



High Sheriff of Hertfordshire Annie Brewster with the Year 5 class from Howe Dell Primary School

Picture: Hertfordshire Constabulary

Mini Police class gets a visit from High Sheriff



Annie Brewster and Year 5 pupils take part in taking fingerprints

Picture: Hertfordshire Constabulary

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A CLASS of 'Mini Police' in Hatfield were visited by the High Sheriff of Hertfordshire.

The Year 5 class at Howe Dell Primary School, led by PCSOs Anne Devine and Casey Phillips, are part of a Mini Police scheme.

This initiative is designed for children aged between nine and 11, aiming to build community trust, promote responsible citizenship and spark interest in policing and community safety.

The sessions have so far covered topics such as bullying, hate crime, online safety and the role of a PCSO.

The Mini Police were presented with a crime scene in their school hall.

A mock burglary had been staged, and the children were tasked with finding clues.

They were assisted by a special helper, the High Sheriff of Hertfordshire, Annie Brewster.

The young detectives found gloves, a USB stick, headphones, a blazer, and blood (ketchup) stained tissues, all of which were carefully put into evidence bags.

Fingerprints were also taken.

The session ended with a question and answer session with the High Sheriff, during which the children were particularly interested to learn that she had met the King.

PCSO Anne Devine said: "Year 5 did a terrific job of investigating the crime scene and I am sure we have some future police officers in the class."

"We were delighted to be joined by the High Sheriff of Hertfordshire for this practical, hands-on session."

"Our VIP guest was a big hit with the children – they were all keen for her autograph."

Annie Brewster said: "Mini Police is such an inspired idea and a scheme I would have simply loved to have been invited to when I was at school, especially taking fingerprints."

"Enormous thanks to our local dedicated police team led by Anne and Casey who, effortlessly impart personal safety tips whilst making each session so much fun."

Headteacher Miss Prickett and Year 5 Teacher Miss Longstaff said: "The children thoroughly enjoyed their 'detective' session and were honoured to be joined by the High Sheriff."

"The children have grown significantly from the Mini Police programme."

"Another big thank you from us to PCSOs Anne and Casey for leading the programme and giving the children an insight to the range of careers that are available to them within the police force."