

July 2006
Number 2

Specialist ENGINEERING

A regular newsletter
keeping Parents,
the Community
and Industry informed
about the exciting
opportunities
at Hinde House
3-16 School



Engineering Specialist Status at Hinde House 3-16 School

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Our work as an engineering specialist school has taken off at a tremendous rate since the Engineering Status Launch which took place between Monday 13th March and Thursday 16th March. There were over 80 activities throughout the week. These involved pupils from across our 3-16 school and our feeder primary schools as well as parents, members of the community, local businesses and universities. Some of the different activities included robotics, bridge building, team building with the army, women in engineering doing tiling and bricklaying, as well as Maths and Science engineering activities.

The week finished with a Celebration evening where parents, local business people, members of the community, pupils and dignitaries enjoyed an evening of celebration of achieving our Engineering Status, presenting prize winners certificates and celebrating the overwhelming success of the week. We were entertained by the Dearne Big Band with fabulous music from the Big Band Era.

Over 1100 pupils took part in the week and each one received a certificate of participation.

Many thanks go to all who participated and to Julia Abel for her tremendous effort in co-ordinating the week.

Sarah Draper
Principal of Hinde House 3-16 School



Engineering Launch

Visit by the President of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers.

On Friday 28th April we were honoured to be chosen for a visit by the President of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers whilst he was visiting South Yorkshire. He came to our Primary Phase to see the year 4 pupils complete a bridge building task using straws to build the bridges and thinking about how different shapes could be used to strengthen the bridge. The bridges were then tested with weights. Prizes were given for the strongest bridge, the best design, the most unusual bridge and to the group who worked best together as a team. The event was supported by our Year 10 Engineering Ambassadors. We were invited to attend an evening dinner at the Courtyard Marriot Hotel, Rotherham, to celebrate the success of the Presidents visit to South Yorkshire.



Engineering Visit to Barcelona

At the beginning of June, I attended the Engineering Study Tour in Barcelona. The visit was to enable us to look at the Spanish Education system, how they worked with industry and how they encouraged students to take up engineering as a career.

I visited two different schools, one was an 11-16 school called TES Monserrat. The school faced all the challenges of being an inner city school with limited space to accommodate the 1850 students and very little equipment. The school did not have any Science laboratories and very few facilities for D&T. Although there were only very basic classrooms, the standard of work was very high. One major difference between the schools in Spain and our schools in England was that there are no formal exams at the end of Year 11. The students were assessed by their teachers and the grade they were given was based on not only their work but also on their behaviour.

The second school was called Salesians de Sarria and was a post -16 Vocational College. Three of the students did a presentation to our study group explaining what their pathways choices were and we were amazed that although it was a vocational college, they also studied Maths, Spanish and English, to enable them to go on to university if they chose to. We are hoping to be able to arrange a Spanish student exchange with one of the schools I visited for sometime during the next school year.

We also visited the Honda motorbike factory and a Siemens factory where they produced engines for the high speed trains in Spain, France and Japan. As I had travelled to Barcelona on one of these trains, I was fascinated to see the process from start to finish of the engine. Both companies were involved with schools but Siemens have a very good relationship with Barcelona Vocational schools and they help by supplying equipment to schools or through sponsorship. I found the tour extremely informative and has helped me to begin understanding how to develop the international strand of Engineering for Hinde House School.

Julia Abel
Assistant Headteacher Director of Engineering Specialism



Y10 Engineering Work Experience

Ten year 10 pupils spent two weeks and three days completing an intensive engineering work experience placement during March/April 2006, which culminated in a presentation evening by the ten pupils to their families, work placement staff, teachers and senior leadership team.

At first all ten pupils did an intensive three day induction course at Metskill. For their first full week, the pupils were at three different companies. Two pupils went to Betafence, seven went to Forgemasters and one stayed at Metskill. They all did a wide variety of tasks and all companies were extremely impressed with their hard work, dedication, maturity and good manners. For the second full week all ten pupils went to GTA in Doncaster. The week covered various topics including Health and Safety, Car Construction, Welding, Vehicle Electrics, Vehicle Servicing and an engine strip and rebuild exercise.

Once again GTA were full of praise for these ten young people and said they had never worked with a more focused group of students and they conducted themselves in an exemplary manner.

Well done to-

John Taff,
Tony Tu,
Chantelle Doughty,
Vicky Ross,
Thomas Davison,
Mohammed Said,
Raheem Aziz,
Adam Hollingsworth,
Chris Mott and
Simon Gesage.



UK Maths Challenge

During the last term pupils in Year 7 and Year 9 took part in the UK Maths Challenge. 70 pupils rose to the challenge and all did extremely well. There were 4 pupils who gained Bronze Awards so well done to them and all pupils who rose to the challenge.

Solar Buggies Project

In June the Y6's took part in a Solar Buggy Project. This was an Enterprise and Engineering Project funded by SHU. The children built and designed a Solar powered buggy which we then raced. They also designed posters, advertisements and a marketing campaign to try to sell it as a toy. Children had to manage a budget and consider the audience they were aiming for. It was a thoroughly enjoyable project in which children worked independently and enthusiastically.

Celebration!

This year the school has achieved the best Maths and Science KS3 SAT's results ever - 60% level 5 and above. Well done Y9's!



Celebration assemblies in Primary schools



To celebrate the participation of our pupils who took part in the Engineering Launch and all other engineering enrichment activities, Mrs Abel, Assistant Headteacher, has presented over 400 celebration certificates this term in assemblies in primary schools.

Primary Engineering

During June a class of year 6 pupils from Hinde House did a paper engineering activity which involved learning key words about engineering and making a mobile digger arm. The event was supported by 10 Year 9 pupils who are hoping to be Engineering Ambassadors next year. We are hoping to run a programme of engineering activities with all our local primary schools in 2006-2007.

Robotics session with Y5/6 from Primary

Students were given a very challenging task to work on as a team. They needed to build a moving robot from a set of parts. All groups went about the task in an extremely positive fashion.

When they were finished, the groups tested them and were delighted to see them all work!

Congratulations to all students on successfully completing this challenge!

Enrichment programme this term

- Solar Buggies
- K'Nex Challenge
- SATs revision at the City Learning Centre
- Y10 Bridge Building
- Y10 Engineering Work Experience
- Y6 Paper Engineering
- UK Maths Challenge
- Y9 Women in Engineering careers talks
- Passport to Learning
- Powerpoint Presentation evening by Y10 Engineering Work Experience pupils
- Y10 GCSE Statistics classes at Longley College

Celebration Activities

- Celebration evening during Engineering Specialism Launch week
- Metals Industry Awards night
- Celebration Assemblies at Concorde Primary, Limpsfield Primary and Hinde House Primary
- Presentation of certificates to Engineering Work Experience pupils