



LaST - Building intergenerational connections - face to face and online

Icebreakers, Anytime Activities and Longer Projects

BINGO!





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Icebreakers, Anytime Activities and Longer Projects

Here are some ideas for additional activities, all of which we have enjoyed in Burnham.

“Getting to know you Bingo”

We have found this is a great icebreaker to play when the children visit for the first time. Children can work singly or in pairs. The idea is that the children walk around the room and introduce themselves initially to one of the older people. They then ask that person any one of the questions on their Bingo sheet. If the older person answers “Yes” to that question the child writes their name in the box for that question. The child must then move on to ask another person a different question. The aim is to get a name in every box BUT the same person’s name cannot appear more than once in a horizontal or vertical line. Children can call out “**Bingo**” when they have completed a line and “**Full House**” when they have been able to put a name in every box.

There is an example of a “Bingo” card on the next page with some of the questions we have used over the years. We have found it works well to have a balance between questions that several people will be able to answer “Yes” to and some more unusual questions. For example, we had one gentleman who had started to learn to play the drums in his eighties so we included a question knowing that he would be the only person who was able to answer “Yes”. The children were always fascinated to talk to him about his drumming and he loved having the opportunity to tell them about it.



BINGO!

Getting to know you Bingo

Have you been to America?	Were you ever very naughty at School?	Did you ever work in a restaurant?	Have you always lived in this area?	Do you enjoy singing?
Can you speak another language?	Did you used to ride a bike?	Did you ever have a dog as a pet?	Do you like dancing?	Can you swim?
Have you ever worked in a shop?	Do you like playing card games?	Were you born before the Second World War began?	Do you like fish and chips?	Have you been to Spain?
Do you like chocolate?	Can you play a musical instrument?	Do you like cooking?	Can you remember the end of the Second World War?	Can you knit?
Have you ever seen the Queen?	Do you have any grandchildren?	Have you flown in an aeroplane?	Do you support a football team?	Do you enjoy gardening?



Card Games - Children's card games like Snap, Pairs, Beat Your Neighbour, Donkey and Happy Families are always really popular with the children and older people. They are a great way for everyone to start getting to know one another in a relaxed way whilst also requiring concentration and quick reactions. Happy Families is particularly good because the children and older people need to learn one another's names in order to ask each other for cards.

Board Games and Pencil and Paper Games - We have enjoyed games like Snakes and Ladders, Scrabble, Connect Four, Dominoes, Uno, Pictionary and Jenga and have also had a lot of fun with pencil and paper games like Hangman, Boxes and Battleships. With so much dependence now on screens for entertainment we have found that many of the children do not sit around a table playing traditional games at home but they really enjoy learning how to play them and the older people gain a lot of pleasure from helping them.

"One particularly happy afternoon was when we played Pictionary. It was funny because we didn't have artistic skills and the drawings made people laugh."
(An 11 year old boy, 2020)

Craft Activities - In 2004 we successfully incorporated craft activities into a longer project entitled "I remember" Over several weeks the children and older people shared their memories of subjects such as starting school, their favourite toys and waking up on Christmas morning. The older people also told the children about their memories of when the Second World War began. As well as writing and drawing about what they had learnt the children had the opportunity to sew and knit and make pom poms and small toys. Their work was displayed in three collages which incorporated a timeline from 1913 when the oldest Perry House resident had been born to 1994 when most of the children had been born.

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Midweek News

Wednesday, July 21, 2004 **Midweek Observer 11**

Bridging generation gap

CHILDREN and the elderly produced a collage to celebrate their unique bond. The collage, entitled I Remember When, was produced by pupils from St Peter's School, Minniecroft Road, Burnham, together with the elderly residents of Perry House, St Peter's Close, to commemorate two years of a project designed to bridge the generation gap.

Over the past two years groups of six pupils from Years five and six have been visiting Perry House, St Peter's Close, Burnham, to work on crafts and share their experiences of going to school, teasing out both the similarities and the differences between their recollections.

Pupils learned about life during World War Two from rationing, evacuation and The Blitz to the tales of D-Day heroes who stormed the beaches of Normandy.

Shirley Shaw of Burnham Health Promotion Trust developed the idea with Yasmin Ali, community education development co-ordinator with Buckinghamshire Adult Learning.

They realised the value and interest of these memories and decided to create a project to share them with the younger generation.

She added: "During that time they shared all sorts of discussions and activities together. We had the idea that it would be nice to create something of a lasting memory for the work that had been done over the last two years."

Mrs Shaw wished to thank those involved with the project.

● REMEMBER THIS: Perry House residents Jack Blackmun and Doreen Stratford with school-children Cameron Brown, Victoria Harvey, Jack Yarrow and Ben Clarke. (04-3576)



Getting to know the local area

Maps of the area, provided free by a local estate agent, have been very useful. Armed with stickers the children and older people have enjoyed identifying familiar streets, parks and public buildings and have had fun working out different routes between their school and Perry House for example.

We have also had some very interesting and enjoyable sessions learning about local history using old photos and books and leaflets produced by Burnham Historians, our local history society. In particular, we have studied changes to our High Street since the First World War and have learned about the history of the children's school.

Through the decades

We have sometimes chosen a decade and studied different aspects of it over several weeks. For example, for the 1960's and 1970's we have had sessions on world and national events, music and entertainment and fashion.

The older people often have very vivid memories of these years and their stories really help to bring history to life for the children.

Here are examples of some of the **events** we learned about from the 1970's.

