



Press Release
Electric December: Future Schools
11 December

Many communities are built around their local school, but how could the space be used outside the school day and in new creative ways?

On day 11, see what pupils wish for in their future school. What would be the role of the school from primary to secondary level, and ultimately out into the big wide world? How would lessons be taught? And would a robot really help you with your homework?

As part of the Extended Schools Communities project, FluffyLogic digital media company worked with the after-school Art Club and the Kicking Space project, based at Withywood Community School, on this theme. Whilst in another part of the city, Calling the Shots, a video and animation production company, joined forces with a group of Year 7 students from Henbury Secondary School and Year 6 pupils from Little Mead Primary School and Fonthill Primary School. Both these projects aimed to develop the amazing imaginations of the students on the theme of future schools.

The young people played with ideas for a future school and talked about how their concepts would work. FluffyLogic and Calling The Shots used the pupils artwork and words to build a series of small, animated scenes that enabled their ideas to come to life.

Maggie Dickinson, Assistant Head at Henbury Secondary School said: 'This has been a fantastic project. It has given students the opportunity to work with a professional digital media company to produce an exciting selection of films using new techniques and equipment, and the chance to work alongside partner primary schools.'

Stephen Dand, Head of Fonthill Primary School, said: 'The children never came back without a smile! They thoroughly enjoyed the experience and it took them out of their usual context.'

Ana Kronschnabl, from FluffyLogic, said: "The range of ideas that the young people developed has been amazing; from floating classrooms to robotic homework helpers to time-machines. Yet again, we've been really inspired by working with the young people of Withywood, there are some fantastic ideas and we've really pleased to be able to capture some for Electric December."

Get interactive on day 11– text in your ideas and opinions on how schools could be used in the future to HENBURY 86688 or WITHYWOOD 86688 and join in with the discussion.

Electric December is Watershed's widely acclaimed online digital advent calendar, which offers a new and totally unique digital present every day from 1 Dec - counting you down to Christmas.

Notes to editors

- Calling the Shots is a video and animation production company with extensive experience of working with young people, both in and out of school. Committed to

talent development at all levels, they have supported professional filmmakers making their first broadcast programmes, and have delivered first taste production projects in primary schools. Funded by Neighbourhood Renewal and Extended School Communities Team based with Bristol City Council Children and Young People's Services. Ffi: <http://www.callingtheshots.co.uk>

- FluffyLogic is a digital media consultancy based in central Bristol for further information www.fluffylogic.net/
- For further information about The Extended Schools Communities project please visit <http://henburyesc.net/info/> or <http://withywoodesc.net/info>
- Electric December is an example of the work contributing to Bristol's bid to The Digital Challenge, which offers a £7m prize to develop a showcase zone for eGovernment and ICT innovation - find out more at <http://www.egovmonitor.com/node/1716>
- Find out more about Electric December, and download images and press releases at <http://www.electricdecember.org/06/press>
- Electric December is a Watershed project supported by Bristol City Council and Bristol Evening Post.
- You can see the last seven years of Electric December now at
- www.electricdecember.org
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