

# International Schools



## International School Award

We were delighted to gain the INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD for the third time in 2013, and we are currently working to hopefully achieve our 4th by the end of the next school year.

We began foreign language learning at Kingsway in September 2003. We are fortunate to have a bilingual Spanish teacher and we learn Spanish from Year 1 through to Year 6.

We celebrate the European Day of Languages each year with a special assembly and activities. One of our favourites was when we all 'went to the airport and flew off to different countries' (just pretend!). Everyone had a great time and learnt a lot of interesting things.

We have hosted a Languages Fair, where we were joined by children and staff from all the primary schools in our family. We had a great day and learnt Arabic, French and Spanish.

We have links with schools in Mexico, Africa and France, and two in Spain. These links help us to find out more about other countries and the people who live there.

We also get to practise our language skills, and make friends with people around the world.

Our link with Mexico began in 2004, when we won a bid to be one of just ten schools in Nottinghamshire to be part of the Háblame Project for three years. Mrs. Pearson visited Mexico and the Mexican teachers came back to visit Kingsway. We exchanged resources, children's letters and work, and teaching experience during the project. At the end of the three years we won funding to continue for another year. This meant that the Mexican teachers could come back to visit us again, and Mr. Ford and Mrs. Turner went to visit our partner school. The project aim was to break down stereotypes and forge friendships with children from very different backgrounds.

For many years, students from Salamanca University spent their teaching practice with us. These visits have provided further opportunities for the children to talk to native speakers and find out more about a different culture. One of our former students is now an English teacher at Miguel Bravo School in Santander, Spain, which has become one of our partner schools.

Our most recent link is with a school in The Gambia. Miss Tyers visited the school in March 2015, October 2016 and October 2016. We have enjoyed learning out about the way of life of the Gambian children and looking at all of the photographs.

In December 2016 Miss Tyers visited Bulgaria to teach in an orphanage. She will be doing work with children in school to help them learn about life in Bulgaria.

We believe that our links with the staff and children at our partner schools provide a very successful way to learn about tolerance and understanding. It is also a lot of fun!