



Refugee Week 15 – 21 June 2009

The title is a misnomer! In fact, work had been going on in Lambeth schools for quite some time ahead of the celebratory week:

Somali Folk Tales Film

Animation: Pupils at Sunnyhill and Crown Lane Primary Schools revisited the Somali Folk Tales they published last year by going on to adapting the stories for film animation. The work was planned by me with Lambeth City Learning Centre and co-ordinated by Jenny Smith of SNAP (Streatham and Norwood Achievement Partnership).

Pupils worked with professional film animator, Shelly Wain. They began by breaking their stories into manageable sections, creating storyboards and finally learning about

and using new technologies in the production of the films.

Recipe for Life: Once again EMAT, in partnership with Oval House Theatre Arts in Education, initiated an arts focused project that included

"It was fun and I never knew animation was done like that, I really liked it because it made me think about it as something I could do in the future."
(Lekan, 11)

both primary and secondary schools. Further details overleaf.

Mud City: was a participatory arts project involving Greenwich and Lewisham Young people's Theatre (GLYPT) with

Loughborough and Hitherfield Primary Schools. Read Zoe Dearden's article overleaf to get a full flavour of the project.

MUN Conference at King's College, London:

For the third successive year, Lambeth secondary school pupils became Model United Nations delegates representing 17 nations debating current global issues: amongst them issues relating to refugees and asylum seekers. Once again, delegates remained true to their country's perspective throughout the debates in committees, argued their cases well, amended resolutions and came to agreements as to the way forward. In one committee the delegates unanimously passed the resolution that they had been



debating for more than three hours.

Eight delegates who remained true to their countries' positions and made the most articulate contributions received prizes from The Rt. Hon. Keith Hill, MP and Vice President of the United Nations Association for Streatham and Clapham.

Mus Bagum



Christ Church Brixton and Dunraven Peer Mentoring Project a Success

This year the Ethnic Minority Achievement Team developed a pilot peer mentoring programme which aimed to engage high achieving Black boys from a secondary school in supporting a group of year 6 boys preparing to begin secondary school. Six year 8 and 9 boys from Dunraven School were selected to act as mentors for the project. After receiving training to prepare them for their role, they were paired with six year 6 boys from Christ Church Brixton Primary School. The boys met once a week over 6 weeks during the

summer term. Through the project, year 6 boys had an opportunity to receive a tour of Dunraven, observe a lesson and get valuable advice from their mentor about how to be successful in secondary school.

The project culminated in an awards presentation at which both mentors and mentees received a certificate and a copy of President Barack Obama's autobiography: *Dreams from My Father* to recognise their hard work during the project.

The students evaluated the project highly

and provided us with some good ideas about how to build on the project's success next year.

If your school would like to participate in this project next year or for more information, please contact Clare Warner at cwarner2@lambeth.gov.uk

Clare Warner



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

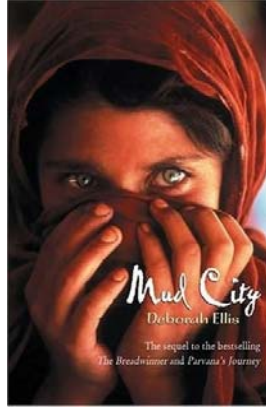


Mud City Arts Participatory Day – Year 5 at Loughborough School

We were invited to take part in a theatre style workshop based around the Mud City books by Deborah Ellis. The series is about life under the Taliban from the point of view of a young Afghani girl called Shauzia.

The day before the workshop, we read a letter from Shauzia written to her best friend arranging to meet in Paris. This set the scene. The actual day was excellent. Shauzia arrived in role, knocking on the sports hall door, having been dumped by a lorry driver and believing herself to be in France. Genuine confusion arose, as the actors also pretended they didn't know who she was. Shauzia then produced her letter and the children clicked she was the girl. They truly believed she was the little girl throughout the day, and even offered her tissues for her tears, sat with her during lunch and offered to look after her in the playground!

All the actors were brilliant and did a great job of acting out Shauzia's story, interspersed with participatory elements for the children in



Mud City is available from OUP

the form of mini performances, writing a diary entry, shadow puppets etc. The children took part too and so really understood what it was like to be in these situations. We lived with shepherds in the hills, created the loud confusion of a busy market, scrubbed a butcher's shop clean to earn a few pennies,

got mistakenly arrested, spent a night in jail and scavenged rubbish tips for food.

The Taliban, families being disrupted, being homeless, becoming a refugee, Human Rights and the rights of the child were all introduced during the day. The children both coped and responded in a mature way. It set the scene for a lot of follow up work during PSHCE, which was aided by a booklet provided by GLYPT.

