



# Bridges Schools E-Bulletin – Summer 2011

Supporting Shropshire and T & W Schools Making Global Connections

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## 1. Opportunities

A full programme of Bridges' Schools Services will be out this month. Here is a selection of what's on offer...

### CPD Opportunities

#### **A. New Bridges' CPD session: Critical Thinking for a Creative Curriculum**

*'I want to know if there was ever a time when Zambia was rich.'* Comment by a Yr 6 boy at the end a structured philosophical discussion with his whole class about what makes people happy in the UK and Zambia.

This workshop

- Shows staff how to lead a structured philosophical discussion on global issues
- Gives staff many ideas for effective stimuli for class discussion on important issues such as diversity, climate change and fairness
- Gives staff confidence in developing critical thinking skills to aid learning across all areas of the curriculum within the context of their class
- Helps staff to motivate children to engage in big issues and take action for a fairer world

Available as a full day's training or an introductory in house 2 hour twilight session.

#### **B. New Bridges' CPD session: Goats, Pumps and giving to the Poor – Fundraising in context**

Fundraising can help pupils engage in issues beyond their experience but can also reinforce stereotypes of 'helpless' poor people waiting for handouts.

This workshop

- looks at the key causes of poverty and what can reduce it
- gives staff tools for developing work beyond fundraising e.g. campaigning and raising awareness
- enables staff to encourage pupils to engage more with the charities they support
- gives examples of local good practice

Ring Sylvia Ruxton or email [sylvia@shropshirebridges.org.uk](mailto:sylvia@shropshirebridges.org.uk) for further details on our in-house CPD training.

### **C. Thinking of linking? Free training for schools**

Free in-school training is available for schools who are interested in setting up a learning focused global schools partnership with a school in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean or Latin America.

Applying is easy – just follow the link and complete a short form. You will hear back within 7 days. Grants may be available only for a short period so please make use of this opportunity to explore with staff if linking is right for your school, how your school could benefit and what to do next.

<http://www.cambed.com/Home/Aboutus/NotforprofitFoundation/GSPStarterActivity2.aspx>

### **D. Achieve with Fairtrade - Free ½ day CPD session for Primary Schools and Secondary Schools**

**8<sup>th</sup> June 2011, 9am – 12pm**, United Reformed Church Hall, Coleham Head, Shrewsbury, SY3 7BJ.

There's more to Fairtrade than a logo and lunch....

Schools can use Fairtrade to raise achievement, ambition, pupil voice and action. We will bring together tried and tested ideas from the schools we have been working with and highlight the opportunities for activities in changing times for schools.

The session will look at how schools can:

- Use Fairtrade to raise achievement and ambition in school
- Learn about Fairtrade as part of the creative curriculum and to develop key skills
- Integrate Fairtrade with other learning, activities and awards in school to ensure meaningful learning about issues of trade, poverty and development
- Achieve the Fairtrade Schools Award - includes a case study from a local Fairtrade School and tips from an assessor
- Work collaboratively with Fairtrade campaigners to engage parents and members of the community.

Teachers, TAs and governors welcome to attend.

Email [Davina@shropshirebridges.org.uk](mailto:Davina@shropshirebridges.org.uk) to book a place.

### **E. SPECIAL OFFER \*\*\* Accredited Global Learning CPD Programme**

We would like to offer you a 50% discount on a new accredited Global Learning CPD programme to be launched later this year by the Consortium of Development Education Centres (of which Bridges is part). To help the consortium plan for this we would like your views and ideas. Please follow the link to complete a short survey at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/2RSKZYK](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2RSKZYK) . To acknowledge the support of all teachers who complete the survey, we are offering a massive 50% discount on the accredited CPD Course and also on the national Global Learning conference to launch the programme in Autumn 2011. Dates are not yet set, but you will be notified of those offered in this area.

## **2. Get Involved Next Term** - events with a global connection and resources to help mark them

### **A. Send my Sister to school** May/June 2011.

There are 67 million children out of school. More than half of them are girls. Order a schools pack to support this important campaign from [www.sendmyfriend.org](http://www.sendmyfriend.org).

**B. Refugee Week** starts 20<sup>th</sup> June. This year is the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Refugee Convention and the emphasis is on the contribution of refugees. For facts and resources go to [www.refugeeweek.org.uk](http://www.refugeeweek.org.uk). Bridges offers workshops on asylum seekers and refugees for KS3 & 4 students.

**C. Oxfam Water Week** 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> July This is a new UK-wide initiative to give pupils the chance to learn about global issues and be active global citizens. Young people will decide how they want to take action. To register to take part and receive your free teacher toolkit go to [www.oxfam.org.uk/waterweek](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/waterweek).

