

St Patrick's Primary School Eco School Committee

St. Patrick's Eco Committee were delighted earlier this year that the school had been awarded its 4th Green Flag. This is a fantastic achievement – involving a lot of hard work from all of the pupils.

Many initiatives were led by the children. The school has an outdoor clothing recycling bank and we collect and recycle ink cartridges and mobile phones. News and requests for help are placed in the Church bulletin, and school website/newsletter. Stalls at Parents' Night have been used to tell the whole community of our Eco-Schools projects. Parents and grandparents help us maintain our school grounds. When taking part in litter picks along the River Carron we involve parents. School open days such as our Orchard Day and Jubilee celebrations are used to promote Eco-Schools work.

Christine Bell from Communities Along the Carron (CATCA) has been very supportive in St. Patrick's Green Flag journey. She supported the school in creating a plaque for the heritage trail along the River Carron. She worked with last year's P7 helping each of them achieve a John Muir Award.

Christine also helped St.

Patrick's develop links with the wider community when its pupils met with some pupils from Denny High, to take part in a joint litter pick/clean up of the river.

Michelle Miller Allen, who sadly passed away earlier this year, from Green Dog Walkers had supported us in raising the issue of dog fouling with parents and adults in the community. She was wonderful to work with, and will be missed by everyone in St. Patrick's and by the wider community.

More recently, we have been involved with the Stonewood Care Services. They have agreed to support the school in developing and maintaining our grounds, to encourage and care for wildlife.

The whole school took part in a 'Play on the Longest Day' event. This involved children spending the entire day outside. The children took part in art activities, storytelling, sports, playground games, den building, obstacle courses, and modelling using recycled materials. This was a huge success, and children appreciated the outdoors and their environment. Children observed nature, considered their own health and wellbeing, and enjoyed the benefits of the work they carried out in relation to the eco action plan.

The eco committee are already looking towards their 5th Green Flag. Following completion of the Environmental Review Checklist, the children are interested in focussing on 'Energy' and 'Sustaining

Our World', along with the mandatory 'Litter' topic.

The children looked at our school's Global Ecological Footprint. The children were also very interested in Fairtrade, and seeing what action we could take. The excellent work carried out by the school's Rights Respecting School Steering Group could help us to address this eco topic.

The children also wished to look at addressing some of the points on the Energy Environmental review page. We have discussed applying for grants to improve the school's energy efficiency. We also hope to spread the energy saving message into children's homes by involving parents. We are taking part in a scheme with Home Energy Scotland whereby children will be given energy monitors, which will allow them to change energy habits at home.

We have also been successful in applying for the Wrigley's Litter Less campaign. We have arranged with CATCA to adopt a stretch of the river Carron. We carry out regular litter picks, monitoring the amount collected, and will check if keeping the area tidy is a deterrent to further littering.



Eco-Schools has benefited our school in many ways. The most obvious is the impact on our grounds. We are lucky enough to have very large grounds. Eco-Schools has encouraged us to use these in a much more eco friendly way. Our beautiful planters, orchard and trees encourage wildlife. They also encourage children to take pride in their school grounds.

Eco-Schools helps to foster children's health and wellbeing. Caring for the local environment makes children aware of local green spaces which they can access to be active and healthy. Caring for these spaces ensures that children see the benefits of keeping them litter free, and hopefully this is an attitude which will be carried into their adult lives.

The playground of St. Patrick's borders the path running along the River Carron. This is enjoyed by the local community. These people regularly comment on our beautiful school grounds - our orchards, planters, wild grass areas and trees. Our work outside the school gates was recognised by Denny Community Green Initiative, who presented us with a beautiful trophy, in recognition of our contribution to our area. Our eco committee was also nominated by a parent for Falkirk's 'Learning to Achieve' awards. We were shortlisted for this award in recognition of the contribution the eco committee makes to the school and wider community – a contribution St. Patrick's is working hard to maintain and develop.

A Kenyan Visitor

In August 2013, a representative from Bo'ness Public School and two from Graeme High went to Kenya to visit charity Johari's Miale Social Development and Enterprise Projects.

