

SETPOINT Targets Exceeded

■ When Shropshire EBP became the accredited Science, Engineering & Technology Point (SETPOINT) for Shropshire last year, they never expected to exceed their target of 4000 students actively involved in work related Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) activities. The Department for Trade and Industry backed initiative is designed to promote STEM activities for the benefit of pupils of all ages. Nigel Moore is Shropshire EBP's SETPOINT Adviser and has been

overwhelmed at the success of the first year. "Over 10,000 students have been involved in a whole host of activities: BBC Techno Games, Buggy Racer Challenge, Greenpower Challenge, Maths @ Work, Robot Roadshows - the list just goes on and on. The teachers should be congratulated on their hard work in supporting these curriculum enrichment activities and our thanks also go to the many companies and organisations that have given their time and resources to benefit schools."

SETPOINT information can be found on www.shropshire-ebp.co.uk and shropshire-setpoint.co.uk

Teachers Taking Advantage

■ Shropshire EBP has worked in partnership with Callow Training to provide Vocational GCSE teachers and Careers Co-ordinators with up-to-date information about training opportunities in the construction industry at a one day Teacher Placement at Callow Training.

Selected Year 10 and Year 11 students on a GCSE Construction course can attend sessions at the Callow Training Centre to do practical units as part of an NVQ, as well as gaining a CITB Award. Students

can then go on to a Modern Apprenticeship. Anne Lyons, a teacher from Orleton Park School in Wellington, was so encouraged by the training on offer that she has signed up 7 Year 11 students to carry out the 'Building Craft Foundation Award'. "This is just what some of our students need - practical, hands-on sessions - that lead to qualifications, further training and possible employment. This will be a great boost to our vocational curriculum provision."

Mile-High Science Week!

■ As part of Shropshire EBP's National Science Week celebrations, Lindstrand Balloons hosted visits by groups of pupils from 6 schools to show them the intricacies of balloon manufacture. The company also gave the children guidance on using weather forecasts to manage successful flights. Each school then launched their own fleet of balloons and predicted their final descent locations using metrological data. The Association for Science Education (ASE), which supports National Science Week, provided the funding for a balloon with a

tag for every child in each participating school. The latest information is that a balloon released from St George's CE Primary School in Clun has travelled the furthest distance as its tag was returned from Oxfordshire - exactly the direction predicted by the pupils!



Success for Ludlow School at The Greenpower Challenge

■ The Regional Final of the Greenpower Challenge was held at RAF Cosford on 3 July 2002 with strong representation from Shropshire schools.

The Challenge requires teams of students to build a vehicle to take part in the 6 hour endurance marathon. Each school is given a motor and a battery for the vehicle provided by Fracmo Ltd and the students are helped by volunteers from the business community.

The overall winner of the Regional Final was Ludlow School's Dragonfly car which beat off competition from 25 other vehicles.

For further information, please contact Shropshire EBP's Nigel Moore on 01952 681010

Teacher Turns Author to Support Vocational Curriculum Pack

■ Iain Condliffe, Head of Geography at The Lord Silkin School in Telford, has co-written a case study for Leisure and Tourism GCSE after a Teacher Placement with staff at Fitness First organised by Shropshire EBP. The publication is one of 6 case studies commissioned by the DfES as part of the Work Related Learning Dissemination Programme. "It's really important that we have current and relevant information about the business contexts to support the delivery of the new vocational GCSE courses," said Iain. "The information supplied by Fitness First - and other companies like Land Rover, Cash's (UK) Ltd and the National Health Service for the other case studies - will be

invaluable to teachers and students. However, the real benefits are when students themselves visit the companies and interact with business personnel: that really brings teaching about the world of work to life." Copies of the new pack are available for all secondary schools and FE colleges. The case studies have been written to support Applied Business, Applied Art and Design, Leisure and Tourism, Applied Information and Communications Technology and Health & Social Care. For further information, please contact Lorraine Gregory at Shropshire EBP on 01952 681010.

Watch This Space!!

For up to date information on activities organised by Shropshire EBP, please visit our www.shropshire-ebp.co.uk website

or phone us on 01952 681010

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SHROPSHIRE EBP NEWS

The newsletter of Shropshire Education Business Partnership

CLUB OF THE MONTH - JULY 2002 Worthen Young Engineers



The Worthen Paper Plane Challenge



The girls and their Judder Robots



The boy's Robots

Young Engineers HQ were so impressed they awarded Worthen School Young Engineers Club of the Month for July 2002

WORTHEN CE PRIMARY SCHOOL IN SHREWSBURY

■ Worthen Young Engineers Club is based at Worthen CE Primary School in Shrewsbury and meets every Wednesday after school. It's run by the Headteacher and three volunteers from the business community with the support of Shropshire Education Business Partnership.

