

# Offwell pupils take over district council for the day

A BUSY few weeks for pupils at Offwell Primary School saw them take over East Devon District Council, be visited by a touring theatre group, and one lucky student got to meet Prince Charles.

Offwell students were given first hand experience of what it's like to run a council when they took on the roles of council members and staff at Knowle in Sidmouth recently.

Throughout the day the children participated in a number of activities, including mock food hygiene inspections and recycling workshops.

East Devon District Council chair-

would improve them. Elsewhere Sam 'n' Ella's mock-up café kitchen allowed pupils to play detective and to spot potential food hygiene and health & safety hazards.

The café scene featured the owner's own 'interesting' interpretation of personal hygiene in a kitchen and helped demonstrate the work undertaken by the council when inspecting restaurants and food premises. It also encouraged the youngsters to be more aware of risks at home.

Back at the school, pupils were delighted with a recent visit by a touring theatre company. Theatre Alibi performed 'The Boy Who Climbed Into The Moon' from the David Almond book.

The children, aged four to 11, were enthralled by the storytelling, the use of props and the acting.

Senior teacher Mr Thomas said: "The excellent live music was a powerful contributing factor. Amazing, captivating puppetry kept the children focused."

"The actors brought literature to life and we will use this experience to enrich the children's work."

For one lucky student though, the highlight of the week was meeting HRH Prince Charles at a hedge-laying competition.

Alex Cregan met the Prince of Wales while taking part in the competition alongside his family. His mother is a supporter of the school and helped to create the popular willow structure (pictured) in the school's meadow.



PICTURED (clockwise from above): Pupils loved the visiting Theatre Alibi and their play 'The Boy Who Climbed into the Moon'; Offwell student Alex Cregan met Prince Charles at a recent hedge-laying competition; pupils at Offwell enjoy the willow structure in the school's meadow

