

Community arts programmers have made another first move

By DYNPHNA BRACKEN

THE community arts project ventured into new ground this year with the employment of a chess tutor.

Currently 162 pupils in primary and secondary schools throughout the city are learning the game under the encouraging and able tutelage of Jer Molloy.

So great is the enthusiasm and interest that the chess classes have generated that Jerh is stopped in the street by strangers who thank him for the chess craze that has now superseded television and computer games in many homes.

Six schools are now involved in the chess programme; Catherine McAuley school, Limerick School Project, St Nesson's, Crescent Comprehensive, Janesboro school and Limerick Connection club.

The only negative aspect of the chess this year, according to Joan McKiernan of the Corporation's arts project is that the project is unable to accommodate all the schools that would like to avail of the classes.

Fiona Davern and



Artist Padraig O'Loughlin with children from Kileely national school and school principal Ann Higgins.

Pauline Penny, this year's museum guides are now putting the final touches to their programme for schools at Limerick museum.

This programme is aimed at children from second class primary to junior certificate secondary.

It is designed to introduce children to the muse-

um collection and the history of the city.

It will involve a visit to the schools by the two museum guides who will give a lively colourful slide

presentation on the museum and its artefacts.

This visit will be followed by a visit by the class to the museum where Pauline and Fiona will con-

duct workshops in which the children will be allowed to handle some of the museum's exhibits.

The community arts project musicians were in great demand over the festive season and gave a number of school concerts.

The group consisting of Liza Coonerty vocalist, Mike Hinchy, Shane McDermott and Ken Hinchy are really beginning to make a name for themselves.

Plans and rehearsals are now underway to make a record which it is hoped will give them local and national prominence.

According to Ms McKernan training is now an integral and important part of all the projects work programme.

An extensive and varied training plan is currently being fired up and will be submitted to FÁS for approval at the end of the month.

"The participants on this year's projects have shown themselves to be an extremely conscientious, hardworking, creative group of people and 12994 augurs well for an exciting programme of community art activities," said Ms McKernan.



Musicians Mike Hinchy base guitar, Ken Hinchy saxaphone, Shane McDermott, guitar and vocalist Liza Coonerty conducting a music workshop in Catherine McAuley school.



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