The Club was established in January 2002 and since then they have been very busy with many engineering based projects and activities.

The Club was founded by 28 children who were enthusiastic about getting involved in engineering

projects. They've delighted their teachers and business volunteers with their ideas. The Club entered Shropshire EBP's Buggy Racer Challenge with sponsorship from Perkins Engines Ltd and were very successful. Other activities include building Judder robots, designing paper aeroplanes and making hot air balloons.

Worthen School was selected to represent Shropshire Primary schools for the launch of Science Year 2002. To promote the event, one hundred helium balloons were launched from

the school grounds and their progress was tracked over the following days.

Young Engineers HQ were so impressed by Worthen School's Young Engineers Club that they awarded them Club of the Month for July 2002. They received a certificate and a cheque for £250 to be used in any way the Club desires.

For further information on Young Engineers Clubs, please contact Nigel Moore at Shropshire EBP on 01952 681010.

Just a Quick Reminder...

WE'VE MOVED!

Our new address is:-
Shropshire Education Business Partnership
Coppice House, Halesfield 7, Telford TF7 4NA
Telephone: 01952 681010 Fax: 01952 681011



EDUCATION WORKING HAND IN HAND WITH BUSINESS

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SETPOINT



Technology Tree: "A Love Story"!

■ Pupils at Cleobury Mortimer Primary School have taken part in Shropshire EBP's Technology Tree project. They worked with mask and puppet theatre company "The Fetch" of Ludlow to produce and perform the play "A Love Story".

After discovering all the "behind the scenes" technical and creative work that the company staff undertake, the children designed and made stage scenery, masks, special effects, tickets and posters for the performance. "The children thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience from working with the company to performing before a live audience," said teacher Irene McGoldrick. "We were able to

bring a new and exciting dimension to the Design and Technology curriculum." The teachers and company have now been invited to share their experience of the project at the next regional Technology Tree Conference, organised by the Engineering Employers Federation. "This is just one of several projects where primary schools link with local engineering companies. We've had ceramics and textile companies as well as manufacturing and retailing businesses involved," said Nigel Moore from Shropshire EBP. "The whole programme has been so well received that we have a waiting list of schools that want to participate."



Thank You Business Mentors

■ Students at the Wakeman School, Shrewsbury are very grateful for the support of Business Mentors who supported their 'Steps to Work Readiness' Programme. Mentors from Morris Lubricants, Morrisons, SCAT, the Youth Service and a Business Management Consultant spent 6 sessions working in the school, as well as receiving the

students into their workplaces. Six students were selected for Key Skills Enhancement and Helen Igoe from Shropshire EBP's found the volunteers. "The opportunity to talk and be supported by people from business proved to be an invaluable boost for the students," said Jenny Salmon, a teacher from The Wakeman School. **For information on the Steps to Work Readiness Programme, please contact Mandy Swain on 01952 681010**



Yurts Construction Challenge

Pupils from 4 primary schools have taken up the challenge to build life size models of Mongolian yurts (tent like structures) at a Children's University Challenge organised by Shropshire EBP. Eight teams from each school applied their knowledge of structures and forces as they assembled yurts using kits supplied by the Construction Industry Training Board and Shropshire EBP. "We are always keen to support primary schools in the delivery of the curriculum," said Mike Wainwright, CITB's Vocational Education Adviser. "This is a real opportunity for youngsters to gain hands-on experience of construction, to tackle problems and to work in teams - essential qualities that we look for in workers in the construction industry."

The schools were identified through the Children's University which regularly provides enrichment activities for primary school pupils to stimulate interest in future careers through involvement in practical workshops. "It is hoped that the success of this venture will be repeated so that more schools can participate," said Mike Garlick from Children's University. "The partnership between CITB, Shropshire EBP and ourselves has proved very worthwhile and it would be great if more schools were given the opportunity to share in this meaningful - and fun - experience."

