



# News

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[www.TauntonLearningPartnership.org](http://www.TauntonLearningPartnership.org)

## An Exciting and Valuable Partnership

*Eddie Gregory, TLP Chair*

The TLP Carnival has been a fantastic opportunity for Taunton to celebrate our young people and their achievements. The TLP Carnival is also a time when we recognise the fantastic work of the staff at every school in this town - and that means you.



What is really important, in 2008, regarding the education of our young people, right here in Taunton? Some of the themes emerging include a need to provide more creativity in the curriculum, provide wider opportunities - including for outdoor/green education, addressing behaviour concerns at an earlier stage, promoting student voice and providing high quality training for staff. Our young people and our school communities are at the heart of the TLP and that is why these themes are at the core of the TLP's work this year. The Taunton Learning Partnership continues to evolve and is enjoying another successful year with new schools and colleges coming on board.

TLP Developments - Many pupils, and staff, will have enjoyed a 'Forest School Experience' as the TLP, in liaison with Steve Baker and the Taunton PRU, has funded two days a week, for a year, of Forest School opportunity. The TLP has appointed Helen Millard as a behaviour consultant and is seeking to work proactively with the newly formed Local Service Delivery Team. Through these developments: Forest School, Behaviour Consultant and LSDT the aim is to secure early recognition and intervention to address behaviour and other issues at the earliest feasible opportunity.

In our Pupil Voice activities and planning for next years INSET day there is now a wider involvement of teacher colleagues from a range of schools. The TLP needs the involvement and support of colleagues throughout its network - colleagues with a passion for promoting opportunities for our young people with enthusiasm and energy.

The TLP exists to benefit the pupils and the staff of its schools, we have responded to your feedback and we want to offer you greater involvement in the life and running of this exciting group. Please do look out for more TLP opportunities, talk with colleagues involved and continue to support this exciting, valuable partnership.



Getting ready for the Carnival

# CARNIVAL!

On 24<sup>th</sup> June Taunton Town Centre came alive with nearly 1000 children parading, singing, playing and dancing in carnival costumes and masks!

The parade stopped near WH Smiths where we enjoyed Samba Bands playing and listened to some words of appreciation and encouragement from the Mayor of Taunton, Cllr Tim Slattery and from Somerset's Director of Children and Young People's Services, David Taylor.



Eddie Gregory, Chair of the TLP praised the children and school staff for their wonderful creative work in creating such an amazing carnival display.



## **The TLP at Work**

Here are the current main areas of focus for the TLP. We deal with lots of other matters of course but these are our working groups:

### **Behaviour Focus**

The Behaviour group is using its targeted funding in two main ways:

- We welcome Helen Millard to promote and carry through the work of the group, in particular to audit the behaviour issues currently facing schools and use that to help us develop an effective strategy. This will lead to initiatives that address the issues that arise through the audit.
- Donated funding to the Taunton PRU to enable Forest School Provision for TLP schools. Schools have been invited to take part in taster sessions and are also invited to contribute their thoughts on the merits of Forest School provision. Contact Peter Hanratty at St Georges School.

### **Extended Schools Focus**

The Extended Schools group has been responsible for supporting schools in organising their extended provision to meet the “Core Offer” (a level of provision specified by the DCSF). We have allocated funding and helped schools make sense of the requirements. We will continue to do this in the coming months. In addition we are using some of our funding to buy additional support from a PFSA to work within the Taunton area.

### **Pupil Voice Focus**

The Pupil Voice Group has recently organised a day for schools councils on sustainability. This was a pilot scheme with a limited number of schools but we are hoping to open this up to all TLP schools in the Autumn and Spring.

We have been grateful to Mary Lampard from North Town school for her work in sharing her experiences of facilitating school councils. She is currently developing a School Council good practice guide which will be available to TLP schools.

### **Continuous Professional Development Focus**

The CPD Group have been very busy following up identified actions from last year’s conference, as well as what staff told us in the questionnaire sent out earlier this year.

As a result there was/will be:

- Internet evening for parents in May at Heathfield School , which those who went rated highly.
- A first meeting for Deputy/Assistant Heads who asked to continue this group. With funding offered to cover supply cover we hope more will attend the Autumn Meeting.
- Drugs Education evening for parents at Ladymead School 30<sup>th</sup> September – do put this date in the diary so you can tell your parents
- Cascade Safeguarding Training for staff on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September at Trull School. If enough demand there could also be another session arranged.
- Formation of an Early Years Group planned
- Formation of a English Subject Leaders Group planned for Autumn Term
- IT and SEN training sessions planned for next year for support staff as requested
- And of course one wonderful Carnival
- An exciting TLP Staff INSET day ‘Health and Well-being’ for 24<sup>th</sup> October. We hope to see most of you there thinking about your own health as well as that of all our pupils!

# TLP INSET @ Tacchi Morris, Oct 2007

**"What a useful day. I wish we could have more of these..."**

**"The best TLP INSET we've had so far..."**

**"It was great to meet with staff from other schools..."**

**"It really set me up for the term, I've got loads of brilliant carnival ideas"**

What you had to say



**Two hundred and eighty TLP members danced, created, discussed, drummed, listened, networked and learned about CARNIVAL**

**This year our INSET will be at Bishop Fox's School on 24<sup>th</sup> October**  
with the theme "Health and Wellbeing". Look out for more information about workshop choices very soon!

## Dates for 2008/09

Date(s)	Time	Event	Venue
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	12:30 - 3:00pm	Steering group	Creech SM
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	evening	Safeguarding Training	Trull Sch
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	TBC	Drugs ed. evening for parents	Ladymead
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	9:00 - 4:00pm	TLP Day Conference	Rugby Club
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	9:00 - 4:00pm	INSET DAY 2008	Bishop Fox's
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	12:30 - 3:00pm	Steering Group	Creech SM
Th/Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Two Days	TLP Annual Conference	Woolacombe Bay Hotel
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	12:30 - 3:00pm	Steering Group	Creech SM
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	12:30 - 3:00pm	TLP Steering Committee	Tba
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	9:00 - 12:30pm*	TLP Action Groups Morning	Tba
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	9:00 - 4:00pm	TLP Day Conference	Tba
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	12:30 - 3:00pm	TLP Steering Committee	Tba
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	12:30 - 3:00pm	TLP Steering Committee	Tba
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	9:00 - 12:30pm*	TLP Action Groups Morning	Tba
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	9:00 - 4:00pm	TLP Day Conference	Tba
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	12:30 - 3:00pm	TLP Steering Committee	Tba

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