

## Class newspaper – Year 4

### Software - Resources

Word processing program, although Microsoft Publisher was used for this work. Samples of different newspapers to study.

### Context

This activity was the follow-up task to a Literacy lesson where the children had looked at newspaper report writing and layout of the text and pictures. It was decided, though, to make this Class Newspaper a termly activity because it was not a quick task to carry out and the children had not used Publisher before.

### Organisation

The children were given jobs to do and one afternoon each week was allocated to this activity coinciding with their timetabled slot for the School computer room so the Literacy and ICT were combined.

### Activity

All the children had lessons on using Publisher and inserting text and picture frames. Next the children worked in their chosen groups to produce the newspaper. The photographers took the photographs with the digital camera, the illustrators drew their sketches or looked for ClipArt, the IT people looked at newspaper layouts on Publisher and the reporters wrote about events that had taken place. The children saved their contributions to floppy disk if necessary and the editors put the work together to create the finished product.

### Conclusion – Extension work

Children should change jobs each term to give them different experiences

### Curriculum links

#### *English*

- Use the characteristics of different kinds of writing e.g. Commentary, reporting.
- Use writing as a means of developing, organising and communicating ideas making judgments about when a particular tone, style, format or choice of vocabulary is appropriate.
- Plan, draft and improve their own and others writing using ICT as appropriate.

### ICT curriculum link

- Use ICT equipment and software to organise, reorganise and analyse ideas and information and experiment with page layouts.
- Communicate and share ideas and information as appropriate showing sensitivity to the audience.

### Teacher comments

This task needed quite a lot of time the first term because the children had firstly to be taught how to use the Publisher program. They took their jobs very seriously with some lively discussions on layout and content.