Establishment name: Kennington Primary School
Lancashire no. 06/055
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Telephone no. 01772 774044
Award granted: Good Practice
Project title: 'Excellence and Enjoyment: A celebration of the talent at Kennington Primary School'

Project summary
As a staff we wanted to build upon the creativity in our school and celebrate the talent of our children. We felt that we would like to be involved in Lancashire’s WOW week and wanted to involve the local community and invite them to share in our activities.

We held an Art Exhibition in our school hall and invited the parents to view the beautiful artwork produced. We also contacted the local library and displayed a small selection of our artwork there as well. Themes included 'Under the Sea' and Aboriginal Art. The following week we organised an Open Air Concert where each class performed a song/dance. This event also involved our local preschool children and a performance by our Street Dance Club led by a local dance teacher. The concert was held on the field with the parents invited to watch. The Year 6 class also produced their own version of A Midsummer Night's Dream which was performed to the school and local community.

Specific aspect of practice to be accredited?
Celebrating and enhancing our children's creative talent and allowing greater opportunities for community involvement through our creative curriculum.

Aspect of Every Child Matters addressed:
☐ Be healthy ☐ Stay Safe ❑ Enjoy and achieve
❑ Make a positive contribution ☐ Achieve economic well-being

What were you hoping to achieve?
A recognition and encouragement of the creative achievements in our school and an atmosphere of community spirit and cohesion. We hoped that there would be a high standard of quality skills-based education and a wider range of opportunities in which the children could succeed.
How did you identify the need for this practice?

Although OFSTED said that we had good community links as a staff and through discussions with the school council, we felt there was a need to celebrate the variety of talent in our school. We wanted to raise the profile of the school within the local area and encourage the wider community to participate in our school events.

Briefly describe the main characteristics of the school

Kennington is an average size primary school (215 pupils in total) which caters for pupils in an area that is socially advantaged although there are pockets of deprivation. A high proportion of pupils are from minority ethnic groups. The proportion of pupils with learning difficulties and/or disabilities is broadly average.

What did you do?

- Staff meetings to discuss events and set dates (all staff) - May 2010
- Letters to parents - May 2010
- Meetings with the school council - May 2010
- Contacting the local library and dance teacher - May 2010
- Inviting a local artist to work with a class making clay sculptures - May 2010
- The local paper published a feature about our Art Exhibition in July 2010

Which members of the establishment and/or wider community have been involved and what was their role?

All staff and children were fully involved in the project. Parents helped with costumes and by supporting the performances and Art Exhibition. The local library were very keen to display our work and the local dance teacher worked with a street dance group over 6 weeks, leading up to the Open Air Concert. A local artist came into school to work alongside a class of Year 1 children creating their own sculptures.

How has the progress of the project been monitored and evaluated?

The staff held a staff meeting at the end of the summer term to evaluate the events and agreed that the breadth of skills taught had improved and there had been a significant impact on the children's confidence and learning. School council also held a meeting to discuss feedback from the events.

How has the practice been modified or improved during development?

There were no significant changes to the original plans in place. We did decide initially to have a theme for the art exhibition but after discussions during staff meetings we chose to concentrate on skills based approach instead.

What has been the impact of the project on pupils’ learning, achievement or enjoyment and how has this been measured?

All the staff agreed that the events and teaching activities prior to the events had a significant improvement on learning and enjoyment. Children who were lacking in confidence were given the opportunity to 'shine' in the performing arts. It was
noted that the Y6 production offered normally shy children the opportunity and confidence to perform in front of an audience. It also led to a greater understanding of the language used in Shakespearian literature. The dance skills taught and performed were of a high standard and there has been a significant improvement in the quality of dance taught throughout school. The informal feedback from parents and children alike was very positive and the children are already asking if we are planning similar events in the near future. There have been enhanced opportunities for parental involvement.

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<th>What are the next stages in the development process?</th>
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<td>As a staff we are undertaking a curriculum audit to ensure the coverage of skills throughout the foundation subjects. We have also been successful in a bid for funding involving a design and technology project. A consultant will be leading a number of INSET meetings to enhance the teaching of DT throughout the key stages and we are holding DT linked theme week in February 2011 based on Myths and Legends. We are hoping the week will involve an exhibition to demonstrate the skills being taught. We are also planning on building upon our Street Dancing Classes and Art Clubs.</td>
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<th>What aspects of this practice may be useful for other establishments to consider?</th>
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<td>We felt it was important to involve a wide variety of people including people from the wider community. The children, staff and parents felt very proud of their achievements.</td>
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<th>Any other comments:</th>
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<td>We felt it was really useful to have planned whole school events at the end of the project which highlighted what had been achieved in school by everybody working together. Lancashire’s W.O.W week gave us a real focus to work with.</td>
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