

FALKIRK COUNCIL  
Education Services

# Carronshore Primary and Nursery Class



## Standards and Quality Report Session 2008 -2009



Falkirk Council  
Education



**Dear Parent /Carer,**

**As you probably know, each year the government and the Council publish information designed to show how well schools and local authorities are improving pupil performance year on year.**

**In similar fashion, we at Carronshore Primary School and Nursery Class would like to tell you how we are progressing in our school. This leaflet has been designed to do just that. It is our “ Standards and Quality Report ” for last session.**

**You will find a brief description of our main achievements during last session. Whilst we do many things in the course of a year, we have focused on what we consider to be the most important areas. I have also outlined the school’s main priorities for the next session.**

**I hope you find the leaflet helpful. If you have any questions about it, please do not hesitate to phone the school office for an appointment. I will be pleased to offer clarification.**

**I commend the staff for their dedication, enthusiasm and hard work during the last session, the pupils on all their hard work and enthusiasm and you the parents for your on-going support.**

*Evelyn S. Livingstone*

**Headteacher**

## **Some of what we achieved in 2008-2009**



**Hundreds of trees have been planted in the school grounds, all of them native species. The children planted the trees with the help of staff, parents, grandparents and friends. All of the trees were dedicated to friends and family. Our tree planting day was exciting and really good fun. We are all so proud of the new areas created in the school.**

**An outdoor classroom has also been created. Classes have already used this special area which has fantastic views of the surrounding countryside. We have built homes and created habitats for frogs, ladybirds, insects and birds all around the school grounds. Our planting will encourage bees and butterflies.**

Six raised beds have been constructed and these are now housing potatoes, carrots, peas and a variety of herbs. A greenhouse has been built to nurture seedlings and young plants.

Our second entry to the pallet garden competition at the Scottish Garden Festival was awarded a silver gilt medal – a fantastic achievement!

The work represented the work done by P7 in supporting Mary's Meals. The outline map of Africa and flags of Malawi and Scotland were created from flowering plants and the backboard provided information about Mary's Meals and the process of creating the garden. ( cover photo)

P6 took part in Carron in the Classroom. In doing this they became fish farmers. They reared young trout with great care and then when the eggs were hatched returned the young fish to the River Carron. This task was carried out responsibly and successfully. The P6 children then visited the River Carron, a map was created using green map symbols, pupils presented their work and photographs at a community event and then used the medium of art to explore the topic further. The work of Carron in the Classroom is staged as an exhibition running for a month at a local art studio.



One of our pupils designed the new wrapper for McGowan's toffee. This was the result of studying previous wrappers and using a design brief to meet modern day needs. There was an opportunity for P7 to be special guests at the opening of a local supermarket and to visit the toffee factory.

The pupils of P7 work with Pastor Rollo and a crew of professional film makers to make a DVD for use in schools and churches nationwide. This DVD was created for the charity CARE and illustrates the partnership work between schools, churches and communities. This was a most worthwhile experience allowing the children to demonstrate that they are responsible citizens and effective contributors.

A confident duo of public speakers represented the school in the National Public Speaking Competition. Nine teams were shortlisted to compete in the National semi-final and we were ably represented by Siobhan and Michael who spoke about a safer and stronger Scotland for witnesses and victims of crime. They were commended for their efforts in representing Falkirk Council.

Peer mediation is now well established in school and supports the children every day in the playground. Some of our mediators have demonstrated skills to other primary schools and to staff from high school. They have contributed to a DVD for Learning and Teaching Scotland and have provided a presentation for P7/S1 transition. A new group of mediators have been trained for next session.



Throughout the 2008-2009 session, school life has been enriched by artistic events.

We hosted our first whole school art exhibition with a painting from every child in the school on display. The quality of the work on display was of a high standard and the visitors to the exhibition very impressed. Watercolours of local landmarks are to be used as promotional material for My Future's in Falkirk. The art work almost sold out and now graces many of the homes in Carronshore and further afield.



With Mrs Williamson's direction a fabulous collage of the school has been created by volunteers from P7. This will be displayed in the entrance of the school and will be a treasured piece of work that captures a snapshot of the school in 2009.

A fantastic Ugly Bug Hat parade was staged with hats made in the shape of every creepy crawly imaginable. Every hat was made from recyclable materials.



Three successful shows were staged this year. The Nativity was performed to sell out audiences. Carol concerts proved very popular with everyone and are likely to become an annual event. An Easter Extravaganza was a huge success with a production from every year group. These included a nostalgic visit to the war years, audience participation with the songs of the 60's and 70's and a trip across the pond to all things American.

Primary 6 children performed at Accent for Schools. They raised awareness of bullying with very upbeat songs and clever choreography.



We celebrated individual and group achievements, particularly in sport. There have been outstanding successes in Taekwondo both at local and national levels. Awards for athletics, football, cross country, dance and gymnastics.

A whole school treasure hunt combined an Eco theme with a health theme. Teams roamed the school grounds to solve clues and then had to complete an exercise to achieve success. This was very successful despite the very windy weather.



The year finished with our first Carronshore Highland Games. The school was divided into four clans. Every child took part in a range of track and field events including tossing the caber, hurling the welly and a tug-o war. The chieftains of the winning clan were then presented with the Sports Team Challenge Cup



The winning clan this year was Clan Firth

**Thinking Hats are used by everyone in school to plan, to learn, to capture new thoughts and even to consider the disadvantages with some ideas. Beautiful displays in the main hall show how the children have used their Thinking Hats. Learning logs have been created using Thinking Hats and we are proud to be a Thinking Hats School.**



## Our Priorities for 2009 -2010

- As part of our overall Literacy strategy, we aim to develop Big Writing and provide opportunities to develop writing across the curriculum
- We aim to further involve parents in their children's learning by offering workshops and showcase events to raise awareness and understanding of the Curriculum for Excellence and the impact on the delivery of the curriculum
- To use the library and the neighbouring learning zone to develop exciting and challenging opportunities in literacy and numeracy
- To continue to expand our whiteboard stock and develop the use of our website with pages for every class
- We plan to promote Health and Well being throughout the school and nursery
- We will develop Eco work and community involvement with the establishment of the Carronshore Eco Community
- Outdoor learning and activity will be a focus in school and in the nursery

## How did our pupils perform?

Attainment		2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9
Reading	Carronshore	89	92	88	90
	EA	84	85	85	85
Writing	Carronshore	87	89	87	91
	EA	81	81	81	82
Mathematics	Carronshore	87	88	87	90
	EA	87	88	87	88