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Students learn vital skills

PUPILS at St Catherine's Prep School in Bramley had a chance to learn about the work of firefighters, paramedics and doctors at an emergency services day.

One of the parents, Dr Sarah Thomas, registrar in accident and emergency at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, wanted to combine her desire to use her skills at the school with her daughter's role as a charity prefect. She arranged for the emergency services to visit and

organised a charity CPR event to raise money for Cherry Trees, a local charity that offers respite for children with disabilities.

Dr Thomas said: "Countries which teach their school children CPR have a much higher cardiac arrest survival rate.

"It is an essential life skill, which everyone, young or old, can learn. Today is about sharing our skills and I hope the children really get a feel of what we do and how to get

help when they need it."

A team from the Royal Surrey, firefighters from Guildford fire station and Richard Harlington, a paramedic, from Tongham Ambulance Station spoke to the girls about their different roles and what the girls could do in an emergency.

Deputy head Wendy said many of the emergency services staff gave up their rest days to teach the girls skills that would help keep them safe throughout their lives.



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Pupils are taught how to administer CPR during the school's emergency services day