



****PRESS RELEASE****

Primary school pupils in Newton Aycliffe take a trip to the seaside at Greenfield School Community and Arts College

Greenfield School Community and Arts College in Newton Aycliffe, Durham is being transformed into an English seaside resort with two tonnes of sand, lifeguards and Punch and Judy Shows to celebrate national Shine Week from 6-10 July. The seaside themed event called 'Flash Bang Wallop' will be attended by all Year 5 pupils from all primary schools in Newton Aycliffe. The children will be taking part in engaging and creative seaside-themed activities for Shine 09 (www.shineweek.co.uk), the annual festival celebrating the talent of all young people.

Primary school pupils arriving each day at Greenfield, a Creative Partnerships School of Creativity will be greeted by a lifeguard advising them to "beware of the sharks" and to "have a nice day at the seaside". Led by Greenfield School's teaching staff and mentored by Year 11 students, the children will take part in workshops designed to give them inspiring experiences that develop their creative skills. Workshops include creating giant sand sculptures using sand donated by the local Homeplan DIY store, drawing pavement art, making sea creature mobiles, Punch and Judy puppet-making, and constructing mobile sea creatures, frisby and volley ball competitions, pinhole camera making and more!

Every afternoon the pupils will hold a seaside parade to showcase their achievements to their friends and families. Katy Milne, Community Arts Co-ordinator at Greenfield School Community and Arts College, commented: "Flash Bang Wallop will provide a wonderful opportunity for children from different primary schools to mix together during each workshop, working in teams, meeting new people and trying something different. Hopefully these activities can help bridge the tricky transition from Primary School up to

Secondary School and encourage those creative skills required in all areas. Being a Creative Partnerships School of Creativity is allowing us to build national networks and explore ways in which to embed creativity into teaching and learning throughout all schools in the local area.”

As one of 60 Creative Partnerships Schools of Creativity in England, Greenfield School works with the government’s flagship creative learning programme to develop cutting edge creative learning practice so that the benefits can be shared with other schools. Creative Partnerships (www.creative-partnerships.com) has already produced real results with research findings showing that schools that work with the programme increase GCSE results by 2.5 grades and lower truancy levels and engage families in education.

Paul Collard, Chief Executive of Creativity, Culture and Education, the new national organisation that manages Creative Partnerships and Shine 09, commented: “We believe that exposure to the arts, culture and creativity can transform the aspirations, attainment, skills and life chances of children and young people. It is inspiring that Greenfield School is using its experience of creative learning to involve the wider community in celebrating local children’s skills and talents during Shine week.”

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For more information or to arrange to visit the school during Shine week please contact:

Sarah Scott, PR & Media Manager at Creativity, Culture and Education on 020 7420 5423 or email: sarah.scott@cceengland.org

Notes to Editors:

Flash Bang Wallop at Greenfield School:

The week runs every day from 6-10 July, except Tuesday, 7 July.

Daily timetable:

09.30-10.00 - Arrivals/Introduction and dance stimulus in the Main Hall

10.00-12.00 - Workshop groups

12.00-12.30 - Lunch

12.30-13.15 - Workshop group preparation for the showcase

13.30-14.00 - Seaside Parade showcase event

Primary Schools attending:

- Monday: St Francis C of E Primary School and Woodham Burn Primary School
- Wednesday: Byerley Park Primary School, St Joseph’s RC Primary and Stephenson Way Primary School
- Thursday: Heighginton Primary School and Sugar Hill Primary School

- Friday: Aycliffe Village Primary, Vane Road Primary and Stephenson Way Primary

About Creative Partnerships (www.creative-partnerships.com):

Creative Partnerships is the Government's creative learning programme which has worked with over 940,000 young people and over 90,000 teachers by fostering long-term partnerships between schools and creative professionals to inspire, harness the potential of creative learning and experiment with new ideas. Managed by new national organisation, Creativity, Culture and Education (CCE) (www.creativitycultureeducation.org), the programme was launched in 2002 and has worked with nearly 5,000 schools across England, from Key Stage 1 to 4.