

# Creative Learning Project

## Henwick School Impact Report

Project duration: 5 weeks

Scheme of Work: The Romans

Students: Year 4

Teachers: Stephen Waining

Practitioners: Sam Murray and Nick Cattermole

Scenario: Animation

The following observations and comments were gathered as follows using a combination of online surveys for teachers before and after the project and a filmed interview with a selection of students.

### Expected outcomes/impact on learning

- Improved literacy skills
- Increased confidence
- Focus on creative thinking
- Better communication skills
- Engagement in learning
- improved collaboration skills
- Use of higher order thinking skills

### Unexpected outcomes/impact on learning

- “The ICT has been great at motivating the pupils to produce work between the sessions as well as during them”
- “The ICT reinforced the knowledge the pupils already had and made them think about how they could present it in a clear and informative fashion”
- Engagement of “struggling boys” who are a target group for the school

### Staff reaction and impact on teaching practice

- “Using the programs and hardware alongside an expert made me feel more confident with trying new things and I feel that I can use the techniques I have acquired with confidence”
- “The project ran very smoothly”
- “I will use the techniques I have learned during the project in other areas of the curriculum. The animation and comics will be useful in story telling with all the class but particularly struggling boys, which we are attempting to target as a school”

### Students' Feedback

The students were interviewed at the end of the project and reported the following:

“It was fun, joyful and interesting”

“I liked making the animation and the comics”

“I found it difficult because of all the little clickety buttony things”

“Some things were difficult, but then the teacher helps and it's OK”

“You have to take loads of pictures and it (the animation) will still only be a few seconds long”

“Computers are fun.... and useful!”

All of the students interviewed described the project as “Fun” and thought it would be useful to use this equipment in other areas of their learning.

### Practitioners Feedback

What went well...

- From the start both the staff and the pupils were organised and committed to the project.
- A lot of work was done by the pupils in our absence and each time we came in the project had expanded and changed for the better.
- I truly felt like an enabler; the pupils' ownership of the project was absolute.
- The final videos are a testament to the truly independent work that was carried out.
- Staff are committed to promoting creative learning across the school and I have no doubt it will be a success

- I attended a sharing assembly where parents (and other staff) came forward to say how proud they were of the pupils' work and how impressed they were with the project.

Even better if...

- We really needed more time. I can only imagine what could have been created if we'd spent more time with this group!

## **Headteacher's Summary**

"Thank you once again for you and your teams commitment to this wonderful IT project with Pyramid Class last half term. You provided the children and staff with an opportunity to extend their IT learning with resources and expertise which we at school could not have provided, and you used your skills and time to help the children to achieve far more with their cross curricular and very creative project.

"The children were able to bring their topic on 'Life in Roman Times' to life and in so doing have made it so much more memorable for themselves and for their audience who sat enthralled during their presentation through their class assembly. Through having a purpose and making relevant connections the children have learnt a range of practical IT skills linked with animation and sound. They worked amazingly well in group activities, (this is one of our more challenging classes) quickly establishing their roles, responsibilities and their independence in problem solving and making collective decisions. Each of the presentations reflected the children's learning and humour and as I said could be used as teaching resources for other children learning about the Romans.

"Staff have learnt and increased their confidence in using different programs and Apple software and needless to say are asking for these resources in school. The children appreciate visitors coming into their class especially when they have every opportunity to be interactive and are able to see an end result...they pestered Stephen to make sure they had an opportunity to share their achievements through class assembly and asked for parents to attend. Parents who attended were equally impressed and proud of their children's and the class achievements. As were staff who were present...and they are asking for their turn!

"The children's learning has been of high quality, creative, fun. It has enabled the children to co-operate, problem solve and make decisions. but most of all it has been memorable and they were all proud of their achievements. In true Henwick spirit your project has enabled the children and staff to Work Together, Learn Together, Achieve Together and Celebrate Together...  
Thank you."

Ann Robertson, Headteacher  
Henwick Primary School