

Olympic athlete inspires pupils

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PUPILS made an Olympic effort to learn business skills thanks to a pep talk from a sporty special guest.

The 11 and 12-year-olds at Northolt High School, in Eastcote Lane, Northolt, were inspired by six-times world champion kayaker Anna Hemmings, who visited on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday last week.

The 30-year-old, who has competed twice at the Olympic games and won six world titles, told the students how she overcame challenges in her 15-year career.

The children then applied her advice to the task of planning an Olympic-themed event, including setting budgets and marketing.

The top three groups then won medals after their presentations were judged by representatives from Thames Valley University and Ealing



■ **INSPIRATION:** Anna with the Northolt High pupils

Photo by Ash Magill EA211109amkkayak02

and Hillingdon Education Business Partnership (EHBEP), who helped organise the event.

EHBEP spokesman Craig Hutchinson said: "With such a distinguished guest, students produced a wealth of innovative and creative ideas, reflected in a dazzling display of T-shirts, mascots and advertising banners."

Northolt High School runs enterprise days throughout the year helping children learn about business and learn life skills.

The school's enterprise co-ordinator Julie Hillman added: "Anna was inspirational and the task really got the students thinking about the importance of teamwork."