

Flashlight

DRIVEN AWAY!

A joint film venture promoting safer driving for Young Drivers

Wirral Advanced Motorists received a National Lottery 'Awards for All' Grant to produce a DVD to promote safer driving for young people. The Learning Lighthouse was commissioned to produce the DVD in association with Hilbre High School Humanities College and will be used in schools, colleges, libraries and road safety units throughout the area.

The film 'Driven Away!', which was written, produced, directed and performed by the students, shows four scenarios where young people put themselves at risk, including driving under the influence of drugs, text messaging whilst driving, driving unfamiliar cars in hazardous conditions and racing.

It also features an interview with PC Dave Parker, a traffic patrol and family liaison officer for Merseyside Police. Jan Peters, committee member of Wirral Advanced Motorists which provides guidance for anyone with a full driving licence to take their Advanced Driving Test said, "The film has purposefully been put together by people from the age group this project is targeting which has made the end result influential, hard hitting but also enjoyable to watch. If it makes just one person sit back and think then we have done our job."



GAMES CONVENTION WEEK

At the beginning of the summer break a 'Games Convention Week' was held at the Learning Lighthouse for students between 6 and 18. Younger pupils were encouraged to attend the sessions with a parent or carer so that the generations could learn together.

For younger children half day workshops in Magic Forest, Mission Maker and Game Maker were offered and for older students between 12 and 18 years Mission Maker, Turn Based Games and 3D Studio Max.

If you are interested in these or any other projects that we can help you with – contact April or Patsi at the learning lighthouse on 678 2509.

WIRRAL SCHOOLS' FILM FESTIVAL 2008

The Wirral Schools' Film Festival (WSFF) is an annual festival celebrating filmmaking in our schools. It is held to celebrate the achievements of young filmmakers who work both within school and independently. The WSFF 2008 was the 5th festival and a high profile event was organised to coincide with the Liverpool, Capital of Culture 2008. The Mayor of Wirral and Lord Puttnam were VIP guests. Lord Puttnam is a BAFTA and Academy Award winning film producer, best known for 'Chariots of Fire', 'Bugsy Malone' and 'The Killing Fields'. WSFF 2008 had 74 film submissions from 29 Wirral schools providing 358 cinema minutes. This year we had more filmmaking hours and more cinemas than ever before. The quality and variety of films was outstanding at all ages and for the first time there was a cinema just for animation. More collaborative films were made between different schools and key stages, giving a real feel of teamwork and joint ownership.

The WSFF has grown in popularity over the last five years with a total of 287 films being submitted from 155 schools. This represents a total of 67 different schools being involved in the festival over the five years.

We are now organising the event for 2009. The Learning Lighthouse CLC, Weatherhead High School Media Arts College and Wirral TV have already sent out details to schools. The competitive element was so popular in 2008, it will be back for 2009! There will be over £500 worth of prizes available. This year the theme for the competition is 'Talking 'Bout My Generation'. The festival will be held on Thursday, 2nd July 2009 and the deadline for entries is Friday, 22nd May 2009. Register your interest early!

If you are interested in our workshop 'Documentary Camera Skills and Techniques' to help you with your filming for the festival - please contact the Learning Lighthouse CLC for details.

Don't miss the deadline for 2009!



Flashback

LADY LEVER ANIMATED AFRICA

From January to May 2008, students from Wirral Grammar School for Girls and Bebington High Sports College participated in a special project exploring Lever's African collection. Students participated in a study day at the Lady Lever Art Gallery exploring both Lever's business interests in West Africa and some of the ethnographic objects he collected. As a follow up to this visit students took part in batik and clay workshops at the International Slavery Museum and had the opportunity to draw further studies at the World Cultures gallery in World Museum Liverpool.

Staff from the Learning Lighthouse City Learning Centre (CLC) in Wallasey helped the students to produce the animation using Adobe Flash which is on permanent display at the Lady Lever Art Gallery, Port Sunlight. Photographs documenting their progress and work throughout the project were also displayed for a week in the education room after the premiere of the film.



RADIO SHACK OPENING 'GX8WSR'

The Wirral Schools' Radio Shack was opened at Greenleas Primary School on 2nd June 2008 by the Mayor of Wirral, Councillor Adrian Jones. The project was initially supported by the Learning Lighthouse CLC and a brass plaque was unveiled by the Mayor to commemorate the event.



YOUNG BUILDATHON

The first Wirral Schools' Amateur Radio Club (GX8WSR) Buildathon took place in July. Neil Jones, the organiser, secured a Area Forum grant from the New Brighton and Wallasey Ward to enable a collaborative project between children and older citizens (licenced radio amateurs).

Nine students were signed up and each was tutored through the soldering and construction techniques by Alec Wood, Bill Cross and Neil. The children were taught soldering techniques by making LED torches using kits and then they used these newly acquired skills to successfully produce a working radio receiver. They will be attending the GX8WSR club in future to compare listening notes!

IT'S YOUR FUTURE! 2009

The third 'IT's your future event' will be held on 21st May 2009 at the Discovery City Learning Centre. IT's Your Future is aimed at 11 to 19 year olds to showcase how they use ICT in an innovative way. The event is organised and promoted by students to celebrate all the excellent work involving IT that has been going on. The students welcome new websites, online books, digital art, films, computer generated imagery and any other IT projects.

The Learning Lighthouse CLC provides technical AV support with lighting and real time simultaneous video projection to give the whole event a 'buzz' atmosphere and display winning entries.

A student panel meets to award prizes and decide the format of the evening. Winners will include both teams and individuals who will receive some fantastic prizes kindly donated by sponsors.

Watch out for details of the event!!!



ADIEMUS - 'We will draw near' at the Anglican Cathedral, Liverpool

In July South Wirral High School organised an enormous event at the Anglican Cathedral which was the pinnacle of a year of organisation and planning. Along with a number of partner primary and special schools, South Wirral presented an extravaganza which the Learning Lighthouse CLC supported.

The experience was enhanced using state of the art cameras to project a variety of images ranging from extremely wide angle, taking in the whole of the cathedral to extreme close-up. Using a vision mixer and hard disk recorders the footage was used to create a DVD, as a memento of the event.

