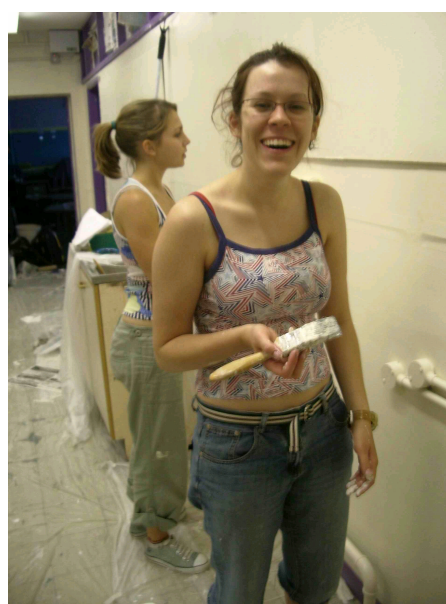


Saturday

Our volunteers met at 8.15 a.m. at the School of Chemistry. We boarded two minibuses bound for Weston Park primary school, Lawrence Weston. Our advance team had done a good job of applying polyfilla to cracks in the walls and laying dust sheets on Friday so the weekend got off to a flying start as we formed into teams. Well fed on cakes and biscuits, we applied the first coat of magnolia paint. This instantly brightened up the dark purple walls and much of the volunteers clothing. After a lunch break in the sun relaxing and eating pizza on the school field the second coat of magnolia and the white paint for the ceiling went up followed by the primer for the skirting boards. After only a day the area had been transformed and we were on schedule but there was still a lot of work to do.



Above left- Scott gets ready to sand the walls of room 2.

Right – Later in the day, Clare helps put down coat 1 on the walls.

Below left- A group photo at lunch break on Saturday.

Below right- More activity in room 2 on Saturday afternoon. Now, the room has turned magnolia.



Sunday

The following morning bright and early (8.15 a.m., again) we applied the blue gloss paint to the skirtings. The blue proved slightly more tricky to handle than the magnolia as some spread blue fingerprints wherever they touched. Whilst waiting for the paint to dry, we made the most of the school field and played a game of rounders. It was a close run game with some fantastic fielding and batting and it was discovered that the best way to get a run was to hit the ball into the brambles. We once again basked in the glorious sunshine whilst refreshing ourselves with hot fresh pizza and strawberries.

After the break it was time to remove the masking tape for the not quite dry gloss paint. Much to everyone's dismay, this caused a lot of smudges on the pristine magnolia walls! We armed ourselves with smaller paint brushes and set about touching up all the marks. The finished result was perfect. Once complete, we cleaned and washed all the equipment. There was just time to enjoy the sunshine and some well earned ice cream before heading home.

In total, 50 litres of magnolia, 10 litres of white and 10 litres of dark blue gloss paint were used to revitalise the dark and tired walls, ceilings and skirtings. All remaining paint was left with the school for use on further projects. All rollers and paintbrushes were cleaned and shared equally between Weston Park Primary School, Student Community Action and the School of Chemistry for use on further community projects. Everyone involved in the project from the fundraisers to the painters were impressed and proud with their achievement and enjoyed the experience of learning new skills and making new friends. Planning and taking part in this Community Challenge was a successful experiment. We might one day wish to repeat it but for now, all involved are taking a well-earned rest!



Above- Amanda, Lucy and Eleanor start work with the blue gloss on Sunday morning.



Above- Volunteers enjoy pizza at lunch break.

BEFORE



AFTER

