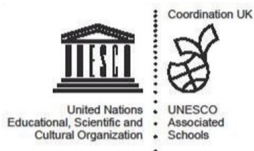


UNITED NATIONS AT BELLE VUE PRIMARY



Northfield Road Primary School



GLOBAL DIMENSION PARTNERSHIP
"Supporting schools in developing the global dimension"



Northfield Road children eating their chicken domada

This United Nations style children's conference was planned by Jane Cradock (Belle Vue Primary) and Pam Copeland of B&C Educational Ltd with support from Anne Calvert and Janette Lamb (Northfield Road) and Des Bowden. It was hosted by Dave Porter, head of Belle Vue Primary School, Wordsley.

The conference was opened with messages of goodwill from The Gambia. Mr Yahya Al-Matar Jobe, Secretary General for the Gambian National Commission of UNESCO encouraged the delegates to learn from each other and to recognise that other people have good ideas

as well. Mrs Haddy Njie, head of Bakau Newtown Lower Basic School hoped that they would have a challenging and enjoyable conference.

The conference started with a welcome from Jane and Pam and then the children were offered a Gambian meal called domada, which is chicken cooked with groundnuts (peanuts) and served with rice. Many children practised their skills of eating their meal with their fingers, before moving on to a series of learning activities leading up to a formal debate which considered the motion that "...it was better to live in The Gambia rather than UK. The activities were concluded by a set of African songs performed by Netherbrook Primary School's choir.

PARALLEL CONFERENCES IN UK AND THE GAMBIA

Belle Vue

The organisers are really grateful to all the schools for making the United Nations Conference such an outstanding success. Each school had a delegation of at least two staff and six children and all participated fully in the learning activities. All enjoyed the domada and rice Gambian meal provided by



Belle Vue .

The delegates played a full part in the debates and discussions and altogether contributed to what Robert Parrington, the UK UNESCO Schools co-ordinator claimed was '...a truly impressive UN event.'

Staff from all these schools have been part of the Gambian Partnership arrangements organised through The Global Dimension Partnership, Des

Bowden and Pam Copeland.

Bakau Newtown Lower Basic

The week before Jane and Pam had organised a similar conference at Bakau Newtown Lower Basic school in Bakau, The Gambia. The purpose of raising awareness about the work of the United Nations and in particular UNESCO was the same



and similar activities were carried out by some sixty pupils from the Lower basic school. The meeting was hosted by Mrs Haddy Njie, the head, and Mr Wensu Faye, the school's senior teacher. Mr Lamin Jarjou from Mr Yahya Al-Matar Jobe's, (Secretary General for the Gambian National Commission of UNESCO) office.



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UK UNESCO Co-ordinator attends event.

Robert Parrington, a senior lecturer in Kingston Business School, is the UK National Co-ordinator for Associated Schools Projects (ASPnet) linking over 9000 schools in 184 countries

The UK network supports the integration of international/global perspectives in schools and promotes the values of **UNESCO**. The four study themes proposed to Associated Schools are:

1. World concerns and the role of the United Nations system;
2. Education for sustainable development;
3. Peace and human rights;
4. Intercultural learning.



Pam Copeland masterminds the agree/disagree activity

The UN at Bakau Lower Basic School, Bakau, The Gambia



Des Bowden as Ban Ki Moon encouraging discussion



The 'United Nations' in session



Global Dimension holds imagination development conference

The Global Dimension Partnership, an organisation in Midland UK recently held a conference on imagination development for the students of Bakau Newtown Lower Basic School.

The conference that was held at the school grounds, brought together students and teachers of Bakau Newtown and also teachers from seven schools in the UK. The aim of the conference was to develop a global citizenship, educate children about the world they live in and for them to start developing an understanding of their place within their world.

The Global Dimension Partnership, run by Dr Des Bowden and Pam Copeland have been instrumental in leading groups of West Midland Primary School teachers on a fact-finding mission to the West African Country, with a view to setting educational links to share learning experience across the continents.

Speaking at the conference, the headmistress Haddy S. Njie-Jammeh, thanked the guests on behalf of the staff, parents and student of Bakau Newtown Lower Basic School. According to her, the partnership between Belle Vue Primary School in the UK and Bakau New Town LBS will not only grow from strength to strength, but will also establish a clear vision for all stakeholders who will work together to ensure that the set goals are achievable.

She further expressed her appreciation to the team, especially Des and Pam for taking the initiative and also choosing her school for such an important conference.

Reporters: **Jainaba D. Jatta & Oumie Jobe**

UNESCO Boss welcomes Global Dimension Partnership

Des and Pam visited Mr Yahya Al-Matarr Jobe, Secretary General for the Gambian National Commission of UNESCO in his beachside office in Banjul. They also met quite by chance on a canoe halfway across The Gambia River! He has recently returned from a major UNESCO Conference in South Korea. Mr Jobe kindly recorded a message for the children of the West Midlands to be delivered at the UNESCO children's conference organised by Belle Vue Primary School and Northfield Road Primary schools.



GLOBINGO

Where is my shirt made? Getting to meet each other by asking about everybody's global connections



Montgomery Academy pose with the UNESCO rep



Finding out about global inequalities of resources. One child in particular knew all about the difference between countries and continents! The children are standing in roped marked continents



Mel and Hannah eliciting enthusiastic responses from their group



Kitwell Primary receives their UN Associate School award from UNESCO rep Robert Parrington



Milan from Belle Vue, on left, spent a week as a pupil in Bakau Newtown Lower Basic school where Moses became a special friend. This highlights the strength of the partnership between Belle Vue and Bakau Newtown.



Ban Ki Moon flies in!

The delegates listen intently, but there is always one exception!

The Northfield Road delegation with Robert Parrington, lovely Gambian dress Sue

Ten West Midlands Schools and one from The Gambia



Some of the delegates considering their positions getting ready to vote on the issue



Netherbrook Primary's excellent choir entertains the delegates at the conference

Next Gambia CPD course

The Global Dimension Partnership will be scheduling there next CPD course in the Autumn term, if your school is interested please contact Pam or Des by email to globdp@hotmail.co.uk