Overall, it was an excellent project which raised some very tricky issues in a very approachable way. I was impressed by how grown up and insightful our children were... I can confidently say that they put themselves in someone else's shoes who was worse off and appreciated what they have. The fact it was based on a true story and presented as such made such a difference as it was something tangible and concrete for the children to get to grips with. Thank you for giving us this opportunity, I can highly recommend it.

Zoe Dearden

Somali Achievement Awards 2009

Over the past six years, the results of Somali pupils in Lambeth schools across all key stages have significantly increased. This year, the Lambeth Ethnic Minority Achievement Team organised a Somali achievement award ceremony at Lambeth Academy to recognise the achievements of students, their families, teachers and the schools that support them.

Fifteen students from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 4, who had been nominated by their teachers, received awards for excellent progress and achievement. An additional five students attending Somali supplementary schools also received awards, recognising their progress.

**Clare Warner,
Yusuf Farah**



The prizes were presented by Phyllis Dunipace, Executive Director of Lambeth Children and Young People's Service

EMAT training this term

Date 30 November
Title Raising the Achievement of Black Children in the Primary Years.
Venue PDC, International House, Brixton
Contact cwarner2@lambeth.gov.uk

Date 19 November/ 1 December
Title Cross Phase Induction Course for New Teaching Assistants (EMA modules)
Venue ICT2, International House
Contact mwilliamson-taylor@lambeth.gov.uk

Date 9 December
Title Secondary EMA Network Meeting
Venue PDC, International House
Contact mbagum@lambeth.gov.uk

Recipe For Life

Recipe for Life was a partnership commission for young artists in schools between Lambeth Ethnic Minority Achievement Team, Oval House and the Mall Gallery. A series of workshops in schools culminated in an exhibition at the Oval House Theatre Cafe Gallery to celebrate Refugee Week. Artwork produced explored the themes of what you, and what everyone needs for a good life in this country. What is your 'Recipe for Life'? And this overall theme reflected Refugee Week's **Simple Acts** campaign which aimed to raise awareness of what one can do to make life better for refugees and everyone else.

Professional artist, Ceri Buck, devised a workshop at Ashmole Primary School, Heathbrook Primary School and the OLIVE school to explore the issues and to create pieces of art which involved text in visual, sculptural and spatial ways in partnership with Salih who runs drama workshops with refugee youth at Oval House, and who himself is a young refugee from Sudan.

The workshops at the primary schools began with a very brief introduction to the day and to Refugee Week. Drama warm-ups were followed by facilitated 'How can you help me?' role plays. For example, one of us would mime a situation in which we were struggling and the children had to guess for themselves what our difficulty was, volunteer to intervene in the role play and remedy the situation. All without speaking. We mimed struggling with heavy shopping, falling over and injuring an ankle and being lost in a city and trying to find the way to the post office when you don't speak English. There was obviously more than one possibility for each situation and scope for children to interpret and intervene in the scene in ways that reflected their own personalities.

We then trundled in a trolley - a suitcase on



wheels – full of objects that were clues about what everyone needs for a good life: emotional needs (a photo of family); physical needs (a blanket, a plate and spoon); cultural and expressive needs (a musical CD, a paintbrush, a pen); the need for play and relaxation, (a toy, a book); the need to learn and communicate (a dictionary, a phone). The trolley itself was an implicit symbol of a life on the move, journeys, being in transit, living out of a suitcase.



Children were then encouraged to start creating something out of these ideas for themselves. Working in small groups they created mind maps of what they could do to help a new arrival settle in their school

- 'Let her join in',
- 'Stand up for him',
- 'Introduce her to your friends',
- 'Show them the books in the library',
- 'Play them your favourite CD'.

These simple acts were keyholes into the children's world, into what's really important to them, as well as how *they* would like to be welcomed.

Ashmole School created banners with the text of their welcome actions. This activity was challenging and multi-layered and the children's dedication to the task and how they managed themselves whilst working in groups was impressive.

Heathbrook School created miniatures of welcome actions and colourful drawings, which were assembled together into a panel of 30 miniatures. The children unleashed their intricate and eye-catching drawing and design talent and skills. The panel was much admired during the exhibition and Heathbrook students came to see it for themselves.

I was very inspired by the creativity and talent of the students and much appreciative of the support that the teachers had given. I always try to establish a dynamic of trusting support with the students and teacher in the first few activities in each new classroom that I visit. These are my simple acts to make life better for everyone around me.

