

WORDS



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WILLOW

INFORMATION SHEET

● ABOUT WORDS & WILLOW

In **2005**, Chase Technology College developed a cross-curricular project that would involve students in 'hands on' creativity.

The brief was to create a project with a 'WOW' factor. **Words and Willow** became the format.

Anthony Hammond is a Greenwood Artist with a considerable reputation for creating cutting edge sculptural work with students of all ages. Anthony utilises natural and sustainable materials – especially willow, in a natural environment.

● In **2006** the Project began at Sudbury Hall in Derbyshire, a National Trust site. Willow sculptures were created within the grounds, and remain on display to this day. Students also worked with several professional Poets during that summer.

Eight schools and some six hundred Staffordshire students enrolled in the project which began in June. **WAW 2006** was an outstanding success.

● **2007** added a new and exciting dimension to the second Words & Willow Project, Chase Terrace technology College having been awarded the status of an Arts College.

This enabled an interactive website www.wordsandwillow.co.uk to be created. This included:

- Photographs of the students at work
- Photographs of the venue
- Individual poetry from all students
- A Guestbook
- Educational Information

This gave a *world-wide* aspect to their work, allowing friends, relatives and parents, anywhere in the world to see what students in Staffordshire were doing.

Anthony Hammond was again at the heart of the project with his Greenwood Skills, joined by Peter Clews, Andy Tooze, Colin Angus and Roz Goddard for Creative Writing. Barry Turner joined the Team as Photographer and Web Designer.

The Staffordshire Wildlife Trust kindly agreed to host the Project at their Wolseley Centre Headquarters near Rugeley.

The Project, involving over 800 students from schools all over Staffordshire, resulted in:

●3700 images ●1000 student hours of writing with 266 poems ●50 art pages ●1180 student hours of willow weaving using 30,000 withies ● Total web site hits from the UK and all over the World were in excess of 75,000 with over 5000 hits to the Home Page alone.

2007 was yet another highly successful Project, breaking new ground with the use of the Internet and making the brilliant work of the students involved accessible to all. Not only did our students benefit from the skills acquired on Words & Willow, they all really enjoyed their time at Wolseley, even the really wet days!



WORDS



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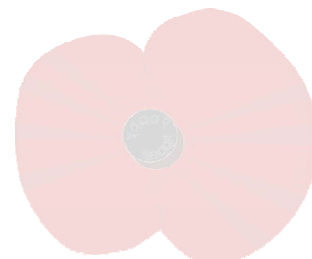


WILLOW

● **Words & Willow 3 – 2008**

This year we have again tried to refresh the Project with a new and exciting format, perhaps the most exciting start to the Project is our move to a new venue:

The National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas in Staffordshire.



The Memorial site, covering some 150 acres adjacent to the Rive Tame is not only a superb tribute to those who have lost their lives in the service of the Crown, but it is part of the National Arboretum with a thriving wildlife population and open environment.

Once again, students will take part in Creative Writing and Willow Sculpture with Anthony Hammond and professional Poets.

The Project sculptures and poems will be posted to the web site to enable everyone to refer back to their time at the NMA.

Words & Willow 3 will provide new skills and enhance existing ones:

- **Communication** ● **Team Work** ● **Creativity** ● **Planning** ● **Observation** ● **History** ● **ICT**
- **Maths** ● **Environmental Awareness** ● **Geography** ● **Written Skills** ● **Citizenship**

all form part of the overall advantages of being a student on Words & Willow 3.

We have a newly designed web site which includes an archive of all of the previous Words & Willow Projects.

If you have not been involved in WAW before, have a look at the site at:

www.wordsandwillow.co.uk

Full details of how to book your School into the Project are available on the site.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the NMA in June!

If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact:

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