

REMNANTS



Journal of the English Heritage Education Service No. 22 Winter 1993

St George the Martyr and Rochester Castle!

Each year English Heritage sponsors a prize as part of the Young Historian Scheme organised by the Historical Association. This year's winner is St. George the Martyr C.E. Primary School in London whose visit to Rochester Castle sparked off truly imaginative children's work in several curriculum subjects, as their class teacher Sally Giovanelli reports.

Following a successful and enjoyable history project on Ancient Egypt with my previous year 2 class, I entered my second year of teaching with the challenge of trying to achieve a similar high level of work and enthusiasm for history amongst my new class. So I began to plan my topics, which were to be centred around traditional stories. Each term I chose a specific story with a focus on a National Curriculum subject, but overall to be cross-curricular. Through doing this I found that the history and geography were much easier to plan than expected as all these traditional tales are steeped in history and often, albeit very loosely, set in medieval times, e.g. Robin Hood, Dick Whittington, Rapunsel etc. After all, stories are an excellent way of working on history



Janice Biondini (Headteacher) and Sally Giovanelli (class teacher) with two pupils from St. George the Martyr Primary School at the award ceremony. The pupils represented the twenty nine members of the class.

with young children. Therefore I decided to plan this topic on medieval times and castle life. Next I turned to the National Curriculum to see how my initial ideas fitted in with the

programme of study for Key Stage 1, which they did very well, especially with its emphasis on the use of stories and a study of a period beyond living memory.

INSIDE

Pull-out booklet for teachers: Using the Historic Environment Theliding date

Footnotes.

Newspapers in Education Update As we reported in Remnants 21 English Heritage is currently working with Northcliffe Newspapers in Education on an exciting project involving twenty schools in Devon and Cornwall. Each school is working on a study based on buildings or sites in their own locality. This will provide the stimulus for work on all kinds of conservation issues and involve the use of language skills, design, maths, technology and business awareness, so is a truly cross-curricular project.

The culmination of the work will be the printing of 290,000 copies of a special sixteen page, part-colour supplement published in early March 1994. Each school will provide material for the supplement, and one school will be chosen to coordinate, edit and produce it, working under the expert guidance of the staff of the Western Morning News.

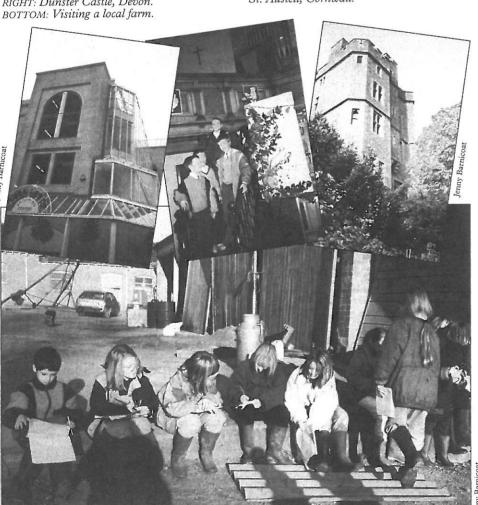
The project is now well under way. After an initial INSET meeting and preliminary visits to all the schools by the NIE coordinator, Jenny Barnicoat, all the teachers proved enthusiastic and motivated. A pack containing ideas for using newspapers and other useful materials was sent to all schools, and another is being compiled to help them with ideas for design and layout.

BELOW: LEFT: Greenlanes Shopping Centre, Barnstaple. CENTRE: Visiting Mount Charles Chapel, Barnstaple. RIGHT: Dunster Castle, Devon. All the schools have decided on the sites they wish to study, which vary from the windows of Barnstable High Street, local churches, old schools and post offices to the new Tate Gallery in St Ives and the offices of the Western Morning News themselves in Plymouth!

Each child will produce their own newspaper scrapbook which they can add to during the course of the project, so that at the end all will have a personal record which relates to their site work as well as the newspaper work itself. The project is proving an excellent way of encouraging the children to think about what goes into newspapers from all points of view, including layout and design.

As the pace hots up towards the press deadline some schools will sell their own advertising space as part of the project, and sub-editing will begin by the chosen school. If you live within the south west distribution area of Northcliffe Newspapers look out for the special collectors edition of their paper in early March 1994 and read all about it! If you are out of range, don't worry, we will be giving a complete report on the outcome in the next issue of our own journal, early in the Summer Term.

RIGHT: TOP: Trenode C of E Primary School, Widegates, Cornwall.
CENTRE: Minions, Bodmin Moor.
BOTTOM: Mount Charles Chapel,
St. Austell, Cornwall.





Schools can make a free educational visit to any English Heritage Historic Property provided this is pre-booked through the relevant regional office at least two weeks in advance. Teachers can also arrange a free exploratory visit beforehand to prepare ideas for the main visit later. The Education Service aims to provide teachers with as much help as possible to use the resource of the historic environment. If you have any requests for further information please contact us at:

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