Both schools have developed a long-term relationship with Johari and have made a very valuable contribution in supporting Miale Projects. Funds were raised to help pay for school fees, buy books, art materials and crops for the farming project. In March 2014, Regina Wambui, Johari's Social Development Manager, visited Scotland through 'The British Council Connecting Classrooms' funding - a result of a successful application made by Joanne and Vickie, the Graeme High teachers.

Regina spent time at Graeme High visiting a number of classes. In Modern Studies she gave pupils an insight into life in Kenya and highlighted the challenges.

In PSE, the discussion was on sex education and relationships. Regina commented on the different approach taken in Kenya to covering these subjects. The children supported through Johari's Miale Projects are from a vulnerable background and Regina works closely with the schools in Kibera (urban slum) and Kandara (rural location) to identify the children most in need of support. The Miale Social Development Team work closely



with the schools and guardians ensure the safety and monitor the

progress of the children.

Regina was very interested in hearing from the Guidance Teachers and Pupil and Learning Support team at Graeme High. She was amazed by the level of support provided. This support does not exist in schools in Kenya but the Miale team offer regular monitoring, counselling and peer group discussion to encourage the children academically, develop social skills and raise self-esteem.

The 'Cute as a Button' team; an enterprise project at Graeme High, also met with Regina as they fundraised for the Miale Projects by making and selling jewellery. They have been sharing projects with Johari Designs which makes clothing and jewellery with 100% of the profit being fed back into the Miale Projects.

Regina paid a visit to the Graeme High Bike Academy where she came away with lots of ideas about how to develop a similar set-up which can lead to employment. The Graeme High Bike Academy has offered support to get this venture off the ground



in Kenya.

Regina then went off to visit Bo'ness Public School. She visited classes and talked about life in Kenya. Of particular interest to the children was - weather, housing, roads, transport, animals, clothing, food and crops! P3 had recently shared information with children on the Miale Projects through scrap books on farming and weather. P3 and P4 had also

hosted Johari fashion shows with the help of teacher Alan Potters who had visited the Miale projects. Both classes were interested in finding out how their fundraising efforts were supporting the children.

Regina was treated to an enjoyable afternoon of music. A visit to the after school Scottish Country Dance class helped to highlight the opportunities that are available in school for the children. Regina took part in the dance class and will be sharing her new dance skills with the Miale children!

"I want to express my deep



appreciation for the support and the great times we had during my visit. It was the trip of a life time and a wonderful learning experience and a real eye opener! I really value the knowledge and insight gained and your willingness to share it with me. Visiting the schools and organisations who are helping to support Johari have truly inspired me to work with sincerity and dedication. I feel more energized than ever and am looking forward to sharing my experience with our Miale kids. Thank you once again to all for this great gift." Regina Wambui - Johari Social Development Manager

If you would like to find out more about Johari and the Miale Social Development and Enterprise projects, please visit www.joharifoundation.org or contact johari@johari.co.uk

Carrongrange School News

Lifelong Learning

This year some of our senior pupils were lucky enough to be appointed jobs at Forth Valley Royal hospital, working with SERCO. Every Friday they work alongside the other employees to gain relevant work experience. Kieran and Ben work as Porters - helping to transport people, equipment and stock around the hospital. Both girls (Ashleigh and Ashleigh!) take on the roles of Domestic where they help out with important duties both in wards and around the hospital. All 4 pupils say that they are loving the experience and it really giving them a taste of what real working life is like!



Visitors from India



We had visitors from India who toured the school and joined Mrs Hardie's Home Economics class. They cooked traditional Indian food which was enjoyed by everyone. The school presented the visitors with a Recipe Book and a Saltire glass coaster.

Tin Forrest Sensory Story

The Scottish Youth Theatre SEN Roadshow came into school to work with class 3W

Swimathon 2014

We swam a total of 203 lengths and raised lots of money. Well done to all our swimmers, a great achievement.



Cross Country

Pupils recently attended a Cross Country event at Bellahouston Park, Glasgow. What a great day!

Basketball

Pupils participated in an inter school challenge against Denny High.



5M visit to Waterstones for World Book Day

5M celebrated World Book Day with a trip to Waterstones bookshop in Stirling. Some of 5M spent their time looking at the Manga, Graphic Novel and Music sections. Horror and Teen Fiction were very popular too and everyone bagged a bargain with their £1 World Book Day vouchers. We finished our morning with lunch in a local café and a quick trip to Stirling Castle to enjoy the view of the Wallace Monument and the Ochil Hills. The sun shone and a fantastic trip was enjoyed by all. Roll on World Book Day 2015!

