



LEICESTERSHIRE FIRE and RESCUE SERVICE

NEWS RELEASE

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CELEBRATE SAFELY COMPETITION WINNER ANNOUNCED



Leicestershire
Police
Protecting our communities



On Saturday 26 November, the Celebrate Safely campaign's competition winners were announced at Central Fire and Rescue Station.

The Celebrate Safely campaign, which is run jointly between Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service, Leicestershire Police and Leicester City Council, runs from the beginning of September all the way through to the New Year to try and keep our communities safe through the period of celebration.

At the start of the campaign, as we do every year, a competition was set up for school children in Key Stage One and Key Stage Two and it was very simple to enter. All the pupils had to do is come up with an idea for how they would celebrate safely during the festive periods - Eid, Navratri, Diwali, Halloween, Bonfire night, Christmas and New Year. This idea then had to be designed, hand drawn or painted, and submitted for consideration.

We received a large number of entries which were all seen as worthy winners but, these needed to be narrowed down to just two! A panel of judges which included Wayne Gale (Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service), Daxa Pancholi (Leicester City Council) and Inspector Siobhan Barber (Leicestershire Police) had the difficult task of picking the two winning entries. These were:

- Jameela Sattar from Coleman Primary School
- Milan Sidharth from Wolsey House Primary School

We would like to congratulate the two winners for the fantastic submissions – your ideas were brilliant. We would also like to thank all the school children who entered because without you all, it wouldn't have been such a creative competition.

Wayne Gale, Station Manager at Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service, said: "The Celebrate Safely campaign competition has been running for a number of years now and we always have a large number of entries which are all worthy of winning. Each year, the decision gets harder and harder to choose the winners."

"We are just happy that we are able to get the children thinking about staying safe during the festive period from an early age, as these periods are seen as the times of the year where people are at more risk – education is a key part of our prevention work."

For more in depth information on Celebrate Safely, visit www.celebratesafely.com.

ENDS

Notes to editors: A selection of images from the competitions prize giving ceremony are available on request from the Corporate Communications team.

About the Service

Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service provides emergency response, prevention and protection services from 20 stations across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Its headquarters is based in Birstall, Leicester.

The Service's prevention, education, enforcement and inspection programmes have resulted in significant reductions in the number of incidents. In the last five years, fire related incidents have reduced by 32.6 percent.

During 2014/15, the Service attended 619 road traffic collisions, of which 155 were extrications freeing 194 people trapped inside their vehicles and completed 4316 home fire safety checks, fitting almost 4339 smoke alarms. Staff organised or supported almost 1590 events aimed at promoting fire and road safety and arson prevention, whilst also visiting 314 schools to deliver fire and road safety education to pupils.

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