

# Sixteen schools involved in museum-in-classroom

By **DYMPHNA BRACKEN**

SIXTEEN city schools took part in the first ever museum-in-the-classroom programme organised in the city.

So popular was the programme that the organisers were unable to facilitate all the schools wishing to participate.

According to the organisers, Fiona Davern and Pauline Penny, the programme was very successful as an introduction to the city museum and provided a foundation on which other programmes could be based.

Areas which could be developed in the future include workshops demonstrating local crafts and summer workshops for school children.

The objectives of the programme were to heighten peoples awareness of the city museum, to illustrate the development and changes in lifestyle and

technology through the museum collection and to relate the lives and experiences of people in the past to the present day.

The first part of the programme involved a visit to the schools by Pauline and Fiona who showed a slide presentation.

The presentation involved mixing illustrations of how people lived and worked with artefacts in the museum.

The illustrations showed house types, monuments and clothing to show how people lived and looked in the past.

The second part of the programme involved a visit to the museum.

Three worksheets were produced.

The aim of the worksheets was to encourage the students to look more closely at the displays and helped them to discover information for themselves.

The first worksheet dealt with the trades and industries in the city in the 18 and 19 centuries and the coin collection in the museum.

The second worksheet

dealt with the development of the city and the Corporation.

The prehistoric period from the Mesolithic to the Iron Age were covered in the final worksheet.

Museum curator, Larry Walsh, made available a number of artefacts from the collection which the students could handle and look

at more closely.

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