

# Firm helps pupils build knowledge

CHILDREN at a Fleet school have been helping to build a brighter future thanks to a local construction company.

When Crondall-based Natta Building Company Limited heard Stockton House School was studying construction for a week, the company jumped at the chance to help out.

"Any construction project will impact the local area and Natta supports any initiatives to involve the community, which is why we were happy to help," said Paul McKane, the company's financial controller.

"With the children learning about what construction entails and what machinery and plant is used, we thought it would be an excellent idea to bring some actual plant to the school so that the children could see it at first hand, how they worked and even have a go themselves, when switched off of course."

After a briefing, which included the all-important health and safety issues, the children were issued with their

very own safety helmets and high visibility vests so they could climb aboard the machines.

Each child was given the chance to try out a dumper, an excavator and an eight-wheel, 32-tonne lorry while under the supervision of experts from Natta, an independent contracting company that provides groundwork, civil engineering and reinforced concrete frames for blue chip clients.

"The evident smiles from the children and teaching staff and the number having a second and third go proved what a fantastic time all were having while learning at the same time," said Mr McKane.

"The school told us that after we had left some of the children put their hats and vests back on and were organising 'small works' in the grounds of the school during their break time.

"Through education and some fun, it looks like the future of construction is in safe hands."



A pupil from Stockton House School wears a hard hat.