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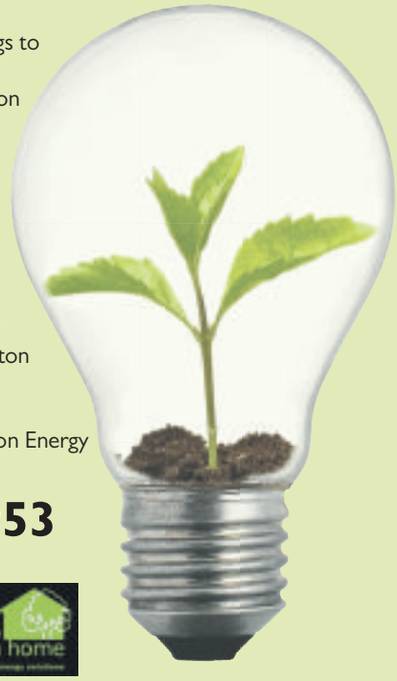

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STUDENT WILL RACE IN VELODROME BEFORE TOP ATHLETES

Cyclist to compete at Olympic venue

by Georgina Butler

01908 651295 editorial@jpress.co.uk

A 15-year-old cyclist is looking forward to some top class racing when he competes at the Olympic Park Velodrome next week.

Ben Chapman, a Denbigh School pupil, will ride at the venue ahead of the world's greatest athletes after being selected to represent Central England at the Sainsbury's 2012 School Games finals.

Backed by National Lottery funding from Sport England, the Sainsbury's 2012 School Games is a multi-sport event for school-aged elite athletes that will take place from May 6-9.

More than 35,000 spectators are expected at the event which will involve 1,600 young people competing across 12 sports, six of which include disability competition.

A delighted Ben said: "I think that it will be a great experience to see what it's like to almost live like a real Olympic athlete for a few days and also to ride the Olympic Velodrome where many new records will be set.

ON HIS BIKE: Ben Chapman

"It will be sweet being a four man team and representing my region for the first time.

"The venues look great and the racing looks top class.

"I can't wait to get stuck in and ride my bike."

The Sainsbury's 2012 School Games finals event this month is one element of the wider all year round School Games initiative.

The sports included in the final are athletics, badminton, cycling, fencing, gymnastics, hockey, judo, rugby 7s, swimming, table tennis, volleyball and wheelchair basketball.

There will also be demonstration events during the finals in disability judo, gymnastics display and sitting volleyball.

Jeremy Hunt, Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport, said: "Ben has worked incredibly hard to win his place in the first School Games finals, and I wish him the very best of luck.

"I can't wait to see the finalists compete in our iconic Olympic venues, just weeks before the world's top athletes do the same.

"It's great to see how passionate our young people are about sport and I'm sure the finals will be a truly inspiring occasion."

To find out more visit www.2012schoolgames.com .

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Central Bedfordshire Council is seeking expressions of interest from suitably qualified contractors for the complete refurbishment of Timberlands Gypsy and Traveller Site, Pepperstock, Slip End, Bedfordshire.

The contract will include civil engineering works; initial clearance of site, drainage works and the refurbishment and rebuild of the existing amenity blocks, improving plot layouts. All blocks are to be compliant with the Equalities Act. Also included in the contract will be the improvement of the existing access road, new kerbing and drainage.

Prospective contractors must be able to demonstrate previous experience of similar work and be prepared to provide references.

There has been a prior notice for this contract published in the Official Journal of the European Union, Notice number: 2009/S 43-063001 of 02/03/2009 and 2010/S- 058696, which have been withdrawn.

To express an interest, please register on our electronic tendering system

Closing Dates for expressions of interest - 1st June 2012
https://in-tendhost.co.uk/centralbedfordshire in order to view the necessary tendering documents and respond accordingly.

Central Bedfordshire

schoolsandlearning

WATER PLEDGES: Pupils campaigning to ask for clean water for all

Quench thirst for change

TURNING the tide on water poverty is a project making a big splash at a city school.

Pupils from St Paul's Catholic School, in Leadenhall, are taking part in the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development 'Thirst for Change' campaign.

They are fighting to provide clean water for people around the world by challenging fellow students to sign pledges in the shape of water drops and getting parents to send cards to the Prime Minister asking him to call on other world leaders to work together.

School chaplain, Anne Hoskins, said: "Approximately 450 students filled in droplets and the same filled in campaign cards.

"These have all been sent off and copies of droplets kept to create our own giant droplet in school."

The students have been working on the campaign since January and their awareness of the issue is clear. Bridget, a Year 8 pupil, said: "When I was younger I lived for a while in Ghana with my grandmother.

"We used to walk two miles every day to collect water, which we then had to carry back to her house on our heads and in our hands – this was not clean water though."

Another stated: "Water is free; why should a child die from a lack of it?"

CAFOD's manager for Milton Keynes, Frank Sudlow, said:

" Our children are working hard to support CAFOD to tackle this injustice and they are calling on world leaders to take action."

Busy planting tree for Jubilee

TO celebrate the Diamond Jubilee, tots from Mucky Pups Childcare have planted more than 80 trees and hedges in their outdoor garden.

The nursery, located just outside Great Brickhill, enlisted the help of garden maintenance company Charles Hill Garden Services.

Charles and Matt from the company helped the youngsters – who donned their wellies for the occasion – to plant the trees,which were donated by the Woodland Trust.

After just one year at their new location, Mucky Pups is celebrating its most recent OFTSED result, which was described as 'Good with

Smooth start for new pupils

MOVING on up is being made easy for youngsters at Stoke Goldington CE First School.

A new session means pupils from Stoke Goldington Pre-School who will start in September can visit every Thursday afternoon to spend over an hour with the existing Early Years Busy Bees class.

The arrangement gives youngsters a brilliant chance to get to know the school, classroom, facilities and teachers – all in preparation for an even smoother start in September.

Teachers benefit too as they can get to know the new starters on an individual basis and ensure no learning time is lost 'settling in'.

Danielle's dancing for joy

A MEMBER of the Platinum Dance Academy in Milton Keynes has been recognised for her exceptional talent.

Danielle French has won a nomination for a scholarship through the IDTA, Internatioinal Dance Teachers' Association, as recognition for her dance style and technique.

Melanie Bull, who run the PDA in Eaglestone said: "Danielle is an exceptional dancer and highly regarded at Platinum Dance Academy.

"She also helps assist in some of the classes and the younger pupils look up to her. This is a massive achievement for PDA and I am very proud of her as are the rest of the school."

If granted the scholarship will assist Danielle through her dance career at PDA.

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