Autumn 2013
Issue 36
for Primary
Schools

'It's about time'

In this term's edition of the newsletter we have reports on a visit by PGCE students, workshops for Avenue Junior School and details of our forthcoming education resources for schools.

Science Pack

You may remember that in the last edition of *It's about time* we mentioned we were working on two science packs. We are really pleased to say that these are now both available for schools to download from our website http://www.archives.norfolk.gov.uk/e-Resources/Teaching-Packs/NCC098692

Just to recap - pack one looks at water elevators and waterwheels and relates to the science topics of forces and energy, and pack two will focus on what happens

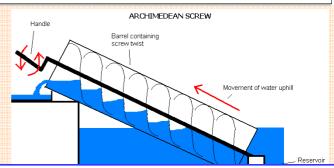


Diagram from the *How can we transport and harness water?* pack

to your body in flight. We hope you enjoy using them and would be grateful for any feedback you have.

Both the packs contain copies of the documents used as a basis along with suggested lesson plans and instructions to re-create a number of experiments which can be carried out in the classroom.

Blitz Ghost image of Caernarvon Road, Norwich, reproduced here with permission of Nick J. Stone www.facebook.com/Blitzghosts

Second World War bombing around Avenue Junior School

In July 2013 we visited Avenue Junior School to run three workshops for their year-5 classes about the Second World War. The school wanted to concentrate on their local area during the Baedeker Raids, and so we spent some of the session looking at the Norwich Bomb Map. This map contains a number of pins marking where the heavier bombs fell on Norwich during the Second World War. We were really grateful to Nick Stone for permission to show the pupils some of the photographs from his Blitz Ghost series, which merges Second World War photographs with modern day images, showing to eerie effect how the streets we walk down today were affected. Finally, pupils spent some time looking at different artefacts related to bombing, before learning about an evacuee girl from a letter to her parents.

The first Norwich Refugee Camp

Staff from the Record Office welcomed pupils from Lakenham Primary School to Norwich Refugee Camp, which was set up outside the Forum in Norwich, on 14 June. The camp was part of a partnership led by Norfolk Library and Information Service, which also involved the British Red Cross, Norfolk Fire Service and The Bridge Plus+. The pupils got to speak to Record Office staff as part of the Records Keeping tent, during which they played the indenture game. The game encouraged pupils to match up

questions and answers about the history of refugees coming to Norfolk and their contributions. In total 75 children expanded their knowledge of refugees.

Timeline of refugees coming to Norfolk

Learn more about St Benet's Abbey

Throughout spring and summer 2013 we worked as one of the partners in the St Benet's Abbey Outdoor Learning Group, a group of teachers, volunteers and staff from a variety of organizations, such as the Broads Authority. The group have been meeting once a month in order to work on materials for a series of resources as part of the HLF-funded St Benet's Abbey Conservation, Community & Access Project led by the Norfolk Archaeological Trust. We are contributing to the history and geography resources which are being created for schools.



Conservator demonstrating the burning of parchment.

The Trust plans for school children to visit the site and re-create the 1381 riot which occurred at the Abbey during the Peasants' Revolt. The riot took place when a group of tenants, unhappy about the amount of unpaid labour they were expected to provide, marched to the abbey, forced the monks to surrender the manor court rolls which recorded the services and payments owed to the abbey and burnt them. We have the court rolls for the following years and these have been photographed in order to produce facsimiles for use in the re-creation. Our Conservators had fun burning some modern parchment (animal skin) for a film to show the children how quickly this burns.

The education resources will be available from the St Benet's Abbey website in Spring 2014. If your school is interested in visiting the site before then please contact info@stbenetsabbey.org.

PGCE students visit the Record Office

In April 2013, seven PGCE students visited the Norfolk Record Office for an introduction to using archives in the classroom as part of their Advanced Curriculum Studies option.



PGCE students examining documents.

The students spent their first day finding out how to use archives to encourage children to develop interpretation skills. The day included learning how to use the searchroom and our online catalogues to enable the students to carry out their own research. The second day was spent in the searchroom putting these skills into practice in order to create a history lesson plan. Students were given some references to help them get started and were able to create the plan based on any topic of history from either the current curriculum or the proposed new curriculum for 2014/5 onwards. The final lesson plans were on

the topics of Elizabeth Fry, the plague, seals, Cromwell's Commonwealth and the Second World War.

Paston workshops

We mentioned in the last newsletter, that we are putting on a number of events for schools, run jointly with the Paston Heritage Society (PHS) as part of the forthcoming *The Pastons and the Pursuit of Power* exhibition. We are now able to announce that during autumn 2013 and early 2014 schools in Norfolk will have the opportunity to take part in one of six workshops.

These workshops will include an introduction to archives, a chance to find out about the Paston family, their fortunes and downfall, and an exhibition trail. In addition, the class will be able to learn how to create medieval letters with re-enactors from the PHS. The workshops run from 9.30 to 12, but can be tailored to meet the requirements of your school, and are available on the following dates: 11, 13, 18, 20 November and 13,15 January.

TRAN communication for all

If you need 'It's about time' in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format

or in a different language, please contact the County Archivist on 01603 222599 and we will do our best to help.

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