

## Northfield Young People Against.....Racism Campaign

100 children from across Northfield and Ladywood helped to fight racism recently at a special slam poetry event showcased at Birmingham Library Theatre

This exciting schools' twinning' project is part of the 'Northfield Young People Against.....Racism' campaign which has been funded by Northfield Constituency – Young Peoples Forum, Northfield Constituency Community Arts and Birmingham Community Safety Partnership.



The story began in November 2006 with 9 schools from across Northfield and Ladywood (including St. Laurence Junior School from the Border Busters!) each hosting an individual slam poetry workshop led by the current Birmingham Poet Laureate Giovanni 'Spoz' Esposito.



Following on from individual workshops was an extremely successful 'joint school day' at Turves Green Primary where young people could work with new peers from different schools, faiths, backgrounds and cultures to create performance poetry teams and produce work around the theme of anti-racism. The 'Grand Slam Final' was a chance for children and young people to showcase their work.

As a special treat Birmingham City players Fabrice Muamba and Neil Danns made a special appearance and rewarded all the youngsters involved for their hard work with goodie bags.

The day also saw the announcement of the official winner of Northfield Young People Against.....Racism logo / message competition. The design by Kirstie Smith from Rednal who also attends Frankley Youth Club will brand a Constituency wide campaign and appear on a whole range of merchandise which will be made available to children living in Kings Norton, Weoley, Northfield and Longbridge.

The next stage of the project will include workshops for young people to develop a poster and information campaign to promote new ways for young people to challenge and report racism.

**If you would like to find out more about the campaign, please contact Andrea Holmes via email: [andrea\\_holmes@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:andrea_holmes@birmingham.gov.uk) or send your query/comments via our **CONTACT US** page**

