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Arty farewell to textiles teacher

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A TEACHER who raised thousands of pounds to help open a school in Cambodia is preparing for retirement.

Brigidine School, head of textiles Sandy Davies taught her last lesson on Monday after nearly three decades of dedication to hundreds of children.

During her time at the school in Kings Road, the 65-year-old has initiated a range of fundraisers including raising more than £12,000 to open a three-classroom school in Cambodia.

She said: "After hearing about the mine victims in Cambodia on the radio I thought I should do something to help. In 1993 we worked 100% to open a school out there and now there is a school with 285 children attending each day. It was funded by the textile department through fashion shows and other fundraisers."

The popular teacher has been at the school for 28 years and taught for 46 years at schools in the Slough and Windsor area.

Mrs Davies said: "I am going to miss the girls



terribly. I really do enjoy teaching and passing over the skills I have.

"I have just loved it here at Brigidine, the girls here are just amazing."

As she heads for retirement, Mrs Davies refuses to hang up her needle and thread and is looking into studying a master's degree, holding art and crafts sessions at a primary school and sixth form in her home town of Hampshire, and more charity work.

She said: "I'm going to be busy. I love teaching and have been a student my whole life, going to workshops every month and bringing that into the classroom."

Mrs Davies' final students have been showcasing their work in an art and textile exhibition at the school. The show displaying the work of GCSE, AS and A2 students, features jewellery, dresses, hats, home decorations, sculptures and art drawings.



ART ATTACK: Left, Brigidine teacher Sandy Davies is retiring after 28 years at the school. Right, pupils Sabrina Hutchison, 17, and Becky Lovell, 17, with their art at the exhibition. Top right, Katherine Erskine, 17, getting an eyeful of the show. Photo: Mike Swift, 103229.