Further information available from Nigel Moore at Shropshire EBP on 01952 681010

New Resource for Teachers

■ Six teachers from primary and secondary schools are currently spending time out of their classrooms on a Teacher Placement investigating the use of redundant churches and their grounds to support curriculum delivery. Working with the Churches Conservation Trust and Shropshire EBP, the teachers of RE, Art and History are compiling activities and teaching resources for a pack to be launched next year. Funding for this project has come from the CITB which is used for supply cover and production costs.

"We intend the resource pack to be available to all Shropshire schools both in paper format and via the English Heritage website," said Lorraine Gregory from Shropshire EBP. "Any teacher or lecturer is eligible to apply for a Teacher Placement whether it be for 1 day or 5 days, either in term time or in their own time. We will find them a link organisation to work with in order that their identified personal or professional development needs are realised."

Any teachers or lecturers wishing to apply for a Teacher Placement (Professional Development Placement) should contact Lorraine Gregory on 01952 681010



Choosing Engineering



■ Shropshire EBP has recruited and briefed volunteer Engineering Mentors from the business community to support pupils who have expressed an interest in pursuing a career in engineering. As Year 9 pupils are making decisions about the examination courses they wish to follow, Engineering Mentors discuss the reality of working in engineering and provide input into Design & Technology curriculum activities in schools. The Engineering Employers Federation have backed the scheme as part of their campaign to attract young people into engineering. "We have Engineering Mentors from electrical, mechanical, telecommunications and the automotive industries, as well as managerial representatives," said Gareth Howell, Education Officer for EEF. "Each Mentor offers just 10 hours over the school year, but that time is an investment into engineers of the future. The engineers themselves benefit from the scheme as many find they can use the experience as a fast-track to management."

For further information, please contact Nigel Moore at Shropshire EBP on 01952 681010



Buggy Racers - GO, GO, GO!

■ Pupils from 36 primary schools across Shropshire have taken part in Shropshire EBP's Buggy Racer Challenge.

The children have been designing, making, testing and refining their buggies with support from employers such as Perkins Engines Ltd.

The Education Advisory Service for Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin supported the schools and The Campaign to Promote Engineering (CPE) sponsored the initiative.

"It's just amazing what youngsters as young as 7 can create using simple objects like cotton reels and elastic bands," said Derek Willer from CPE.

The Buggy Racer Challenge Final was held at the West Midlands Agricultural Show. The pupils raced their individually designed vehicles on a specially prepared racetrack for a range of prizes. "Any schools wishing to participate in the 2002/03 Academic Year Buggy Racer Challenge should register as

soon as possible," said Nigel Moore, Shropshire EBP's Science, Engineering and Technology Adviser. "Pupils can gain an awful lot of knowledge and skills as well as having a great deal of fun in this activity."

For further information, please contact Nigel Moore at Shropshire EBP on 01952 681010

From Architects to Zoo Workers

■ Shropshire EBP's database of companies offering approved Work Experience placements is growing daily due to the work of Carol Brown, Sheila Moore and Pamela Hisley. Work Experience Placement Approval Officers at Shropshire EBP. It's their responsibility to check that all potential Work Experience placements comply with Health & Safety requirements. Employers listed on the database - now containing in excess of 4000 entries - all comply with current Health and Safety requirements. "Over 5000 Shropshire students undertake two weeks of Work Experience every year, with most of them going out on placement at the end of June and the beginning of July," said Carol. "Work Experience placements are many and varied - stately homes, pharmaceutical industries, a parrot breeder, a gamekeeper, a specialist wood carver, hairdressers, as well as retail and manufacturing premises. Shropshire EBP publishes a set of directories of approved placements for schools and colleges to use".

For further information on Work Experience please contact Mandy Swain at Shropshire EBP on 01952 681010

Record Year for CREST Awards

■ Students in Shropshire schools have gained more Creativity in Science and Technology (CREST) Awards than ever before with the support of Shropshire EBP. Students aged from 8 to 18 have been successful in gaining these industry linked project based Awards as part of their class work or in after-school club activities.

There are three levels of CREST Awards: Bronze - 10 hours investigation, Silver - 40 hours investigation and Gold - 120 hours of investigation. Students tackle enquiries such as "What are the health risks of using a nail brush when cleaning hands for food preparation?" or "What improvements can be made to the design of GKN's cabs?"

Students who successfully achieve the award criteria are presented with a nationally recognised certificate.

For further information, please contact Nigel Moore at Shropshire EBP on 01952 681010



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