Beano Master class

Kev Sutherland, the illustrator for the Beano Comics, visited the school and worked with various classes. Pupils had a great time making up names and drawing comic figures, finishing with a production of their very own comics.



Red Cross – 1st Aid Training

3F had a visit from red cross volunteers who helped them with some basic first aid.

Specially Adapted Bikes

Carrongrange School's successful grant application to Awards for All enabled us to purchase specially adapted bikes. We celebrated with a bike launch on Friday 13th Dec 2013 which Provost



Pat Reid attended. Pupils have been getting out and about on the bikes and enjoying their new found freedom!

Bantaskin Primary School News

P7 Hold Rotary Trophy High!

P7 Pupils Eilidh, Kerr, Sean and Ewan, attended the Falkirk Rotary Quiz on Wednesday 15th March at St. Andrews Primary School, Falkirk.

The quiz had 8 rounds of questions and each round focused on an aspect of Curriculum for Excellence. The pupils did extremely well in working as part of a team to answer the questions and were neck and neck up until the last round.

The children's hard work paid off as they were crowned winners of the Rotary Quiz, 2014. The children were very excited to claim their trophy. Eilidh, Kerr, Sean and Ewan are now waiting to hear when the semi-finals are taking place.

Well done! You did a great job!

Scots Poetry

Five children from Bantaskin Primary School participated in the area Scots Poetry Recitation Competition at Denny High School on Saturday 1st March. Sean and Briony achieved first place and Jessica won second place. They will now go forward to the National final in Prestwick in May. Kayleigh also gained third place. We are very proud of all of them.

Euro Quiz

Tweets and messages of congratulations came pouring in last week after Bantaskin's success at the Falkirk heats of Euro Quiz 2014. The four pupils, Christopher, Neve, Jodie and Ben, competed alongside many other local primary schools answering questions on Europe. The pupils had to answer questions on various topics such as landmarks and languages. They all worked extremely hard to prepare for the quiz and it paid off with a great win.

The team now progress onto the next round held



at the Scottish Parliament in May where they will face teams from all over Scotland. Good luck to them!

World Book Day

On Thursday 6th March (World Book Day) Bantaskin pupils and staff were delighted to open their new school library. The library was officially opened by Provost Pat Reid and the Falkirk Herald came along to photograph the event. Everybody in Bantaskin dressed up as a book character and each class was treated to a storytelling session from Susan Campbell from Library Support Services. The upper school pupils



organised a book sale as part of their enterprise topic and the children were able to treat themselves

to some new books. Book marks were also designed and sold at the sale.

Lots of fabulous literacy activities took place throughout the day and many classes participated in the Authors Live events.

Book character parades were held and the children were able to see all the effort that went into everyone's costumes ... including the teachers!



Inchlair Nursery School visit by MSP

Inchlair Nursery School staff and pupils were presented by staff and pupils with their **Game On** Plaque in recognition of the excellent work they have done over the past year celebrating the Commonwealth Games.

Inchlair is one of only 5 nurseries in Scotland who have achieved this accolade. Provost Pat Reid and Councillor Steven Carleschi were very impressed with the enthusiasm and knowledge of the young pupils of Inchlair.

Headteacher, Isobel Edmond, said that staff, parents and children are justifiably proud of the brilliant work done by the pupils over the last year. Thanks also go to Lisa Male, Active Schools Co-ordinator, Falkirk Community Trust and Enjoy-a-Ball staff who designed and carried out a fun physical programme which allowed the children to try out 12 new sports activities.



The Commonwealth Games Come to Denny!

This year the Commonwealth Games will be held in Glasgow. 6, 500 athletes from 71 nations will compete in 17 sports over 11 days! Many schools, around Scotland, are taking part in commonwealth activities and Denny Primary School is no exception.

We have taken part in lots of different tasks and are aiming for gold in the Going for Glasgow schools Commonwealth Awards. We have completed various pieces of work and will be doing more.

