



PRESS RELEASE

“Futures Festival” at Noremarsch Junior School in Royal Wootton Bassett - Celebrating All Things Careers

Last week saw the first ever “Futures Festival” at Noremarsch Junior School. Parents, grandparents, staff and visitors from the local community were invited in to talk to the children about a range of careers and volunteering opportunities.

The events included whole school assemblies, class talks, football training, hairdressing (a member of staff got a haircut in front of the children!) making of art and even a TEAMS meeting from Abu Dhabi! The school hosted Sports people, Artists, Authors, Zoological Specialists, Therapists, Physios, Nurses, Hairdressers, Accountants, IT and HR professionals and Firefighters as well as important figures from the local community including the Town Major.

The week kicked off with a special assembly from the ALT Deputy CEO, Steve Kneller, launching the event. Steve then went on to talk to some of the children about his own journey from leaving school to becoming the school deputy CEO.



There were many highlights of the week! The school had a special TEAMS call with Georgina Cox Senior Zoological Specialist at SeaWorld Abu Dhabi! Georgina told the children that since the age of 4 she wanted to work with animals and then later with mammals at SeaWorld.

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With her dream in mind, Georgina went on to sixth form and then university to achieve her bachelors degree in Zoology. Georgina pointed out that whilst working towards the degree she needed to volunteer extensively in zoos and animal rescue centres. This volunteering together with her Zoological qualification led her to her internships and roles in zoo's across the world. As part of her role she does training, veterinary work, necropsies, shows and guest interaction, first responder, cleaning tanks, nutritionist, driving heavy machinery and coordinating animal transportation! Georgina ended by saying "expect nothing and give everything" to inspire the children into achieving their dreams and to never give up if they truly want it.



Throughout the week the school focused on skills that the children need to move towards the future aims and goals they have set for themselves. The children learnt how skills such as listening, problem solving, teamwork and leadership are needed alongside academic qualifications no matter what you want to achieve in life. They also heard about the value of volunteering and how this is essential to help not only with your own goals but in supporting the local community.

Hilary MacMeekin Headteacher at Noremars Junior School went on to say "This week has been inspirational for the children and we are so grateful to everyone who came into school to hold sessions. Each session was great fun and the children have not stopped talking about the week. The week was aimed at getting children talking and thinking about their futures, it's important for children to know that sometimes a hobby or love for something can be turned into a career. If you would like to volunteer for next years event, please do get in contact with our school.