

# Success for All within a Christ Centred Community



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## THE IMPACT OF THE BIG TRUST WORK INSPIRATION DAYS AT ST MONCA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, BOOTLE.

The children and staff at St Monica's Catholic Primary School have really enjoyed and benefited from working with The Big Trust. For the past two years, the businesses who are part of the Trust have kindly offered work experience days to our Year 6 children, as part of their transition programme into high school. These days are known as "work inspiration days", as they aim to offer real inspiration, way beyond work experience for a single day.

The range of experiences has been so varied. Our children have visited different types of industries and businesses. They have enjoyed work inspiration days in the public and private sectors, in retail and service industries as well as more established businesses and those embracing new technologies. At every visit, the hosts have been so accommodating and informative to our children. The children enjoy the visits so much and we hope that we brighten up the day for the staff too!

The staff who welcome us are genuine role models for our children as to how to work, plan and succeed together in different environments. We take the skills we have learnt back to our classes and discuss how the working adults have to work as a team, be empathetic, and respond to others in the most personal and professional way. These values and qualities are core standards and behaviour expectations from our own staff and pupils at St Monica's too, so these days serve to reinforce our own values too.

The title "work inspiration" is so appropriate too. At a time when children are thinking of moving on into high school, these days really do inspire them to think about the opportunities available to them in the future. As high school will help shape that too, the inspiration from such experiences, can give them the confidence to enter their new school with a vision and a catalyst for the next stage of their life and education.

In their future at high school, they will discuss exam and career options. These days will have given them "live" insight and enhanced understanding of a range of career paths, beyond any online research which will be the first reference point for many. The work inspiration day may well be the day which, a few years later, shape their pathway and life choices. It really is that enjoyable and potentially that important for the children. We would recommend any school and any business to become part of this most exciting initiative. It is beneficial to all at so many levels.

We would like to thank everyone involved in The Big Trust for welcoming us into their workplaces, and inspiring our children to witness first-hand the value of teamwork, of empathy, of high standards, of vision and to ultimately, to deliver services and products which are a real force for good for our economy, our communities and for society as a whole. From an educator's perspective, these really are inspirational lessons for life, and ones which are truly invaluable.

Paul Kinsella  
Headteacher

