



PHOTOCALL

- DATE: THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2009**
- TIME: 9.00am**
- RE: WINNERS OF ST BART'S YEAR 7 ART SITE SAFETY
POSTER COMPETITION TO BE PRESENTED WITH PRIZES
BY WILLMOTT DIXON AND GIVEN A SITE TOUR**
- VENUE: WILLMOTT DIXON'S SITE OFFICES, ST BARTHOLOMEW'S
SCHOOL**
**Site entrance off Bartlemy Road, close to the junction of Andover
Road**

Three Year 7 students at St Bartholomew's School will be taken on a tour of the building site and presented with their prizes for winning an art competition to design a building site safety poster. They will be shown around the building work by staff from the building contractor Willmott Dixon and accompanied by Barbara Alexander, West Berkshire Council's Executive Member for Children and Young People.

The competition was launched by Willmott Dixon at the year group's first assembly at the secondary school in September 2009. They were challenged with designing an eye-catching poster to be displayed on the contractor's building sites throughout the south east reminding construction staff about the importance of site safety.

The students were given details about potential dangers for site staff such as reversing vehicles, working at heights and hazardous areas with slippery surfaces.

Working with the art department the students produced a range of striking posters. A difficult decision was made by the art staff to provide a shortlist of ten entries for the final judging to take place by Willmott Dixon's site managers.

“The students were keen to get involved with the building project and excited to be asked to produce a poster for a big construction company,” says Mrs Mary Nicholls, Head of Art. “The competition gave them the chance to find out about the excellent facilities being provided in our new school buildings as well as highlighting potentially dangerous situations on construction sites.”

The overall winner is Lottie Phillips, aged 11. The two runners up are Amber Chubb aged 12 in second place and Katherine Swanson aged 11 with third prize. The winner’s poster has been enlarged for display on construction sites and all three students were presented with art materials and goodie packs from Willmott Dixon which included a mug and some pens.

St Bart’s was chosen by West Berkshire Council to benefit from the complete rebuild with approximately £32 million in funding coming via the government’s Building Schools for the Future programme. Councillor Barbara Alexander said: “Congratulations to these students on producing such excellent posters. They have captured the importance of working safely on building sites. I am delighted to join the girls on the building site and we’re looking forward to seeing the central hub space taking shape.”

Richard Scott, Safety Manager at Willmott Dixon, one of the UK’s largest construction companies, said: “I believe that all three posters are hard hitting and would bring home the importance of health and safety in any environment. The fact that 11 and 12 year old children can convey the imperativeness of this message so clearly and strongly is heart-warming. The results are a direct credit to the teachers, students and everyone involved. I congratulate all those who entered the competition, particularly the three winners. Well done for all your hard work.”

This competition is one of a number of collaborative projects underway between the school and Willmott Dixon. Sixth Formers have taken part in a series of careers information talks including presentations by architects and engineers; Year 10 BTEC Business Studies students have spent a lesson learning about Health and Safety at Work and the Year Council groups all have visit dates to the site viewing platform over the coming weeks.

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