

NEWSLETTER

Association of Northamptonshire Supplementary Schools



1#
12/2014

Alaa Abouzanad, Chair

Welcome to our first ANSS newsletter. We have had a fantastic year 2014. Three clusters, new schools, projects, training courses and a lot of plans for 2015. This newsletter will be published on a termly basis on our new website www.anss.org.uk which will be launched in the New Year.



On behalf of the ANSS staff I would like to wish you all the best for 2015 and hope that our co-operation will result in improving the lives of our children and communities.



Ute Nannini, Development Officer

2014 was a very exciting year for us. 10 schools achieved the National Resource Centre For Supplementary Education Quality Assurance Framework 'Bronze Award' and will soon take the journey towards the Silver Award. We offered training courses in First Aid and Safeguarding. We were also in a position to offer 13 places on the NRCSE 30-hour Effective Teaching Course. Well done everybody. The Awards Ceremony was also a great success for our organisation.

NORTHAMPTON CLUSTER

Supplementary Education continues to thrive in Northampton, with 13 schools currently running on Saturdays and Sundays and we are hoping to support three more schools in the new year. Most of the schools continue to be hosted at Northampton Academy or Malcolm Arnold Academy.

All schools have had a great start to the new academic year and have organised or participated in a range of cultural events. In this issue we will be focussing on the Latvian – Sprīdītis and the Gujarati Supplementary School. Future newsletters will focus on other schools in the cluster.

LATVIAN SCHOOL - SPRĪDĪTIS

This term, in our supplementary school we looked at many cultural events that happen in Latvia.

Miķeļ diena, can be compared to a harvest festival; where the past Latvians used to gather and celebrate their harvest that consisted of many vegetables. So to recreate this and teach the children about the traditions of this eventful day, we held our own harvest market, where children as well as their parents sold several home made things.



Towards the middle of November we celebrated **Latvia's 96th birthday**.

In this session we focused on teaching the children about our country and the different regions that make up Latvia.

To make the children more alert and willing to participate we played games and ate cake too.



NORTHAMPTON GUJARATI SCHOOL

The children of Northampton Gujarati School participated in the Annual Diwali celebrations that took place in Northampton Town Centre.

Many of our talented students practiced for hours to perfect their dance routines performed as part of the celebratory events.



The Market Square and surrounding streets were filled with people to watch the performances and partake in the activities including henna painting and saree dressing. A number of stalls selling cultural food and drinks were also offered.

The highlight of the evening was the parade, which featured a five-metre tall elephant and a number of other colourful mystical creatures. The procession tells the epic Hindu story of the Ramayan, in which evil is defeated by the godly king, Lord Ram. Hindus celebrate Diwali



over five days, which includes their New Year.

The students of Northampton Gujarati School felt "proud to play the important characters because Ram is our Hero". Diwali has now become a key part of the Northampton calendar.



A huge heartfelt Thank You to all volunteers and supporters who helped make the day so special.

YOUTH FORUM

On Wednesday 29th October 2014, the first meeting of the ANSS Youth Forum took place at Northampton Academy. Student representatives from the Arabic, Chinese, Latvian and Polish Supplementary Schools in Northampton came together for a training day where they identified their skills as young leaders. The day saw the students engage in a variety of team building activities including building a 3D self supporting structure with cocktail sticks and marshmallows.

At the end of the day the students had come up with the following mission statement for the Youth Forum.

The ANSS Youth Forum aims to engage the youth voice and perspective to improve the quality of Supplementary Schools. We aim to support and cooperate with the wider community and maintain the language and distinct culture of each school. We will creatively address the needs and connect with the students.

KETTERING AND CORBY CLUSTER

Wow... all the schools in the cluster have achieved **bronze standard** through the National Resource Centre for Supplementary Education!! Congratulations to them all for their hard work. Three schools have also started looking ahead to silver!

Woodnewton and St Andrews schools continue to generously host the supplementary schools and we are all looking for ways to support each other and work together more closely.

LATVIAN SCHOOL OPENS IN CORBY

On the 20th September the Latvian School opened its doors in Woodnewton, lots of people attended; parents, children, Maris Pulis, the Latvian ambassador, Andris Teikmanis, Andy Sawford MP and acting principal of Woodnewton, Julia Kitson. The excitement was immense – so was the cake! The children performed an alphabet song and we were also entertained by traditional Latvian dancers from Peterborough. A truly excellent start to this dynamic new school – well done!



SERBIAN SCHOOL CORBY

achieves fabulous exam results! 10 Children achieved GCSE Serbian grades A-C, with 1 A*, 3 A, 3 B and 3 Cs. Well done to the students and also the incredibly hard work of the staff in all their achievements. The Serbian school continues to encourage all children to celebrate important dates in their history with parent's presentations of children's learning. Mirjana and Svetlana are also looking to introduce a football coach this year and maybe Karate training sessions. Watch this space!



LITHUANIAN SCHOOL CORBY

The lovely Joringe, Wiktorija and Inga continue to provide exciting opportunities for the children attending their school. Wiktorija has enrolled to undertake the NRCSE Effective Teaching Course which will further enhance the quality already present in the school. Joringe particularly enjoyed the theatre workshops all the children from the Woodnewton schools attended – I was her partner at one point for a particularly energetic dance session!

POLISH SCHOOL CORBY

Welcomes new children and staff. Konrad and his team have welcomed both new children and staff this year as the Polish School goes from strength to strength. He is talking with parents about offering English classes for parents while their children attend Polish school – what a fantastic opportunity! He also has a gymnastics coach ready to begin classes with the children in the new year.



POLISH SCHOOL KETTERING

Another new school in the cluster! St Andrews CEVA Primary School have very generously agreed to host the Polish School in Kettering – many, many thanks to them! Again, there was a lovely party to launch the school – so many children, bouncy castle, face painting – and obviously wonderful cake – hurray! The High Sheriff of Northamptonshire attended the opening of the school along with many members of the St Andrews staff – the children were very excited! Again, well done on all your hard work in achieving so much!

THEATRE COMES TO WOODNEWTON!

As a joint project between The Core Theatre, Corby and all the four schools in Woodnewton (Serbian, Polish, Lithuanian and Latvian) the children are being given the opportunity to work with a professional artist to produce a piece of theatre! So far they have had some taster workshops in dance, music and drama... They are now waiting to hear from artists who would like to work with them – we will keep you posted!

They are being mentored through this experience by the Wadzanai group from Corby, who had the opportunity last year. We were extremely lucky to have the Wadzanai's come and perform for us all at Woodnewton. The Mayor, Anthony Dady also joined us and particularly enjoyed the drumming workshop!



WELLINGBOROUGH CLUSTER

New Premises! Finally we have St Christopher Hatton School as a new base. We have been given a fantastic office space and ample rooms to use for present and future schools. The school is excited to be working with Wellingborough's Supplementary Schools and maintaining strong working links between the two in the future.

It has been an exciting and busy few weeks for the Wellingborough Supplementary Schools.

The Castle Theatre has approached all the schools to work on a project which is to be aired next Easter time. Northamptonshire Music School is working closely with WACA offering drumming sessions and putting together a performance. Whilst all schools are now ready to start pursuing the Bronze Award through the National Resource Centre for Supplementary Education. Overall a really positive start to the new term.

ANSS Ltd. - Portfolio Innovation Centre, University of Northampton,
St George's Avenue, Northampton, NN2 6FB

Tel: 07711 917 489 or 01604 779 024 - E-mail: nsschs@hotmail.com