

Friendships in US Blossom for drama group

A LOCAL drama group is forging friendships in the US as part of a cultural exchange.

The Performance Plaza, a performance workshop which meets Wednesdays at Hathershaw School, has links with Blossom International, an American organisation which promotes cultural awareness in youngsters.

The Oldham group was presented with necklaces handmade and sent over by their American counterparts.

And after opening the gifts, group members, aged eight to 16, got to grips with a series of questions that the New Jersey-based group had asked about life for young people in Britain.

Paul Burgess, who set up Performance Plaza two years ago, said: "This was the first full exchange activity that we have had with Blossom International and the children had a blast. They're preparing to film their answers to the questions that

Words by **JENNIFER HOLLAMBY**

Picture: **ANTHONY MILLER**

the American youngsters posed and send them a tape.

"It's so important that children learn about other cultures and this is a fantastic way of doing it."

For more information about the Performance Plaza, which will soon launch an adult performance workshop and a songwriting workshop, ring 0161-621 0160.



KEREMY ALDIS (10), in the foreground, shows off her necklace, with fellow members of the Performance Plaza drama group looking on

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