



Project Report

PRCA

Schools: HCP; Harwich School; Chase Lane; Mayflower, All Saints, Spring Meadow, Coppin's Green; St Claire's;

Project: Carnival Curriculum 7356675

Creative Agent: __Daniel Bernstein__

Date of Project Review: Various

Number of young people involved in project: _____750_____

Year group(s) of young people involved: Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6, Y8 _____

Any other information (i.e context of school or particularity of project)

The project was a cross school project to develop a creative teaching approach through carnival. This involved the organising of a children's carnival in Harwich, in which CP schools in Harwich and Clacton were invited.

Reflection

1.Has the focus at the core of this project been addressed?

The focus of the project was as follows:-

- Develop carnival in Harwich, Clacton and the wider Tendring area
- Develop the confidence and ability of teachers to teach the curriculum more creatively (including through carnival arts).
- Engage parents into family learning environments and then participate more in the life of schools in Tendring.
- Develop the confidence and ability of children to learn.

These are ambitious, long term aims, and have been partially addressed. A children's carnival has been successfully carried out, and there is strong feedback from the community that they would like to see it again (see Mayor's letter to local paper).

Over 40 teachers and assistants came to an after school INSET on making carnival costumes, and then used these techniques back in the classroom. More evidence needs to be collected in the future from schools about whether teachers feel confident to teach the curriculum more confidently as a result of the carnival work.

An estimated 1,000 parents / carers / grandparents came to see the carnival. Many schools got parents involved in making costumes. For example, Mayflower school held a making session at the school fete. Chase Lane invited parents to come after

school to help make costumes. The Y4 teacher was “amazed at the number of parents who came – not ones who usually get involved in school activities”. Chase Lane will be organising further workshops for families in October half term 2007 for families across all of Harwich to get involved in Guy Carnival.

Feedback from children has been uniformly positive, and teachers have commented on individuals who have really benefited from the experience.

2. Were the key objectives met as detailed in the project proposal?

On the whole the objectives were fully met, and some of them were exceeded. The following were the objectives. In **bold italics** is the outcome relating to that objective:-

1. Projects completed in 6 schools reaching 400 participating children and 24 teachers. **Projects completed in 8 schools with over 750 participating children, and estimated 120 teachers / assistants. 41 teachers/assistants attended twilight inset.**
2. Community samba club running with 60 regular attenders: **samba club running with 20-30 regular attenders.**
3. Evidence of parents from community samba band getting more involved in school activity. **2 school governors regular attenders. One has accompanied DB to meeting with HCP to discuss involvement.**
4. 20 people (including 15 teachers) have attended the twilight sessions and are teaching more creatively as a result of the input. **Tbc Susanna evaluation**
5. Carnival event delivered with 1000 spectators; CP Tending VIPs; significant regional publicity; some national publicity. **Carnival event delivered with estimated 2,000 spectators; Mayor; Chair of CP; regional press**
6. Regional, National and International links with other carnivals initiated. **Discussions with National Centre for Carnival Arts initiated; Links with Kinetika (London); Shademakers (Germany); Cardiff and others developing.**
7. Carnival Club have performed twice, and have 3 further bookings over the summer. **Club have performed twice with 1 confirmed booking for summer.**
8. 6 parents from each school (36 total) more actively engaged in the school. **Tbc Susanna evaluation**
9. Written project evaluation with evidence of teachers teaching more creatively, and children engaged and enjoying school more as a result of the project. **Ongoing**

3. What were the successes of this project? How were they celebrated?

1. Independent community samba group set up.
2. Fantastic children’s carnival parade with far greater number of schools, participants and audience than originally estimated.

3. Some schools came on board and really got behind the project, with teachers, assistants, parents and children preparing and performing together. Spring Meadow, Chase Lane, Coppin's Green and Mayflower were particularly good examples.
4. Large number (12) and diverse range of practitioners used, who all were very enthusiastic about their involvement in the project. Practitioner used include: George Fiawoo, Jon Halls, Sam Alexander; Mariana, Same Sky, Grand Theatre of Lemmings, Baden Prince Junior, Mary Ann Roberts, Morgan, Toby & Claire Mills,
5. Local practitioners used (Lemmings, Toby, Claire) means that future carnivals can be organised and developed within Tendring
6. Involvement of Harwich School within ICT curriculum, was the only completed project within the main secondary school in Harwich

4.What hasn't worked about this project and why?

1. Some practitioners' experience in working in schools, and grasp of Creative Partnerships' aims, meant that limited creative learning opportunities took place. This was particularly true in Harwich Community Primary (George); Chase Lane (Morgan).
2. HCP did not get fully behind the project despite much of the preparation work with artists happening at the school.

5.What has been the experience of partnership working in this project?

The partnership working has been complicated, with so many agents, schools and practitioners involved.

Partnerships which worked really well seemed to be: Lemmings working everywhere! Toby and Claire at Harwich school; the confidence that HCP and Chase Lane have in Daniel working as agent for them.

6.What will be different as a result of this project – has there been irreversible change? How will this change be sustained and extended?

The following will be different as a result of the project:-

- a. Family Carnival Club set up in Harwich
- b. Annual Children's carnival event a strong possibility.

- c. Practitioner in the area (Lemmings, Toby & Claire) keen to get involved in local activities.)
- d. Harwich schools (e.g. Chase Lane; HCP) more open to CP involvement.

This will be sustained through regular activity, communication and opportunities through 2007/8.

7. There should be a range of materials telling the story of this project – what do you think about the quality of this material and what does this reveal about the learning that has taken place?

Very good photographic and video materials of the day, and the preparation for it. To follow.

8. Any other conclusions?

Signed Creative Agent: _____

Date _____