As we approach the event we have had some sport taster sessions to try out different Commonwealth sports. The nursery and P1 pupils have been learning about Captain Bristle's Thistle and working together for their transition project while P1 and P2 have been taking part in the martial art Tae Kwon-Do. P2 will also be introduced to some rhythmic gymnastics. P3 and P4 will be trying out the sport of table tennis while P4-P7 have all taken part in cheerleading, creating a cheer for the Denny Baton Relay. P5 have made big displays around the school to show off our fabulous work and follow the event in photos. P6 recently studied Trinidad and Tobago; they made bright posters and learned great songs for assembly.

Pupils have tried different sports including, netball, fencing, sailing, indoor bowls, rugby, tennis, basketball, athletics and cross country running. Our twin school is New Zealand and we are learning about their culture. P7 are soon to attend a commonwealth games event and try some of the commonwealth sports and they will create a DVD and banner for their trip.

All pupils had a go at designing a relay baton and took part in a competition to create posters for the athletes village, 10 fantastic posters were chosen. The school had visits from 2 young ambassadors, Aiden and Stephen, from Denny High. One was a canoeist and the other a gymnast. There will be a commonwealth theme for sports day and the school will be doing more commonwealth sports.

We will continue to complete different activities on the lead up to this spectacular event and beyond as our legacy. The Commonwealth Games Glasgow 2014.... Our country, our legacy... Join us in the celebration!

By Lucy and Hafsah, P7





Falkirk Education Services and National Health Service Forth Valley
Focusing on
Communication
and **L**earning

FoCaL Communication Environment Awards for Carmuir and Grange Primary Schools

FoCaL, Focus on Communication and Learning, is a joint Falkirk Council Education Services and Speech and Language Therapy approach to supporting children’s communication and learning within the mainstream school.

The main aim of the project is to work together on children’s speech, language, communication, confidence and learning within the school environment.

Speech and language therapists have been working alongside teaching staff in selected schools to enhance the learning experience for pupils and introduce programmes to support language development. The outcome for the children’s language development has been very positive. For example, during the 9 month time frame of the project, the children assessed in the FoCaL schools improved their spoken language skills on average by the equivalent of 12 to 14.5 months.



Each class labelled with teachers name and photo

While the focus of the language intervention work has been on P1 to P3, all staff in each school have been involved in training and in considering how to improve the communication environment within their schools. This benefits all children, particularly those who are visual learners, have attention difficulties, rely on structure and routine, lack confidence in participation or have spoken language difficulties.



Colour coded visual menus – electronic and hard copies

During the course of the academic year the schools involved in FoCaL have the opportunity to work towards achieving a communication environment award - either Bronze, Silver or Gold.

All schools involved in the approach have worked extremely hard in making positive changes to their communication environment. Special credit must however be given to both Carmuir and Grange Primary Schools, who were recently presented with awards for their achievements last academic session.

School are generally encouraged to aim for the Bronze level award in year one, silver in year two, followed by gold in year three. Carmuir Primary and Grange Primary have exceeded expectations by achieving bronze and silver awards in a very short time scale and are currently working towards their gold awards. This is an outstanding achievement and all involved should be congratulated.

Below are some examples of the work achieved to enhance the communication environments.



Example of cloakroom labelling and visual routine

What the teachers say

‘The children respond better to the communication friendly environment...it links well to all curricular areas in particular the writing’ (Shieldhill PS staff)

What the children say

‘If you can’t read, the pictures tell you what it is. It’s creative and it makes it fun.’ (Pupil at Denny PS)



The rights of the child cue cards

The National Parent Forum of Scotland and Children in Scotland announce new partnership

Children in Scotland
every child - every childhood



The National Parent Forum of Scotland is delighted to announce a new working partnership with Children in Scotland.

The National Parent Forum of Scotland is the only national body led by and for parents. Since its inception in 2009, it has undergone rapid development and is now an influential national and independent body, working on behalf of parents across Scotland to help every pre-school and school pupil maximise their potential.

This partnership represents a new and exciting phase of its development - an opportunity to share resources and expertise with Children in Scotland, an organisation that has similar values and vision, and whose reach spans the entire children's sector.