1970	British voting age lowered from 21 to 18
1970	First Pan Am Boeing 747 jet landed at Heathrow. This began the era of global travel and increasing numbers of people started taking their holidays abroad
1970	1000 th episode of Coronation Street on television
1971	Introduction of decimal currency in UK

1971	U.S. astronauts drove on Moon in a “moon rover”
1972	Britain joined the European Economic Community
1972	Miners went on strike in UK for 7 weeks; resulting in the introduction by the Government of the 3 day week to conserve electricity
1974	Terracotta Army discovered in China by three Chinese farmers who were drilling holes in the hopes of finding water to dig wells. What they found were the remains of a life-sized terracotta army which had been buried over 2000 years ago with Qin Shihuangdi, the first emperor of China.
1975	First woman climbed Everest
1975	Dutch Elm disease killed 6.5 million trees in the UK
1975	The Queen opened North Sea oil pipeline bringing oil to Britain
1976	The driest summer in the UK since 1727. Water rationing introduced
1977	Queen's Silver Jubilee
1978	First Test-Tube Baby was born
1978 - 79	The Winter of Discontent with widespread strikes - as a result, streets filled with rubbish, hospitals had to turn some patients away and ITV went off the air for three months
1979	Conservatives won the General Election and Margaret Thatcher became Britain's first female Prime Minister

We also found out about some of the **inventions** from the 1970's and talked about the differences they had made to people's lives, for example:

Digital watch

Pocket calculator

Video cassette recorder

Domestic microwave oven

Digital camera

Personal computer

Email

Post it notes

Anniversaries

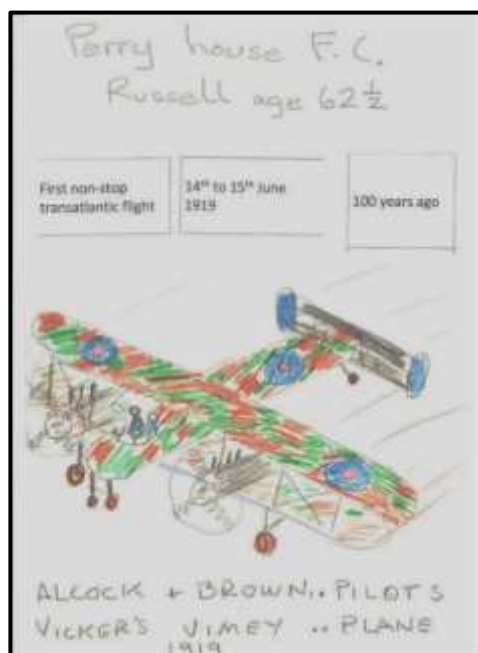
Each year a quick internet search will produce a list of anniversaries of national and world events for that year. We have used this information for the basis of many enjoyable sessions with the children and older people. Working in small groups they are given an envelope containing dates and events which they have to try and match up and put in chronological order.

This results in some very interesting discussions about the events and, in particular, the older people's recollections of those events that have happened during their lifetimes. Often this leads on to the older people talking about what was happening in their own lifetimes at the time of these events, for examples new jobs, weddings or birth of children.

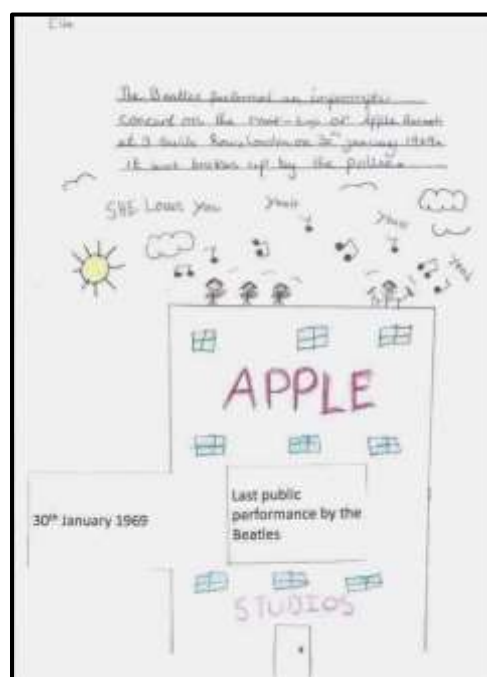
"There are older people at Perry House with much knowledge and experience that we can learn from" An 11 year old boy, 2020

Here are just some of the anniversaries that we learned about in **2019**.

8 th October 1769	250 years ago	The explorer Captain Cook reached New Zealand
14 th to 15 th June 1919	100 years ago	First non-stop transatlantic flight
28 th June 1919	100 years ago	Treaty of Versailles signed
11 th November 1919	100 years ago	The first two minute silence held to commemorate the Armistice
1 st December 1919	100 years ago	First woman MP took her seat in Parliament
3 rd September 1939	80 years ago	The start of the Second World War
6 th June 1944	75 years ago	D – Day invasion of Europe by British, American, Canadian, French & Polish troops
30 th January 1969	50 years ago	Last public performance by the Beatles
22 nd April 1969	50 years ago	First solo non-stop circumnavigation of the world
21 st July 1969	50 years ago	Neil Armstrong became the first person to step onto the moon
6 th May 1994	25 years ago	Channel Tunnel officially opened
19 th November 1994	25 years ago	First National Lottery took place



After matching the events to the dates, the children and older people enjoyed doing some drawings – often having a lot of fun working together to create a picture.



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