

Cosby comes to Cosby

So how did it all begin....? For those of you that don't know....

A long time ago, one of the children, Alexandra Allan, brought into school an article she had seen in the paper about The Rt Hon David Blunkett getting a new Guide Dog. Alex's fascination was because the dog was named 'Cosby'.

The children then decided it would be a good idea to raise some money for The Guide Dogs for the Blind and invite Mr. Blunkett to visit Cosby, bringing 'Cosby' to collect the cheque. With the help of Mr. Jackson the children wrote to Mr. Blunkett and were thrilled when they received a reply from Mr. Blunkett's London office saying he would be delighted to visit.

As always fundraising takes a lot of time and effort and all the children thought of endless ways to raise money. I hope they will forgive me if I don't mention them all because there have been so many:-

Children made and sold jewellery and bird feeders

They held cake sales

Mr. Jackson shaved off his moustache

They held a raffle to win a toy dog (donated by Mrs. Allan)

Raffled a cake (made by Mrs. Honeyborne)

Megan Bailey and Indigo Steady made cakes and sold them

The PTA donated £100

And finally I must mention the sale over the last 3 days. It was decided to hold a 'gifts you don't want sale' and another (ever popular) cake stall. We were amazed at school by parents and children's generosity, the standard and selection of cakes surpassed all expectations!

The children absolutely loved the sale, from the setting up, to the clearing down and the atmosphere in the hall when some children 'bargained' for toys and books was electric!

The visit itself by Mr. Blunkett ran like clockwork. He arrived, ate lunch in the school hall with the younger children, who all behaved beautifully, even though they were very excited. Mr. Blunkett drew the raffle for the toy dog and then followed all the children over to 'The Lodge'. He pulled the curtains on the plaque at the front of the building, officially opening it for us. He also accepted the cheques, one for £1000 from Brooke House and one from SATIPS for £500, on behalf of The Guide Dogs for the Blind.

The younger children then came back to school and Mr. Blunkett did a Q & A session with the older students in 'The Lodge'. He told the children about his early days as a politician and inspired them all, I am sure, to put a career in politics on their 'I can if I want too' list.

What a day! It was fantastic. A huge thank you to everyone involved – especially to Alexandra who started it all off.

