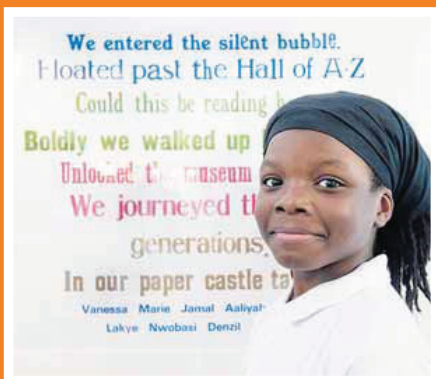


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This page was compiled with the help of The Learning Trust & local schools



Pictures: Sean Pollock



Pupils from Holy Trinity Primary School met poet Adisa and visited the New North Press in Hoxton

Young poets

PUPILS from Holy Trinity Primary School have been visiting Dalston CLR James Library and Hackney Archives since it opened in February to work on a project with performance poet Adisa.

Activities have included tours of the library and archives; quizzes on the eponymous CLR James; interviews with staff and residents; and the creation of literary journals and scrapbooks.

The youngsters wrote poems about the experience, which they

took to the New North Press in Hoxton, where printer Graham Bignell helped transfer them to limited prints using a traditional letterpress.

Their framed poems will now be displayed in borough libraries until the end of summer.

Former resident Adisa, admits having a 'love affair' with



libraries and is passionate about young people self-discovering literature.

He said: "I think the beauty of the project lies in the process of the students becoming detectives to find out what libraries are all about and what exactly can they offer a community."

He added: "Working on the project highlighted just how important libraries are to a community. I watched the students grow immensely as they became more and more at

home in the space."

More than 4,000 people have visited Dalston CLR James Library since it first opened. Spread over three floors, it covers 2,600 square metres and features separate adult, teen and children sections, 57 computers, study space and self-service technology, plus event space for community activities and reading groups.

For more info on Hackney libraries, call: 020 8356 3000; or visit www.hackney.gov.uk/libraries

News in brief

Model pupils at Millfields

REPRODUCING Van Gogh's sunflowers and creating knitted versions of Monet's paintings are perhaps not your typical primary school art lesson.

But that was just some of the imaginative work that youngsters from Millfields Children's Centre and Millfields Community School produced during a combined arts week. Workshops were delivered by painters, illustrators, ceramists and designers whose children all attend the school and children's centre in Hilsea Street.

Linda Culverwell, a parent who helped organise the week, said the children also created an animated film, textile patchwork based on paintings by Paul Klee, and figures of themselves made from terracotta clay.

The models were due to mark a route from Clapton Square to the school as part of Clapton Festival on 16-17 June.

She said: "The children were incredibly excited. It was an amazing week and the result was really positive for the pupils and everyone who volunteered their time."

The pieces will go on sale to raise money for the school at its summer fair on 7 July.

For more info, call: 020 8985 7898; or e-mail: info@lindaculverwell.com



Pupils with their textile work. Inset: terracotta figures

Boxing clever for Joe Louis

IS boxing and dance really that different? Not so much, according to Hackney Music Development Trust, which has developed a project based on both disciplines.

Its latest show, 'The Brown Bomber', follows the story of US heavyweight boxer Joe Louis and the backdrop of his fight against Germany's Max Schmeling in 1938.

Like its previous show 'Shadowball', the music was composed by Julian Joseph, with most roles taken by Hackney students. Training in boxing and dance, young people from Bridge Academy, E2; Haggerston School, E2; The Pedro Club, E5; and The Boxing Academy, E8, learnt moves from boxing pros and choreographer Sharon Wray.

The show is on at Lilian Baylis Studio, 20-21 June; before moving to QEH, Southbank Centre on 15 July.

For tickets, call: 0844 412 4300; visit: www.sadlerswells.com; or visit: www.hmdt.org.uk



Young actors get ringside training

Picture: Clive Bardia