Iain Ellis, Chair of the National Parent Forum of Scotland said: "This new arrangement with Children in Scotland marks the beginning of an exciting and important era for the National Parent Forum of Scotland. From the outset, the NPFS has been an independent voice for parents, striving to get the best education for all children across Scotland, no matter what their circumstances. Our new partnership with Children in Scotland will open doors and enable us to strengthen our ability to work with organisations, children and their families at grass roots across the country. This builds on the partnerships we have already developed with Scottish Government, Education Scotland and Local Authorities. We firmly believe that with greater understanding and working together we can get the best for all children. "

Jackie Brock, Chief Executive of Children in Scotland, said: "We are delighted to be able to announce a new working partnership with the National Parent Forum Scotland. As a child and family-focused agency, our membership spans the entire children's sector. Like the National Parent Forum Scotland, we are deeply committed to strengthening the capacity and capability of every child and recognise the vital role that parents play in this. I am confident that our new partnership will be complementary and fruitful, and contribute to an even stronger voice for parents across Scotland."

From May 2014, Children in Scotland will host the National Parent Forum of Scotland, with the NPFS management team sharing Children in Scotland's offices in Shandwick Place, Edinburgh.

The 2014 Big Fit Walk

The 2014 Big Fit Walk is on Friday 13th June (or any day in June if you can't do it on the 13th). Registration this year is through Paths for All. Information on how to register for a pack can be found by following this link - <http://www.pathsforall.org.uk/bigfitwalk>

The great news for 2014 is that Paths for All, the National organisation for the promotion of walking in Scotland, has successfully received Commonwealth Celebrate funding to take the Falkirk District Big Fit Walk to the whole Nation. Our Big Fit Walk has just got bigger and we hope many, many more people will take part this year.

We hope that the local support will be as good as always and perhaps even more schools and other organisations and groups will take part this June, in an event that can promote increased physical activity to just about anyone, anywhere!

It began in Grangemouth, spread to the Falkirk District and then to other parts of Scotland and now it is going to be promoted to the Commonwealth!

Please join in and make our Commonwealth Legacy—anyone can join in and walk for 30 minutes from their own doorstep.

Thank you, Dr. Jenny Lim (on behalf of the Big Fit Walkers)



Calendar of Events June 2014

Education Executive (Pre-agenda) - Municipal Buildings - 09:00	02 Jun
ESMT - Sealock House - 09:00	03 Jun
Head Teachers Meeting / Learning Event - Grangemouth HS - 09.00	04 Jun
EYPIP - Venue: TBC - 13.00	04 Jun
FV Regional GIRFEC Group - Venue: TBC - 14.00	05 Jun
Falkirk Council (Pre-agenda) - Municipal Buildings - 09.00	06 Jun
Parents Focus Group - Sealock House - 17.30	11 Jun
Accelerated Incremental Progression - Sealock House - 16.00	11 Jun
Enterprise in Education Awards - Grangemouth HS - 15.30	12 Jun
Education Matters - Submitting articles deadline date	13 Jun
ESMT - Sealock House - 09.00	13 Jun
Fathers Day	15 Jun
Falkirk EYC Leadership Group - Camelon Education Centre - 15.00	16 Jun
Falkirk EYC Away Team - Camelon Education Centre - 12.30	16 Jun
Education Executive Committee Meeting - Municipal Buildings - 09.30	17 Jun
Performance Scrutiny Panel (Service Plans) - 09.00	19 Jun
Primary HTs Association - 14.00	19 Jun
Summer Solstice (longest day of the year)	21 Jun
Audit Committee - Municipal Buildings - 09.00	23 Jun
EESMT - Sealock House - 09.00	24 Jun
Falkirk Council Committee Meeting	25 Jun
Curriculum Support Meeting - Camelon Educ Centre - 09.30	26 Jun
Falkirk MAASH/WSA Development Group - Sealock House - 14.30	26 Jun
Summer Term Ends	27 Jun
Ramadan - start of fast (Muslim)	28 Jun

Giant Walking Bus for primary schools

On Wednesday 11 June at 10a.m. tens of thousands of kids will be marching for road safety from their school gates in Brake's annual Giant Walking Bus for primary schools.



This brilliant event helps schools teach children about safe walking, while promoting safe driving to parents and local communities to protect children on foot. The project also raises funds for Brake's work campaigning for safer roads and supporting families bereaved and injured in road crashes.

