

News

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Green-fingered construction workers bring the countryside to Cardiff School

A tranquil haven has been created at a school in Cardiff city centre thanks to the hard work of a group of green-fingered construction workers.

Volunteers from Morgan Sindall donned their gardening gloves to transform a former disused area of Tredegarville Church in Wales Primary School. The team completed the Ground Force-style makeover at the school in Glossop Road, Adamstown, as part of Business in the Community Give and Gain Day 2010 - a UK-wide initiative which sees companies giving their time and expertise to help vital community projects.

The team - marketing manager Lynsey Holley, project manager Gareth James, senior quantity surveyor Andrew Hurn, general operative Andrew Williams, operations manager Tom Davies and business development manager Ian Jackson - rolled up their sleeves to create the flower garden area at the junior school which will be used as a natural learning environment.

The inspiration for the design of the garden - which includes ornamental grass, rose bushes and lobelia - centres around the coast and Cardiff Castle, featuring references to Cardiff Bay and the Taff Trail. Cardiff-based legal services training company Kaplan Altior joined Morgan Sindall's team to help complete the work.

In addition to the garden, the volunteers also created interactive murals in the school's infant and junior playgrounds. Materials for the garden and the murals were donated free of charge by a number of Morgan Sindall's subcontractor partners including Afan Landscapes, Speedy Hire, Jewson and Burdens.

"As a Cardiff-based company, with many members of staff living in the city, we really enjoyed working at Tredegarville to create this green space which the entire community can enjoy," says Morgan Sindall operations manager Tom Davies. "It's fantastic for the children to have such a wonderful natural area within their inner-city surroundings to enjoy and learn from and we were delighted to help bring it to life."

Headteacher David Harris says: "On behalf of everyone at Tredegarville Church in Wales Primary School, I would like to thank all of the volunteers for their generous contribution to our school. Without the support of Morgan Sindall we would not have been able to produce these wonderful themed gardens for all involved with our community to enjoy. The children have been extremely excited about developing this part of our outdoor provision and will thoroughly enjoy taking ownership over its upkeep."

Kaplan Altior team leader Jude Welsh says: "Here at Kaplan Altior we are delighted to be a part of Give and Gain and to finally be able to contribute something to our local community."

Owen Evans, director of Business in the Community Wales, says: "This year more businesses than ever have demonstrated their commitment to their communities through volunteering. In projects across Wales companies are working with local partners as part of Give and Gain Day to leave a lasting impression through their efforts. Give and Gain Day is a fun way for teams to build their skills whilst putting something back into their communities."

