



Junior School to talk about his planned attempt on Everest in May

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Pupils learn of a villager's high hopes

WOOLTON Hill Junior School pupils were inspired by a mountaineer day on Tuesday, when villager and mountaineer Lee Farmer paid them a visit ... and pitched up his tent in the school hall.

Headteacher Rachel Ross said that the visit by Mr Farmer, who plans an attempt on the north face of Everest in May, proved to be fantastic and a valuable learning curve for pupils.

"He's an ordinary guy who does extraordinary things," she said.

Pupils are planning to track the mountaineer's progress up Everest, by moving a figure up a picture of the mountain and checking his website blog.

Mr Farmer gave a presentation at the children's morning assembly and handed around items of mountaineering equipment for them to look at, such as crampons and ice picks.

Pupils and staff came dressed as mountaineers for the day, with vital aids such as compasses and even Kendal mint cake.

A collection was made at the school towards Mr Farmer's chosen charity, the National Society for Epilepsy, for which he hopes to raise almost £9,000 in sponsorship on his 85-day expedition. This starts in Kathmandu, Nepal, and takes his team through Tibet towards the mountain's summit at 8,850 metres above sea level.