

15 May 2008

Pupils tuck into organic produce



Pupils munched away happily on free organic fruit brought into Cornwallis and New Line Learning Academies in Maidstone by local fruit and vegetable supplier P K Produce.

Conference Pears, Royal Gala Apples and Satsumas were in hot demand and students also had fun identifying other less common items in a competition.

These included Butternut Squash, Asparagus, Salsify and Lollo Rosso which many had never seen before, let alone tasted.

Managing Director of Biddenden based P K Produce, Phil Kingsland, said: "Our role is to produce good food for school meal services. In addition, we offer education and support to school catering managers to try and broaden students' perceptions of fresh fruit, vegetables and food miles."

Both Academies introduced organic and free range products to menus at Easter and meal times have never been so popular among pupils and staff.

General Catering Manager Thierry Leroy said: “Around 1400 people have meals from our canteens daily, and we have seen a significant rise of students going for healthier choices. For the last two years we have banned items such as crisps, sweets, fizzy drinks and salt, so parents can rest assured their children are eating healthily.”

Caption for photo No. 3: From left: Phil Kingsland with Year 7 pupils Cathy Holmes and Amie Palmer from Cornwallis Academy.

Caption for photo No. 7: Organic fruit and vegetables on display.

Caption for photo 10: Year 7 pupil Rhiana Akashine from Cornwallis Academy enjoys an organic apple.

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