

**THE BIG DEAL 2011
The University of York**

MY EVALUATION

On Thursday 16th June I took 6 girls to The University of York where they took part in the final of 'The Big Deal' business competition.

The girls had spent the past 10 weeks coming up with an idea and then developing it. They were truly entrepreneurial and creative. Their idea was to make a rabbit dish from which the rabbit could drink but that sawdust could not get in. They tested the market by putting questionnaires in a local pet shop. They had to produce a budget and business plan and managed to make a prototype.

There were 24 teams in the final and these were put into 3 groups of 8 and each had 10 minutes to deliver their presentation and sales pitch to the assembled judges. The teams were then asked questions on all aspects of their ideas.

Our year 9 team of 4 girls were absolutely amazing I was so proud of them and they were great ambassadors for the school. They presented and answered all questions with such depth of knowledge and confidence.

There was a winning team and a runner up from each group and our girls were the runners up in their group the team who beat them went on to be the eventual winners and will be jetting off to New York in October.

The whole experience whilst taking up a lot of time was well worth it, the girls learnt so much about themselves and learnt many new skills.

Jacqueline