

# Widening Horizons World of Work



On Friday 29 March, Grange Park hosted our first ever 'Widening Horizons' event. This event was based on the world of work and it gave pupils from Years 1 - 5 an insight into some of the different careers possible.

During the morning children were able to listen to four different talks from local people, including parents, from a range of different sectors which aimed to raise their aspirations. Prior to the event, children were able to choose the talks they wanted to attend so that they could find out more about jobs that they were interested in.

Here were the choices - Choice 1: a TV producer; a car designer; a finance business partner and a human resources coordinator. Choice 2: a caterer; a speech and language therapist; a financial advisor and a virtual assistant and choice 3: a computer programmer; a British Library curator; a lawyer and a children's author.

Each talk lasted approx 25 minutes and included a short presentation about the job, what a typical day looks like, what skills are important for this role and how you get into it. There was also an opportunity for the audience to take part in a Q and A at the end.

Following on from the talk the children were taken by their 'Widening Horizons' teacher to engage in a workshop that was based on one of the presentations they had attended. The children were mixed up across the year groups and had opportunities to work with children that they hadn't worked with before. The workshops included children designing a car for the future, drawing an illustration based on a description and inventing a menu for an imagined restaurant.

Before the day was out, the children returned to their own classrooms to discuss what they had found out and to think about their dreams and aspirations for the future and what they will need to do to get there. One thing that everyone agreed on was to work hard, have a growth mindset and show resilience.

Widening Horizons at Grange Park is part of our personal development programme and aims to give children the opportunity to explore and celebrate a range of talents and interests, be inspired to try new things and raise their aspirations for the future.

We'd like to thank all of our volunteers on the day, not only for giving up their time on the 29 March but for dedicating time prior to this to create inspirational slides and for being so amenable and supportive with the change in dates. Without your support this event would never have happened and would not have been the success it was. A huge thank you to Alexia Edwards, Earl Beckles, Jayesh Bhatt, Alison Crowley, Ziba Akarcay, Anne John-Ligali, Nicole Rachele Moore, Shoma Gukkar, Liz Cullen, Anthony at The Pantry, Janet Oram and Andrea Georgiou.

