



## Beaconsfield Primary School Careers Event

On **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January** we brought the world of work to pupils in **years 4,5 & 6** at **Beaconsfield Primary School**. We started the morning with a 'What's my line?' assembly, where pupils questioned the volunteers about their work to see if they could work out what they did? Five brave volunteers who this had never participated in a primary careers event before, sat at the front and answered a lot of questions from pupils whilst only using yes or no to answer.

The pupils successfully guessed all the volunteer's jobs and were extremely pleased with themselves. The questions they asked were amazing!

The volunteers then went in to the classrooms and each spent 15-20 minutes talking to groups of children about what they do daily at university or at work. Some of our university students were on their 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> degrees and had studied in another country, others were on work placements and had lots of stories to tell and the pupils asked our actor for his autograph incase he made it big in the West End or released an album any time soon!

The pupils had been preparing for the day during their lessons and had clearly worked hard to get the best out of the morning. Their line of questioning resembled that of Dragon's Den and they really did put the volunteers through their paces, whilst managing to ask appropriate but very deep and meaningful questions at times. They used both open ended and closed questions to really try and understand what work looked like for each volunteer.

### Here are just a few examples below:

'What subjects did you study that helped you in your current job?'

'What has been your main goal in life?'

'Would you give up your job if you were offered another one?'

'At some point in the future, would you like to get a new job?'

'Who has inspired you the most in helping you to get your job?'

'Would you not prefer a more active job?'

'How long is your shift and how do you stay awake during your night shift?'

'Which university did you go to?'

'Where did you go to school?'

'What hinders you in your job?'

'What kind of challenges do you face at work?'

'How do you try to achieve something if you don't think you will be able to do it at first?'

'Who do you ask for help when you are stuck?'

'What outside interest do you have that help you in your job?'

### The school staff also feedback the following:

'The children were extremely engaged and interested and seemed to really enjoy having the volunteers both in their assembly and in their classrooms.'

'This activity complements our citizenship week perfectly.'

'The pupils seem to be fascinated with all the volunteers and the wide range of jobs they do.'

**The volunteers fed back the following:**

“It was absolutely amazing! The children were so keen to ask interesting questions and I enjoyed the whole day thoroughly. Please, let us know about similar activities as I really loved my time at Beaconsfield.” - Dalibor

“I really enjoyed this event. The pupils had interesting questions, which sometimes took a couple minutes to think how to answer. Amazing day and I would love to be involved with Maria Wright for the future events with Outreach team.” – Orlando

“I personally really enjoyed it. The majority of the pupils were very interested, and they asked many questions too. Everyone in the school was very welcoming.” - Daniele

“I went with a bit of trepidation to the Careers Fair at Beaconsfield Primary School. However, my fears were completely unfounded. The children were an absolute delight! From their charming inquisitive nature to their willingness to listen and learn. I loved the “What’s my line game” almost as much as they did!

Two things that will stay with me from that day. The great manners, namely when the deputy head gave them the sign to sit up straight, they were straighter than soldiers. Secondly the brightness and engagement from them. I’ve never been called “Miss” so much and if we can bottle that enthusiasm and willingness the future looks great!

Can’t wait for the next one!!!”- Emma

“I was blown away by the depth of questions the children asked and their enthusiasm.”- Sandra

“I found the event very uplifting in interacting with the future generation. The kids where very inquisitive and eager to find out more about our careers and the working world. Being a former student, I felt I could relate to the kids and give them an understanding of my journey from being a student at Beaconsfield school to becoming an accountant – this included my successes, failures and learning on route. I hope my few words of wisdom will help them in their further careers.”- Sundeep

**Thank you to our volunteers from University of West London, Brunel University, Centrica, SCS Railways, Graham Construction, Blenkharn Environmental and Pitzhanger Gallery & Museum without whom this would not have been possible!**

Orlando (Adult Nursing student)

Dalibor (Acting student)

Daniele (Airline and Aviation student)

Tauya (Electrical Engineering student)

Caryn (Sociology PHD student)

Ian (Microbiologist)

Emma (Commercial Manager)

Sundeep (Accountant and ex-Beaconsfield &

Villiers pupil)

Sandra (Social Impact Manager)

Denise (Cultural Trainee)

