

Youngsters are urged to stash their cash

A SAVINGS scheme aimed at getting young people started early has taken a bow at a Dewsbury high school.

And taking much of the credit is a committee of pupils at Earlsheaton Technology College. They got a pat on the back this week for their support for the pilot project.

"We couldn't have done it without them," said the school's community development worker Linda Crayton who has helped organised the new credit union.

Linda and Sandra Massey, treasurer of Dewsbury-based Borough and Parish Credit Union, teamed up to bring the savings



SAVERS: Sandra Massey, Coun Eric Firth and Linda Crayton join Scott Haley, Rachel Elsey, Billy Hartley, Kirsty McPherson and Eleanor Rider. (22090949)

scheme to ETC – the first senior school in Dewsbury and Mirfield to offer the facility.

School governor and ward councillor Eric Firth helped by securing Co-op funding to cover

start-up costs.

And the six-strong student committee then got to work designing logos, passbooks and T-shirts.

"I have been really impressed by the way

they gave up their time in holidays and out of school to help with this," said Linda.

Credit union collection points already existed in nine local junior schools, but Sandra and Linda wanted to extend this to older children.

"The aim is to encourage children to save and learn about what that means," said Linda.

"It is not about borrowing."

The scheme takes any amount from £1 upwards. The children have a pass-book and paying in is convenient with a collection point in school.

"We hope to roll this out to other high schools if this pilot is a success," said Sandra.