

Local People - A Teenage Perspective

A small group of students from various year groups at Macclesfield Academy meets regularly to discuss ideas, work together and support each other as writers. The articles they write for us look at life from a sometimes refreshingly alternative perspective!

Aptly for this issue, we have a piece by Shoni Lewis about school and the passage of time ...



Back to the Future

For people like me who are coming to their final years of high school, adults are always drilling into our heads the importance of making sure we are prepared for the future. We're constantly being told how our actions will come to define our lives and so we should be certain we are making the most of our opportunities; for me one of these opportunities came around recently in the form of work experience.

Although I have a vague idea of what I want my future to be like, I have no clue if that's how my life will turn out and to be honest, I'm not so sure that I want to know. I like the sense of mystery that the future holds. I suppose by doing work experience we are given the opportunity to explore the different paths available to us and whilst I don't think I am going to have a career in childcare or teaching, I definitely enjoyed my time in the Reception Class at Ivy Bank Primary School.

Walking into the class, my first impression was of a group of well-behaved, quiet and super-cute children of no more than five years old. There were around sixty children altogether and all of their little faces were, as the class teacher pointed out, utterly adorable. For my first day I spent my time getting to know the children and trying desperately to remember at least some of their names. Whilst a few were wary of the stranger wandering around their classroom, the majority were curious about who I was, what fairy tale castle I lived in and if I could be a monster what would I be? By lunch time I had realised that whilst these children may be cute, they certainly weren't quiet! I was exhausted after running around after them and my head was aching slightly, but I was also really enjoying myself. The rest of my time was spent listening to them read, doing maths and helping them with their mini-beasts project.

One thing that really struck me about the children was how innocent they were. When they thought about their future everything was so cut-and-dried. While I was worrying about exam results and sixth form, they were all thinking about what to play next. That's just part of life though; unfortunately growing up requires you to have to worry about these things and make difficult decisions.

I guess that's the moral of this story. Work experience was fun and I enjoyed the opportunity very much but I think sometimes adults forget that we are still children albeit not for much longer. With this in mind, why not let us enjoy ourselves and have fun while we can?



Shoni (15) enjoys reading and writing as well as listening to music in her spare time. She is currently in Year 11 and is preparing for her last year of exams.