

A MODEL PUPIL

DURING my week of work experience I got asked to pose for a fashion photo shoot that was advertising a new shop in the Outlet village called Jesire.

I arrived at the outlet shortly after 2pm with my supervisor Steph we then went on to meet the store manager Mandy.

We then took a quick look around the shop scanning the items on display before Mandy led us to a store closet where she showed us the clothes I would be wearing.

We then went into the changing room where I tried on all the outfits and we were able to judge which ones worked best and which shoes went with each outfit.

I enjoyed this part as it allowed me to be a little creative, the three of us analysed every outfit and whether it suited me, which shoes I was to wear with it, we even spent time admiring a gorgeous pair of shoes that we all wanted to take home.

I then met the photographer Alan Owens who introduced himself and took a look at the kind of outfits I'd be wearing.

When it came time to shoot I put on my first outfit and me and Steph followed Alan into the middle of the outfit, at this point I had become very aware that I was all dressed up with the passing people staring.

Although I had become nervous Steph was having a great laugh and helped me with the shoot.

Alan then began giving me different looks, different poses I should create in order to display the outfit to the best of my ability.

Alan made sure there were a range of shots, they varied from walking towards the camera, to standing still and smiling.

Although I was increasingly becoming

more aware of the onlookers I became more comfortable in myself.

Steph was with me throughout the shoot giving me advice and laughing at me.

I then tried on outfit after outfit with Mandy the store manager helping to alter the outfits and accessorize them.

Again I walked out into the middle of the shopping centre however by now I was a little more settled and got on with it.

Alan would tell me how to pose and how to use my surroundings.

Although my first feelings towards the shoot were nerves after 20mins I was enjoying it a lot more.

It was difficult at times to create the poses I was advised to create but both

Alan the photographer and Steph were incredibly encouraging and very positive.

Modelling was fun for a day and I would love to do it

professionally, it was a great experience and I adored trying on different outfits and working out different poses.

I can imagine a full time career in modelling being stressful and tiring but the ability to create a photo that captures the attention of many and is noticed globally seems to me like a fantastic job.

• By Jessica Lepore, 14, St Joseph's

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Fashionably right on

FAIRTRADE the charitable organisation that specialises in lending services to help and mend third world countries has made an impact on the Swindon community as proven by St Joseph's Catholic College which has also bought into the action.

The secondary school is very involved in fundraising and advertising for the cause that fairtrade is promoting.

As a student at the school I am aware that all students have the ability to participate in fairtrade events and one event in particular that caught the attention of many girls and boys at the school was the FairTrade fashion show. The event was organised by various members of staff and the resident 6th formers. Using pre-owned clothes which were generous donations from staff and students, the show was inspired by re-creation and did exactly that by re-creating these old clothes into fashionable outfits.

The show was a huge success and many members of the college and their families attended the show, the small entry fee was collected at the end of the show and donated to the fairtrade organisation. I believe that the show was an incredible idea and was very unique, it combined a charitable concept with something that most teenagers are interested in - fashion!

The dazzling outfits wowed the audience as the unique designs were designed and created by the school's very own students.

With commentators and photographers and all the effort put into it the show created an atmosphere where people were able to enjoy themselves and witness the wonderful creations.

With the media team on the job the whole experience was captured on film and camera so people could review the fashionable experience.

• By Jessica Lepore, 14, St Joseph's

Enthuse!

IN 2007, Greendown Community School was one of the first schools selected to pilot npower's 'enthuse' programme and last week, the event returned to the school for the third consecutive year.

Over 260 Year 9 students participated in a range of interactive activities designed to help them think about the impact science and engineering has on their daily lives, during the recent two day educational experience. South Swindon MP Anne Snelgrove also popped along.

Enthuse, which is part of npower's Brighter Futures Programme, is a five year scheme designed to inspire and engage students aged 12-14 years old in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

The students were encouraged to think of ways to improve existing products or design a completely new concept, before considering the very real problem of how we can meet and reduce the UK's future demand for energy. These activities were followed by a 'facts and fiction' session where the students were given the opportunity to meet with engineering staff from npower's Swindon offices. Throughout the day, the students took part in a series of hands-on activities relating to the power industry.

The day ended when Gill Sarjent, head of Maths, was presented with an award, which recognised the continued support and efforts of the school towards this highly successful programme.

Gill Sarjent said "The school is very proud to be involved with the 'enthuse' programme since day one and continued participation during the last few years.

The students have been given an excellent insight into what it would feel like to be an engineer. Also, the opportunity to strengthen our relationships with staff from npower helps bring the activities to life and gives the students a great introduction into the world of work."

Anne Snelgrove said: "It was fantastic to see the students having such a good time while they were learning. This scheme brings science and technology to life and makes it real."

One year 9 student added "I think the whole day was good as I liked learning about different careers and I really liked all the 'hands on' activities. My favourite workshop was 'Bright Ideas' as I liked designing a new product, which was completely different. I think we should run this event every day for year 9 students!"

In 2008 alone, npower enthuse days reached over 3400 UK students.

• By Greendown Community School

It's fair play



LAST month the Fairtrade stall at school raised a record amount of £137 in spite of the credit crunch!! Thank you to everyone who bought Fairtrade products and supported us!

Next September we are hoping to have the Fairtrade status, which will bring prestige to school.

• By Evan Costello, one of The Fairtrade Directors at The Commonweal School.
Photos by Josie Williams