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Newbury Young People's Council Anti Swearing Campaign Gathers Momentum



Deputy Junior Mayor Jenny Moorcroft and Junior Mayor Laurence Parker

Newbury Young People's Council's anti swearing campaign is beginning to gain momentum amongst the schools of Newbury. Earlier this year, members of the council became uncomfortable with the amount of bad language that is currently being used in our schools and decided that it was time to come up with an initiative to combat this ever increasing problem.

Since then questionnaires have been devised and issued to all primary and secondary schools in the Newbury area to ascertain pupil's attitudes towards the subject and the results that are beginning to filter through are surprising. 50% of those questioned thought that swearing was becoming more accepted but shouldn't be and 60% think that young people swear too much. Celebrities got the worse name for copycat swearing by youngsters but it was parents and adults

that got the thumbs down from 70% of children for not controlling their own swearing and setting a bad example. All the returned questionnaires maintained that it was totally unacceptable to swear in front of younger children, making it the only 100% response of the entire questionnaire.

In response to this, Newbury Young People's Council are attempting to implement a zero tolerance anti swearing week to be conducted in all schools in the Newbury area. The date for this is yet to be confirmed but is hoped to take place at the beginning of March 2008, if the schools will co-operate. There will also be an inter school competition, for the school that manages to swear the least, which will be officiated by good old fashioned swear boxes in each tutor group.

The Council have also had a Royal seal of approval after receiving a letter from Prince Harry that commends them on their initiative on taking on this problem. Sue Page, one of the coordinators of Newbury Young People's Council, said "I am very proud of our team and their dedication to this cause; they are working hard to make this message heard. Swearing has started to become ingrained into society and it is uplifting that our youngsters are not going to tolerate it anymore. I am behind them all the way".

For more information about the campaign, log onto

www.myspace.com/newburyyoungpeoplescouncil or go to www.newbury.gov.uk to fill in the questionnaire.

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For more details, contact:

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