



Teesside High School

Everything is possible

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News Release

Title: School makes it 'three in a row' for international awards

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Teesside High School (THS) has been awarded the prestigious International School Award for the second year in a row, in recognition of bringing the wider world into the schoolroom.

This is on top of the school receiving the National Times Education Award in 2007 for its international work in the category 'Education for All' (making it 'three-in-a-row' for this type of award.)

Representatives from the school will attend a high-profile ceremony in London next week (16 October) that recognises their outstanding work, and the successful winners will be presented with the International School Award by broadcaster and journalist George Alagiah.

On being notified that Teesside High School had received the award, Headmaster Thomas Packer said: "To receive this award for the second year in a row is an outstanding achievement. I thank all of the staff and pupils who have put a lot of hard work into making sure our school certainly does embrace different cultures and ways of life.

"We have seen a vast range of activities which the children have thrown themselves into with great enthusiasm, so I hope that more awards will follow!"

Just some of the school's activities to achieve the award include:

- Holding an 'International Week' with seven projects delivered to, and supported by, teachers, pupils and parents
- Developing links with a school in Croatia, to work jointly on a project looking at Roald Dahl and children's favourite books and producing a Cookbook with children's favourite recipes.
- Supporting the 'Send My Friend to School' campaign, which aims to make sure that every child can go to school, no matter where they live in the world. THS Teacher Carol Lara visited the Gambia and met Lamin and Tida who needed financial help to go to school. The pupils at THS will now take responsibility to provide an education for these children until they leave school as well as develop a friendship with them.
- Fairtrade and 'Our Food Our World' activities, bringing food from around the world to life in the classroom, encouraging the children to appreciate how food is grown and the importance of sustaining our food, not wasting it. Children were encouraged to grow their own food as well as try different foods.

Celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, the DCSF International School Award seeks to celebrate, develop, recognise and accredit outstanding practice in the international dimensions of teaching and learning. Fostering an international dimension in the curriculum is at the heart of the British Council's work with schools, so that young people gain the cultural understanding and skills they need to live and work as global citizens.

2009 has seen 711 schools accredited in the 75th anniversary year of the British Council. This is a record number of recipients and includes a wide range of schools from a variety of different backgrounds from across the UK.

The ISA encourages and supports schools to develop the following:

- An international ethos embedded throughout the school
 - A majority of pupils within the school impacted by and involved in international work
 - Collaborative curriculum-based work with a number of partner schools
 - Curriculum-based work across a range of subjects
 - Year round international activity
 - Involvement of the wider community
- Provides ideas for developing collaborative curriculum-based international work with partner schools

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