## **3. Resources** - a selection of new or topical resources for teachers

### **A. Morocco Resource Pack**

A new resource for Primary Schools from [www.earlystart.co.uk/morocco.htm](http://www.earlystart.co.uk/morocco.htm) Includes a teachers' pack, CD-ROM and web links. Aids cross-curricular, intercultural understanding. Links into many subjects. Supports French work. Includes many pictures, teddy bear's travel diary, diary of Moroccan boy, worksheets and posters. £45.

### **B. Afrographique**

Fascinating blog with colourful graphics re the changing face of Africa e.g. Mobile phone use, CO2 emissions, etc. country by country. Go to <http://afrographique.tumblr.com>. Help counter misconceptions about modern Africa.

### **C. Great Generation resources for schools**

Nelson Mandela encouraged young people to be a 'great generation'. Cafod have produced resources for primary and secondary schools to encourage pupils to speak up for the poor. Go to [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk) Includes icebreakers, videos of young people speaking up, session plans and posters.

### **D. Engineers without Borders (EWB) outreach resources**

EWB have produced a number of 'outreach resources' for Key Stage 2 & 3. Includes activity sheets and presentations with interactive games on topics such as water, food, shelter inc. Slums. Go to [www.ewb-outreach.org.uk](http://www.ewb-outreach.org.uk)

## **4. Events** with a global theme in the local area

### **A. Henna – A Storytelling Performance** by Peter and Gorg Chand **7pm Friday 13th May**

Admaston House Community Centre Telford TF5 0BN

<http://admastonhouse.org.uk/locationmap.htm>

Tickets £4 adult    £1 Year 5 and over

(available from Admaston newsagents, St Peter's School, phone 404448 or on the door)

Refreshments will be available in the interval

### **Excellent value tickets to see these brilliantly talented performers**

*On the eve of a wedding a young bride-to-be is having henna applied to her hands. As the patterns emerge, the stories begin to unfold...British Punjabi storytellers Peter and Gorg Chand take you on a journey to incredible landscapes, with tales full of love, loss, betrayal and bollywood dancing! With stories collected and translated from India and being told here for the first time, Peter and Gorg invite you to the wedding of the year!*

**B. Achieve with Fairtrade** – free half day CPD training for teachers here in Shropshire at the United Reformed Church in Shrewsbury 8<sup>th</sup> June 9 – 12 am. See CPD training in Section 1 above.

## **5. Schools' Activities last term** – a short update on some of Bridges' activities with schools

### **A. Bridges Mums Matter pack nationwide**

Over 450 schools all over the UK downloaded our Mums Matter pack from the Bridges website or the TES website and over 500 children in Shropshire alone took part in activities to support the campaign.



Many metres of paper mums were decorated with comments from children and hoards of gingerbread mums were made and sold, raising money for safe births in developing countries and other maternal health projects.

We'll be sending 100s of mums made by our MDG project schools to local MPs to show that Shropshire cares about this important, often neglected issue.

*If you have any photos of your work on the Mums Matter pack, please do send them to us at [info@shropshirebridges.org.uk](mailto:info@shropshirebridges.org.uk) and we'll put the best ones on our website. We'd love to know how many mums your pupils wrote messages on/ baked or what else you have done to raise awareness and money for maternal health.*

### **B. Latest Bridges' Conferences on reducing poverty**

In March we held two **Cluster Conferences** for our MDG Countdown project – one at the Community College, Bishop's Castle and one at Blessed Robert Johnson Catholic College. Over 200 KS2 and KS3 pupils and adults came together to share what they had learned and done in support of the international goals to reduce poverty by 2015.

Year 6 & 7 pupils made speeches, gave presentations and ran workshops on topics such as maternal health, sanitation (inc. how to build a pit latrine), and deforestation.

*'Can we do it again next year? I've loved it!'* Yr 7 pupil after Conference at Blessed Robert Johnson Catholic College.

## **5. About the eBulletin**

Bridges works with schools and communities across Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin to raise awareness of global issues. The e-news is to keep schools in the locality of Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin informed of global issues, campaigns and action.

### **Contribute to the e-Bulletin**

If you'd like to tell us what your school is doing on the Global Dimension, we would love to hear from you. Just email a link or a short article, with any permitted photos you'd also like to share, and we will add this to our next e-bulletin as appropriate.

### **Subscribe or Unsubscribe to the e-bulletin**

If you would like to receive this e-bulletin please send your name and email address with 'Subscribe to Bridges Schools e-Bulletin' in the subject line to [admin@shropshirebridges.org.uk](mailto:admin@shropshirebridges.org.uk). Please email this address if you would also like to receive a copy of the Bridges Community e-Bulletin.

To unsubscribe please send your name and email address email 'Unsubscribe to Bridges e-Bulletin' in the subject line to [admin@shropshirebridges.org.uk](mailto:admin@shropshirebridges.org.uk) .

**Bridges promotes knowledge and learning in Shropshire for a fairer world.  
Our vision is a fairer world where all people are respected, learn together and are able to take action.**

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