

Whalley Platform Art Display

Wednesday 5th October saw the unveiling of a colourful piece of artwork on the Clitheroe bound platform at Whalley railway station. The work is part of the 'Whalley Station Project' being undertaken by Junior 4 at Whalley C of E Primary School during last summer term.

The artwork consists of six panels in the style of Austrian artist Hundertwasser, and these were designed following a walk through the village by the children to look at what buildings and features of interest should be incorporated into the design. The children then worked in class, assisted by local artist Angela Baptie, to paint the panels using acrylic paint and the finished panels, which depict the whole village, have been mounted on the fence at the station. The panels have been coated with varnish to protect them from the elements whilst on the station fence.

After a short welcoming speech, James Syson, Chairman of the Clitheroe Line Community Rail Partnership, was helped by a few of the children to unveil the artwork. James said; 'The Clitheroe Line Community Rail Partnership is delighted to be working in partnership with Whalley Primary School to help improve the waiting environment at Whalley station for the travelling public and the wider community. The artwork created by Junior 4 pupils is a vivid and colourful depiction of the village, and we are also working with the school to redesign the station garden and introduce an innovative village trail starting and finishing at the station which uses mobile phone technology'.

The second part of the project will see a leaflet, again designed by the children, which will guide people on a walk, starting at the station and taking in the highlights of the village. The leaflet is special in that it will incorporate the new technology of QR (quick response) codes which allow smart phone users to discover more information about some of the places of interest by scanning the code, which then links them via their mobile phone to the appropriate page on the World Wide Web.

The project is part of an ongoing partnership between Whalley Primary School and the Clitheroe Line Community Rail Partnership. The final stage of the project is for the children to help develop a 'community garden' at the station and it is hoped that work will commence on this in the spring of 2012.

Simon Clarke, Community Rail Development Officer