Ceri Buck – writer and artist

Displays produced by children at Charles Edward Brooke Girls' School (above) Heathbrook Primary School (left) and OLIVE (below)

On June 23rd a group of year 10 students (Alexandra, Fiorella, Zhe, Betto and Yonas) from the OLIVE school went along with Mr Gunning to the opening of the *Recipe For Life* exhibition at Oval House. Their work included some beautiful ceramics with the word "Welcome" painted colourfully in many languages. They had also produced a set of cards portraying images of freedom, in keeping with the serious theme of Refugee Week. This, along with the excellent work of several



Anthony and students from OLIVE

other Lambeth schools, made for a very thought-provoking and impressive exhibition.



The OLIVE School students also took the opportunity of explaining the meaning behind their work to various visitors. Afterwards they sampled some of the delicious food and drink on offer; Betto seemed particularly hungry!

Anthony Gunning

Bright Education Centre named Third Sector/Community Organisation of 2009

Congratulations to Bright Education Centre, a Somali Supplementary School based at Lilian Baylis Technology School and the adjoining Redfearn centre, which was named the Third Sector/Community Organisation of the Year at the London Education Partnership Awards ceremony on June 9th.

The overarching aim of the centre is to enable students to achieve higher levels of academic and social success in their regular schooling by offering specific, targeted lessons in English, maths and science as a supplement to their school work. The centre also aims to encourage and support the involvement of parents in the education of their children and



Issa Issa, pictured at the EMA Conference in July

to develop the cultural identity, self-esteem and confidence of children of Somali heritage.

The centre which caters for young people across Key Stages 1-4 opens on Saturdays from 10-3 pm and on Wednesday and Friday evenings from 5-8 pm. In addition to the centre manager, the centre is staffed by two qualified teachers and eight volunteers. All volunteers are studying towards first or graduate university degrees.

For more information about the centre's work please contact the Centre Director, Issa Issa, at issa@brightcentres.co.uk

Clare Warner

Students at LBTS celebrated Gypsy Roma Traveller Month ...

We want to tell you about our work with Janna Eliot: We took part in a workshop during two project days in March. During the first day we listened to Janna Eliot reading extracts from her book *'Settela's Last Road'* and learned more about the Holocaust by studying her book. On the second day we created a six slide *Powerpoint* presentation, which we showed in school assemblies to all years during Gypsy Roma/Traveller Month, at Norwood Library and at the Lambeth EMA conference in July.

We were nervous because English is not



our first language but we were proud to raise awareness of the issues which Roma and Sinti people faced during the Holocaust.

At the end we used the work we had done to gain one credit for our ASDAN COPE qualification.

13 Pupils, Lilian Baylis Technology School

... with Janna Eliot



Wanda Jarrett, Nerea Olano and pupils at the EMA Conference

Maths at Rosendale Primary School

For several years now, Rosendale Primary School has put a number of Year 5 and 6 children in for the Primary Maths Challenge, a national competition run by the Mathematical Association for state and independent schools. The names of the highest scoring children on the first paper are put forward for the final, for which fewer than 1% of those taking part qualify. In the past we have had three finalists in Year 6, two of whom won Bronze Awards.

This year, **Felan Regana**, a year 5 pupil, was one of just 49 children out of the 800 finalists to win a Gold Award. This is an amazing achievement, particularly as he was only nine years old when he took part.

Schools interested in taking the Challenge next November should contact the Mathematical Association at www.m-a.org.uk

Kathy Callanan

Here is one question Felan tackled in the final...

Hmm, what is
 $(428,769,4318 \times 18) - (428,769,4318 \times 17)$

?

... and Team Rosendale went on to win the Lambeth Maths Olympiad in July, ed.

Hidden Histories at Lilian Baylis

This year **Ground up Development** joined with Lambeth Connexions and the Ethnic Minority Achievement team to launch the first ever *Hidden Histories* programme at a school. During the February half term, twenty three students from Lillian Baylis Technology School (LBTS) participated in the **Hidden Histories** project delivered by Ground up Development. The project is designed to broaden young people's knowledge of Black history, especially from a UK perspective. Throughout the week, students were treated to trips out, including a walk through Historical Black London led by historian Tony Warner and a trip to Greenwich theatre to see a production of *Richard III* put on by The African Theatre company.

Students were also treated to presentations



Tony Warner leading the history walk

from leading figures from the world of business, media and academia, including filmmaker Paul Blake, who explored the origins and use of the 'N' word, Dr. Robin Walker, who explored Africa before the advent of slavery and Dr. Lez Henry, who

introduced students to Black activists, revolutionaries and leaders over the centuries. The project was very highly evaluated by students who commented on how much they had learnt.

