REPORT FOR 2019 KAR EDUCATION TEAM

On January 25 2019 the Education Team were celebrating the success of their ‘World Animal Day’ Poetry Competition, together with the prize winners.

Eleven schools had been invited to take part, and all eleven submitted entries.

The groups were 5-8years and 9-12 years, and some of the poems were illustrated.

There were over 300 Turkish entries and 100 English ones. Every entrant had a certificate for taking part.

We had 15 winners, who were presented with special certificates and cups or medals. 3 received special prizes for their artwork.

We were so lucky to be introduced to Alev Adil,who is a published poet, and Dean of Arkin Unversity (ARUCAD) in Girne.

Alev judged the entries and arranged for us to hold the award ceremony at the University.

A big thank you to all who were involved in this project, especially to Alev, the participants, and Credit West Bank, who kindly sponsored us. Also to Pam Kennedy for doing a fantastic job designing posters and certificates etc, and Elif Todd, for doing all our Turkish translations.

School visits.

Visit to Necat English School. We taught 3 classes of 8 year olds. 51 in total. This was done over two mornings on two consecutive days, January 23/24.

Each pupil was given a Happy Pets Workbook, and learnt what their pets needed to be happy and healthy, and how to stay safe around dogs.

We did the lessons in English, but with help from teachers where Turkish was needed. The workbook is bi lingual.

ESK Assembly on June 24. This was to present certificates on behalf of KAR. Some members of the Helping Hands Club had designed calendars from a photo competition, and were selling them to raise funds for KAR.

Visit to 23 Nissan on October 4 to take part in their assembly to Celebrate World Animal Day. Approximately 200 children were involved. They had written poems, painted pictures, made animal masks. One class sang Old MacDonald had a Farm, with the children pretending to be the animals! It was wonderful and a great honour to be there.

Workbooks were left for the teachers to do with their pupils.

Visit to Karakum pre school on December 19. Here we spent a couple of hours with 44 small children who were 4/5 years old. This session had to be done in Turkish, with a lot of help from the teachers! Every child was given a folder with activity sheets to colour and take home to show their family.

Youth Group visit.

On July10 we visited Gigem youth group to do a workshop with some young teenagers.

This group is supported by Girne Belediye, and provides summer activities for young people.

Every student was given a pack containing useful information, including the responsibilities of looking after a pet dog or cat, the importance of neutering, and dogs and the law.

We also invited vet Derya Uzmen , who came with her assistant Cansu Camci, to talk about the importance of vaccinations, health issues and when an emergency needs veterinary intervention.

This group was new to us, they were lively and interested and generated some challenging discussions! Special thanks to Derya.

On August 6 we made a quick visit to the group to introduce Ruby, our new Education dog. This was Ruby’s first assignment, and she and the students got on very well. A good example of a KAR rescue dog!

Visits to Rescue Centre.

On February 2, a group of approximately 20 young people from the Rotary club at ESK visited the Centre. They walked dogs, listened to information about the care of the animals, and brought donations of toys and food.

Another group from the same club also visited on October 19.

On May 18 , young people from ESKs Helping Hands Club visited to deliver a cheque for 7060TL,monies raised from the sale of their calendars.

On October 5, about a dozen teenagers from Gigem youth group visited. They played with dogs in the exercise area, cuddled puppies and brought donations of food for the animals.

As always, the team, Maggie Smith, Carole Widdison and Carol Easton, would like to thank the schools and groups who welcomed us, and who have been eager to learn about the welfare of their animals.

This report was compiled by Maggie Smith and Carole Widdison.