



Children for Peace

in aid of **The Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Trust**



For immediate release

'A Bit of Fun' at the Peace Centre

The Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Trust is due to run its annual anti-bullying programme, 'A Bit of Fun' next week.

This year the programme is supported by British Nuclear Group who has kindly provided £5,850 towards the costs of running the programme and an Arts Action grant from Warrington Borough Council. This generous funding has allowed us to build our resources and greatly develop the content and style of programme we offer.

Pauline Deans, Community Affairs Officer from British Nuclear Group said: "We are pleased to be supporting this initiative as part of our community programme, which will help to teach and develop conflict resolution skills, to help stop both physical and verbal bullying and intimidation."

Project Leader, Kerry Hosken, said: "A Bit of Fun is an important project which provides children with strategies, techniques and information to deal with bullying at an important stage in their life. The transition to secondary school can be an extremely daunting prospect and by developing their knowledge and understanding of bullying we hope that children will approach this transition with confidence."

In its 6th year this highly successful anti bullying programme will run for a 2 week period with over 1200 young people participating. Aimed at Year 6 pupils in their final year of primary school and any young person attending a special school, the programme is designed to equip young people with a variety of practical techniques and coping strategies with which to effectively deal with instances of bullying when they arrive in secondary school.

The fortnight kicks off on 26th June and runs until 7th July. This year a new theatre company 'Nugent Education' will perform their play "Only 'Msn'-ing" which addresses bullying from the point of view of the victim, the bully and the bystander giving children an opportunity to explore the issue of bullying from a variety of perspectives; new technology bullying such as texts, emails and msn are also incorporated. Following the play there are workshops which include art, music, role play and hotseating in which the performers will talk to the young people about the issues raised in the play. Participants are encouraged to talk about bullying and its consequences and given ideas on how to avoid being bullied or what to do if they or someone they know is being bullied at school.

International Volunteers facilitate the workshops and will offer a wide and varied insight into bullying in different countries and cultures.

The programme is also supported by gifts in kind from Britvic, Aimia Foods Ltd and Walkers.