



400,000 attend National Schools Film Week 2009

London – November 6 2009

National Schools Film Week (NSFW) has held its status as the World's largest festival for cinema and young people. The 2009 festival comprised:

- 400,000 attendees
- 500 cinemas
- 2,500 events
- 200 films

Ian Wall, Director of Film Education said:

'When we came up with this unique concept for a cinema festival that supported teachers and schools we could not have dreamt it would become this huge. To see so many schools, participating in so many events is remarkable. Next year is the 15<sup>th</sup> National Schools Film Week and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Film Education, so I'm sure we'll push the boundaries even further.'

The festival provides teachers with a powerful support for their teaching. Far from being just a 'fun day out' they credit trips to the cinema as helping with:

- Literacy
- Socialisation
- Cultural understanding
- Motivation for learning

Mrs Lorraine Dillamore of St Mary's & St Peter's Church of England Primary in Teddington, Middlesex says:

'It's a fantastic experience for the children to watch a film together and then share that experience as a whole in class. This is a great tool for literacy where they can discuss a film knowing every child has seen the film.'

The festival receives very positive reviews with 99% of all teachers surveyed saying they would recommend taking students to NSFW. 58% rate the festival 'excellent' and a further 37% rate it 'above average'.

National Schools Film Week 2010 will take place October 18-22 in England, Northern Ireland and Wales and November 1-5 in Scotland. All places are provided free-of-charge to school groups.

-ENDS-

### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

#### **About Film Education:**

- Since 1985 our charity has been bringing film to teachers and schoolchildren. We produce BAFTA winning and curriculum-based resources, run cutting-edge teacher training events and produce the world's largest festival for cinema and young people, National Schools Film Week.
- In the average year, our activities reach an estimated 2.4million schoolchildren aged 4–19 years. It aims to bring the magic of cinema to schoolchildren regardless of economic, cultural or social background.

#### **About National Schools Film Week:**

- Film Education's flagship festival is National Schools Film Week, during which over 400.000 schoolchildren attend free screenings and events across the country.
- This year, almost 2,500 film screenings are being held free of charge to schoolchildren in over 500 locations across the UK as part of the 15th National Schools Film Week, the biggest event of its kind in the world!
- The festival's goal is to support classroom teaching by providing schools with a powerful experience for their students that links directly to elements of the curriculum.
- Every school in the UK is invited to take part ... teachers can book their **FREE seats** online at [www.nsfw.org](http://www.nsfw.org)