



Our programmes help you meet The Gatsby Benchmarks. The stamps throughout our newsletter show you which benchmark each initiative addresses.

# Welcome to our school/college newsletter

Through our newsletter we aim to keep you updated on our latest developments and offerings. We hope you find the content of interest.

We are Education Business Partnership (EBP) and we have been designing and delivering engaging ways for businesses and young people to come together for over 25 years.

## Cultivate the final...

Eight finalists, from local secondary schools Reading Girls, Kennet School, Thatcham and St Bartholomew's Newbury were invited to Bayer in Reading, for the Cultivate 2019 grand final.

Cultivate, now in its 9th year, is our hugely successful initiative designed to encourage curious, self-motivated young people, aged 12-19, to take initial business ideas and turn them into a reality with the support of a business mentor. The finalists presented to a panel of three business professionals who then had the tough task of picking a winner!

'Dimension 3DP', made up of three Year 7's from St Bartholomew's were crowned Cultivate 2019 winners with their 3D printing business idea.



The team received £500 to help towards growing their business. Runners up receiving £250 were 'Sarija Wear', a Modesty fashion team made up of Sarah and Khaija from Reading Girls School and Mateja also from Reading Girls School with 'Let it Blossom' an environmentally friendly and biodegradable bag company.

Melanie Watt, EBP Project Officer, said

"We are ever so thankful to Bayer for sponsoring the programme. The students all did exceptionally well and should be really proud of themselves."

## SKILLS FOR LIFE



Our Developing Life Skills programme has been designed to support the development of young people, by increasing their confidence, encouraging positive thinking and helping to raise their aspirations.

The following schools took up this opportunity (*Little Heath, Reading, John O'Gaunt, Hungerford, The Downs, Compton, The Willink, Reading, Kennet, Thatcham and Castle School, Newbury*) and equipped their students with vital additional skills to go out into the workplace, including;

**Team Work**  
**Voice Impact**  
**Positive Thinking**  
**Presenting for Impact**

The Developing Life Skills workshops were a resounding success for all schools involved.

All schools registered their interest to host the event again with another group of students, so we hope to do this next year, and will do everything we can to secure sufficient funding.

# Primary School Splash!

Our primary school workshops give young people an early introduction into the world of work with insightful experiences and activities to inspire and motivate them on areas such as, STEM subjects and the importance of money management.

## Primary Science Challenge



Pupils from eight local primary schools demonstrated their Science skills at our Primary School Science Challenge Final, a project designed to get young people interested in and motivated by the exciting world of science.

Prior to the final, AWE who sponsor the programme, visited eight West Berkshire primary schools, where their graduate Scientists worked with pupils to demonstrate science in action. They ran a variety of science experiments including: creating rainbows in jars, paper helicopters, water candles and looking at light refraction. Pupils were then invited to develop their own experiments to show a scientific idea or solve a scientific problem.

At the Grand Final, teams from each school presented their own experiments to a panel of AWE judges who scrutinised the experiments and the science behind them. The overall winning team was **Brimpton CofE Primary School with their Fireworks in a jar experiment.**

## Encouraging youngsters to save with JNBS!



Junior Newbury Building Society (JNBS) is a chance for youngsters to start saving on a weekly basis at school!

JNBS is one of our extremely successful programmes run in partnership with Newbury Building Society, where branches are currently opened in primary schools throughout West Berkshire and South Oxfordshire.

Year 6 cashiers are trained to run their branch regularly and encourage and help the younger children to save their money where it is then transferred to their own savings accounts.

We have recently been interviewing Year 5 applicants who wish to be the next cashiers, giving children the experience of filling in application forms and having interviews. Successful candidates get to take part in a training day in September at their local Newbury Building Society branch, where they learn all about becoming a cashier and working in a building society, ready to set-up their branches in school!

## Financial Awareness...

In partnership with Sovereign Housing Association, we have recently run Financial Awareness workshops with 119 Year 6 students from Thatcham Park School and Caldecott and Thameside in Abingdon.

Having successfully run Financial Awareness workshops for secondary school students, for many years, we recognise that the impact it has on students will also benefit those of a younger age.

Supported by business volunteers the workshops helped students understand the true cost of living in a fun and engaging way.

One student said, "Amazing, I have learnt a lot, and this could help with my life in the future"

Another added, "I was shocked about everything my parents have to go through!"

Find out about our primary Job Safaris on the next page...



## Job Safari...

Year 6 students from local primary schools Thatcham Park and Thameside in Abingdon had a wonderful time at our recent Job Safaris.



We were joined by a variety of different businesses and children were able to visit each station and learn about the sector, gain an understanding of how employees got to where they are and more about different job roles.

