, Proprietor and Managing Director of the Witherslack Group, said:

"This is another excellent Ofsted report to be received by a Witherslack Group school in the past year. We are delighted with this fantastic achievement."

Chilworth House provides quality education and care for children and young people with complex learning needs and challenging behaviour aged 5 to 14.

WITHERSLACK HALL MOTORING AHEAD



Scott McGeough working in the Witherslack Hall motor vehicle workshop

Witherslack Hall has cranked its teaching up a gear through a partnership with surrounding secondary schools.

The South Lakes Federation brings together eight secondary schools, two special schools, one further education college and the newly formed University of Cumbria to broaden and improve the educational provision for 11 to 19 year old students.

Witherslack Hall is teaching Motor Vehicle Engineering to pupils within the Federation, enabling them to achieve their award.

Tina McIntosh, Head Teacher at Witherslack Hall, said: "When I joined the school I immediately saw the potential of the motor vehicle workshop and wanted to utilise it fully."

"The link with the South Lakes Federation has been hugely successful. Young people from other schools have gained an important qualification which will enable them to progress onto college and our staff have made excellent links with other mainstream schools in the area."

Marian Kearney, Inclusion Manager at the South Lakes Federation, said: "We have been extremely impressed by the cooperation of the school and the quality of the teaching. The facilities at Witherslack Hall are outstanding and it's great that other pupils from different schools can use and enjoy them."

AUTISM CONFERENCE AT EDGE HILL

The recent advances in autism research were the theme of a conference organised by Pontville School and Edge Hill University.

More than 250 delegates came to Edge Hill to hear Dr Nancy Minshew from the University of Pittsburgh, School of Medicine who looked at the issues concerning the thought processes of people with autism.

Iain Sim, Head Teacher of Pontville School in Ormskirk, said: "Anyone who is either a relative or professional working with a person who is diagnosed with autism will know that the barriers in education, employment and social situations are significant. Communication is a key factor in addressing this and making sure that the needs of all people suffering with autism, whether young or old, are met."

Dr Nancy Minshew, Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology at the University of Pittsburgh, School of Medicine, said: "Autism is a disorder that affects many aspects of neurological function including sensory, motor and memory abilities as well as postural balance. It is critically important that parents and professionals have a comprehensive understanding of the disorder if sufferers are to progress in education and employment."

Dr Jeremy Brown of the Evidence-based Practice Research Centre at Edge Hill University said: "This is our third annual conference on autism, and it now attracts delegates from all



(Left to right) Dr Nancy Minshew, Iain Sim (Pontville School), Judith Brown (Pontville School) and Dr Jeremy Brown (Edge Hill University)

over the UK and even abroad. It is a valuable opportunity for up to date research to be shared with families as well as with professionals."

The conference was attended by teachers, LA staff, speech and language therapists, educational psychologists, parents and academics.