The Hidden Histories project is open to all young people who are interested in learning more about Black history. If you are interested in running a hidden histories project in your school, please contact Andrae Palmer at a.palmer@groundupdevelopment.org or visit www.groundupdevelopment.org

Andrae Palmer

Director, Ground up Development

Portuguese Awards Ceremony 2009

The academic achievements of Lambeth's Portuguese-speaking pupils have been celebrated for the third time in a special ceremony at Lambeth Academy, Clapham. Over 74 students from more than 37 schools attended the event, which included Portuguese and Brazilian music, singing, capoeira dancing and the presentation of awards.

These bright sparks are the fastest improving group in Lambeth at Key Stages one, two and three. The accomplishment marks great strides in schools where, previously, language barriers and social and educational background meant that Portuguese children were seen as low achievers.

The Portuguese community is growing in Lambeth, with numbers continuing to rise year on year. Currently, Lambeth has the largest Portuguese-speaking population of any European city outside Portugal.

Award sponsors included the Portuguese bank **Caixa Geral de Depositos and Lambeth Ethnic Minority Achievement Team**. Traditional Portuguese refreshments were provided by **Café Portugal, O Cantinho de Portugal, Atlantico and Madeira**.

And, for the first time 30 teachers from Lambeth schools gained certificates recognising their own achievements in learning Portuguese!

Luisa Ribeiro

The teachers, parents and children from Allen Edwards all really enjoyed the Portuguese Awards Ceremony. We all liked the cultural content: the songs, the Fado and the amazing Madeiran folk dancing.

The Portuguese Ambassador and other speakers all emphasized the importance of education to help children, and not just Portuguese pupils, to make their

way in life. The valuing of home language and cultures is a vital part of this for all our communities.

The teachers new to the event felt that it could have made the distinction between the awards for citizenship and achievement a bit more explicit. The parents were pleased to see teachers learning Portuguese in such numbers. They glowed with pride to share their children's successes and have their own language and culture acknowledged. It was good that the children

did not have to wait for their cheques. The Bank is certainly a generous and efficient sponsor of the event!

The last words should come from our children:

"It was great to get the certificate and I felt very proud" **Joao**

"I felt a bit nervous at first but then I felt great. I want to improve my spoken Portuguese. It's my language." **Catarina**

**Adrian Dodd, Assistant Head Teacher,
Allen Edwards Primary School**

"Reconheço o mérito desta iniciativa e o bom trabalho realizado pela Dra. Luisa Ribeiro, em conjugação com as entidades escolares de Lambeth, no sentido de promover o ensino da língua portuguesa neste bairro onde reside uma importante Comunidade Lusófona"

His Excellency the Portuguese Ambassador

Lambeth Ethnic Minority Achievement Team—Contact Details

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Yusuf Farah	Somali Bilingual Assistant / Community Education Officer	fyusuf@lambeth.gov.uk	69364



Congratulations The Elmgreen School on completion of a twilight course to further knowledge of Ethnic Minority Achievement.

Successful trainees were:
La Toya Henry, Laretta Redman, Sundus Hassan, Hayley Watson and Federico Orella Diaz, pictured here with Geoff Roberts.

If you would like us to design a course for your school, please get in touch using the contact details on the left.

The EMAT News is designed and edited by Amanda Gay.

Contributors: Mus Bagum, Ceri Buck, Kathy Callanan, Zoe Dearden, Adrian Dodd, Yusuf Farah, Anthony Gunning, Wanda Jarrett, Mira Lobo, Andrae Palmer, Luisa Ribeiro, Clare Warner.

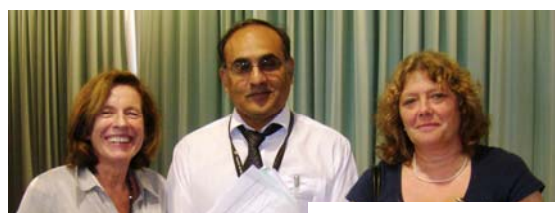
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EMA Conference Notes



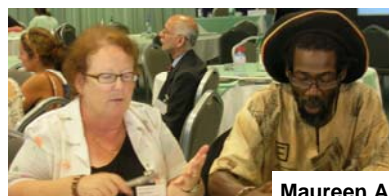
Cathy Twist opened the 2009 EMA Conference, and was followed by keynote speaker Professor Gus John, here with Brian Netto



Keynote speaker Professor Sally Tomlinson with Brian Netto and Amanda Bellsham-Revell



Proud parents and prizewinners of the Black History month competition



Maureen Alcorn and Lascelles Dixon from St Martin-in-the-Fields High School for Girls informing delegates about the *Triangle Project*