



NEWS RELEASE

From: Press & Public Relations Office
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12 May 2015

TRAINEES FROM SULTAN HELP HOLBROOK SCHOOL PUPILS ENJOY LIFE OUTDOORS

A team of Air Engineering Technicians (AETs) from HMS Sultan recently took up the opportunity to get

involved with supporting their local community by taking on some landscaping challenges for Holbrook

Primary School, Gosport.

The group, who are all studying within the Defence College of Technical Training's Royal Naval Air Engineering and Survival Equipment School, took on a number of different gardening challenges in order to

help improve the facilities and help the children learn more about plants and the environment. As well as

general clearing and de weeding the trainees were able to create areas for pupils to explore composting and

grow their own vegetables in the future.

Among the team of trainees was 19 year old AET Ben Newson. Ben had previous experience of landscape

gardening from a work experience placement and so the class nominated him as the group leader.

Ben said:

"When I was at school I took on some work experience alongside a tree surgeon and landscape gardener.

We did all sorts of stuff including mowing lawns, trimming back trees and hedges and looking after people's

gardens in general. A lot of the stuff we are doing here is pretty similar and so the skills I learnt have transferred over nicely."

"One of the things that really attracted me to join the Navy was the opportunity to develop leadership skills.

This is the first opportunity I have had to develop my leadership skills and transfer my knowledge to others

and this is something that I will be doing throughout my navy career so it will really help."

"The work we have done will help the children learn about keeping plants healthy, composting and recycling.

With the Summer coming up it will be really good to see the children able to get outside and learn about

plants in general."

Mrs Tracy Potter, Executive Headteacher, commented that "It is always fantastic when we are able to get

support from the local community. The naval trainees have been amazing, we desperately needed to move

some raised flower beds and do some general tidying / gardening around the site and what would have

taken us considerable time has been achieved in just two days. We can't thank them enough. We can

always find ways to make use of extra pairs of hands and the guys would be welcome back anytime as they were very friendly and helpful. A big thank you from everyone at Holbrook."

