

Press Release

October 2008



Eruption of Art!

Two weeks of arts activities are on the agenda for Isambard students, beginning on Thursday 9 October. Flux is delivering “Arts Blast”, an intensive programme of arts events which will take over all lesson time.

A range of curriculum activities will be encountered through “Restless Earth” as Year 8s learn about science, humanities and various art forms, by making a volcano, which will then erupt. Students will create special effects in the TV studio, **as well as record radio features with SWINDON 105.5** and the jingles to go with the radio broadcast.

Meanwhile, the new Year 7s will be working on Amerisong, discovering key historical North American events including the early settlers, Civil War, jazz, prohibition and rock and roll. They will then use song, creative writing, narration, Photoshop, quilting (a traditional North American art form), performance and choreography to create a show, which will be performed on Wednesday 22 October.

Other activities in the school includes: drama, two days of drawing, and the “Wave, Motion” dance. Bodyjack, a Wiltshire-based dance company, will perform this new piece, which will evolve and “become as hypnotic as the sea“. They will then lead the students in a workshop with techniques used by the dancers, enabling the students to produce their own movement, discovering fluid mechanics - including why waves always approach a beach straight on and what happens when two waves collide.

Flux Director Kirsty Carter explained, “Although this is an intensive two weeks ‘arts blast’ the students will be making links across a whole range of cross-curricular subjects such as science, geography and ICT. The whole school is really excited by Arts Blast, it’s going to be great.”

Isambard Community School Head Teacher Rachael Matthey said, “It’s going to be mayhem but it’s going to be exciting and vibrant, which is what Isambard is all about. I hope the students will have fun as they learn.”

Flux is a three-year pilot project for North Swindon funded by the government and delivered by Artsmad, which is part of Swindon Borough Council. The project will see if fantastic arts activities, such as filmmaking, digital art and rock schools, can help shape the new communities of North Swindon. As well as working in the wider community, Flux is working in the Isambard Community School.

For more information about Flux please see www.fluxswindon.org.uk