Children left the workshops enthused about potential career opportunities and ambitious in their future educational aspirations.

## Girls in Hi-Tech



Our impactful programme designed to inspire and motivate female Year 8 students to consider careers within Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM).

We worked with *The Dorcan Academy, Swindon. John O'Gaunt School, Hungerford. Royal Wootton Bassett Academy, Denefield Academy, Reading. Little Heath School, Tilehurst and the Downs School, Compton.*

The analysis of the evaluation data from the students clearly shows the beneficial impact.

- All of the girls involved said that they had been motivated and inspired by the challenges
- 94% of the girls said that they would enjoy doing these kinds of jobs

The format for this event means that it is an **effective way for students to engage directly with hi-tech sector business people.**

*“There are so many job options available for just one company and you don't need to be the most technical person or be the best with computers” student feedback*

## Spotlights!

**Did you know...this term we've put 48 businesses under the Spotlight at 10 secondary schools/colleges, across the Thames Valley and Wiltshire, reaching an amazing total of 1,150 young people!**



The workshops were targeted at those students who are either undecided about their career, future, have low career aspirations or need motivation to maintain or increase their focus on their studies.

The Spotlights have been very successful, and we now have schools on a waiting list to do more! Schools find them very valuable in helping them achieve their Gatsby Benchmark targets with students gaining a lot from working with local employers. Students also get the opportunity to find out more about higher education and further education options.

In partnership with



“We have had some very positive feedback from the pupils and it is clear that, as a result of EBP, they have a greater understanding of options that are open to them, once completing their A-Level studies.”

Careers Lead at Lydiard Park Academy feedback in a recent Spotlight event

## Bohunt’s Spotlight on Careers Special! Spotlight on Careers

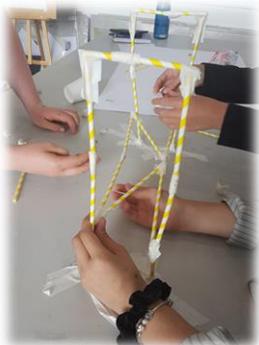


We recently worked with Bohunt School to give 180 Year 9 students amazing Spotlight on Careers experiences.

Over two days, young people got the opportunity to spend time with three businesses:

- Archibald Shaw, where they learnt about engineering and built their own bridges.
- BIMM, where they learnt about technology and used software to create their own music.
- Waitrose, where they investigated retail and what the future holds for an ever-changing industry.

Students were able to gain valuable insight into how STEM is used in each of the organisations, with hands on tasks and learning about the career paths within the different sectors.



**“Enlightening and interesting, this has given me more options to think about” student feedback**

### Work place visits

In addition, twelve lucky Year 9 students were given the unique opportunity of visiting a workplace to gain experience of the working world. Students visited Reading Buses (mechanics), The Dogs Trust (animal care) and Nirvana Spa (Hospitality, Health and Beauty). On each visit they received a tour and talked to the staff about career opportunities and the skills and qualities required to work in each sector.

## AWE Spotlight



In July, AWE graduates took to Park House, Newbury and Little Heath, Reading, where they were joined by students from Denefield, Reading and Mary Hare, Newbury, to showcase careers and pathways in STEM.

The opportunity, open to Year 12 students, gave them hands on challenges to carry out to explore STEM.

The graduates were able to educate the students about STEM degrees, apprenticeships and career pathways, including:

**Engineering** (civil, mechanical, medical, chemical, electrical and aeronautical)

**Physics**

**Astronomy**

**Chemistry**

**Biochemistry**

**Biology**

**Maths**

**Computer Science**

The event was a great way to engage in STEM and ask recent graduates about their experiences

**“Very helpful and informative, gave me a clearer pathway into STEM” Student**

# COMING UP...

## Hi-Tech Horizons



From September 2019 we will be launching our new Hi-Tech Horizons programme which aims to get 50,000 pupils in front of pioneering hi-tech businesses over 5 years. The programme will not only encourage students to choose STEM subjects but also open their eyes to the variety of opportunities available within hi-tech sectors, which they may not be aware of, or have even considered!

This is an exciting opportunity for state-of-the-art hi-tech companies to come into to your school and inspire and engage with Year 8 and Year 10 before they make option decisions in Year 9 and 11.

If you would like to find out more or register your interest, please get in touch!



Hi-Tech  
**HORIZONS**  
Inspiring 50,000 students in 5 years

Did you know... we've placed  
980 young people into a **work  
experience placement** this  
academic year!

We're looking forward to  
supporting the next cohort of  
students next year!

### Contact us

If you would like to discuss any aspect of our work, please get in touch. We'd love to hear from you!

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