Kids take part in this giant march for a giant reason: to say no to driving fast, and yes to walking!

The UK has a poor record for protecting children on foot compared to many of our European neighbours. Half our kids are driven to school, increasing pollution and danger, and affecting health. It doesn't matter if your march has five kids or 500, you can make a difference.

All schools taking part in the Giant Walking Bus will receive a free resource pack to help them promote road safety and we also run a star schools scheme to recognise schools that go the extra mile to fundraise, educate and campaign.

You can register now online at www.brake.org.uk/walkingbus, call us on 01484 550061, e-mail us walkingbus@brake.org.uk or follow us on Twitter [@brakecharity](https://twitter.com/brakecharity)





Falkirk Council

Education Matters

Learning to Achieve

Volume 14 Issue 11

June 2014



Enterprise in Education Awards

Lynne Lauder, Enterprise Co-ordinator, oversaw the 11th Enterprise in Education Awards at Grangemouth High School on Thursday 12th June.

10 Schools attended the event to receive their certificates presented by Nigel Fletcher, Acting Director of Education.

The Awards which started in 2006, recognise excellence in the delivery of Enterprise in Education in schools. Awards are presented at Bronze, Silver and Gold level. Schools who have managed to sustain Gold level for three years have the opportunity to go for Platinum.

The schools recognised at Gold Year 2 or Year 3 at the event

were Antonine PS, Bantaskin PS, Grange PS, Kinneil PS, Deanburn PS, Larbert Village PS and St Margaret's PS. Four schools achieved Platinum status, Drumbowie, PS Maddiston PS, Carrongrange School, Larbert HS. We now have 21 Platinum Enterprise schools in Falkirk.

Schools also have the opportunity to nominate partners as Enterprise Champions and to date we have 461 individuals who have received recognition for their work in inspiring and motivating young people to be more enterprising.

The event was a great success as reflected in the many smiling faces in the photo.



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To all staff, pupils and parents. Please accept our best wishes for a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

It has been a very successful session across all schools and nurseries in Falkirk and everyone deserves a well earned holiday.

I hope you come back refreshed and ready to achieve great things in August.

*Nigel Fletcher &
Gary Greenhorn
Joint Acting
Directors*

Carrongrange School – News

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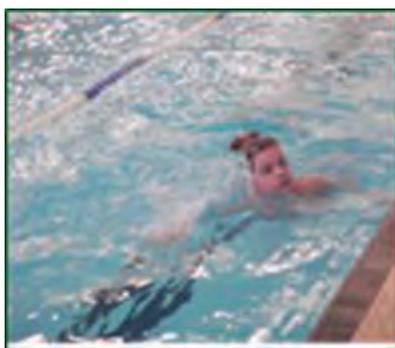
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Specialy Adapted Bikes

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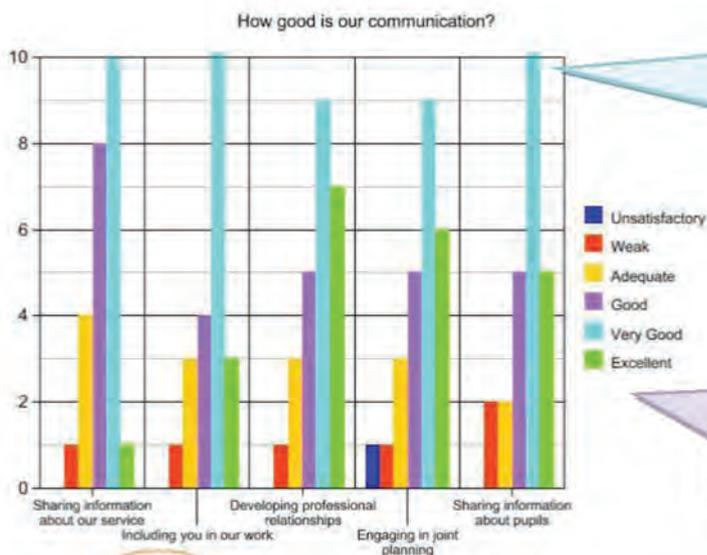




Oxgang School News

This session Oxgang School and Support Services have been working in partnership with 24 Primary Schools to support pupils at risk of exclusion due to social, emotional and behavioural needs. We currently support over 50 children within their mainstream schools or based in Oxgang School.

In May we put out a questionnaire on survey monkey and received 26 responses from. The graphs below highlight how Falkirk Schools have rated our work this session. I have included some of our most positive comments throughout this article. The results of this questionnaire will be discussed at our Outreach Development Day on Thursday 26th June and will form the basis for our improvement priorities next session.



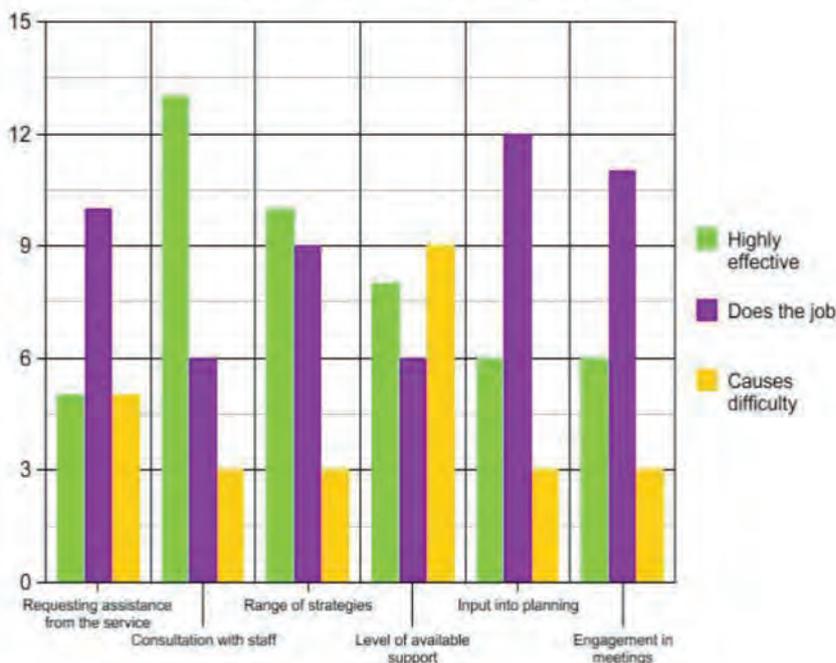
We have worked closely with various members of the Oxgang team this year and sharing information and joint planning has been very well done.

My first experience working with Oxgang and I was impressed with their work regarding Nursery/P1 transition.

Staff from Oxgang are very effective when working with the school to support our pupils who are involved in the service.

Strengths are consultation and joint planning.

How effective are our policy and procedures?



For a full copy of the survey monkey results please e mail sharonw.wilson@falkirk.gov.uk

Oxgang School News cont'd

Our vision statement

We want all children to feel positive, safe and happy at school. We want them to have every possible opportunity to experience success within their local school and have friendships in their home community. We hope that each child can recognise their potential as a learner. We want to ensure that children and families have their voices heard in the decisions that affect them.



This session 4 children have returned to mainstream primary schools and will hopefully now be able to move on towards secondary education within their own community and with their friends.

Providing children with good-quality education and care in their earliest years can help them to succeed at school and later in life. This contributes to creating a society where opportunities are equal regardless of background.

As part of our Service commitment to early intervention we support children and their families, nurseries and schools with the transition journey from nursery to Primary 1. We believe that by planning and working together at this crucial stage we can provide children experiencing social, emotional or behavioural needs with the foundations for a positive, happy and safe mainstream school experience within their own community.

One example of our success in this area is our work, with Denny Day Nursery and Antonine Primary School in Bonnybridge. The initial support began for the child while still in nursery in June 2013. We worked closely with the nursery staff to build a clear picture of the child's needs and then put together a positive behaviour plan to accompany and support the child into P1. The plans and information were shared with the child's carers and school staff and Outreach Support was also agreed for the initial stages of P1.

We worked alongside the Primary 1 teacher to help build positive relationships and effective communication between everyone who has an investment in the child's education. Support continued weekly in a range of ways and by the end of January the school felt confident that strategies for supporting the child were in place and could be continued by the school.

Supporting the teacher to support the child

- Assessment and planning
- Strategies and methodologies

Supporting family

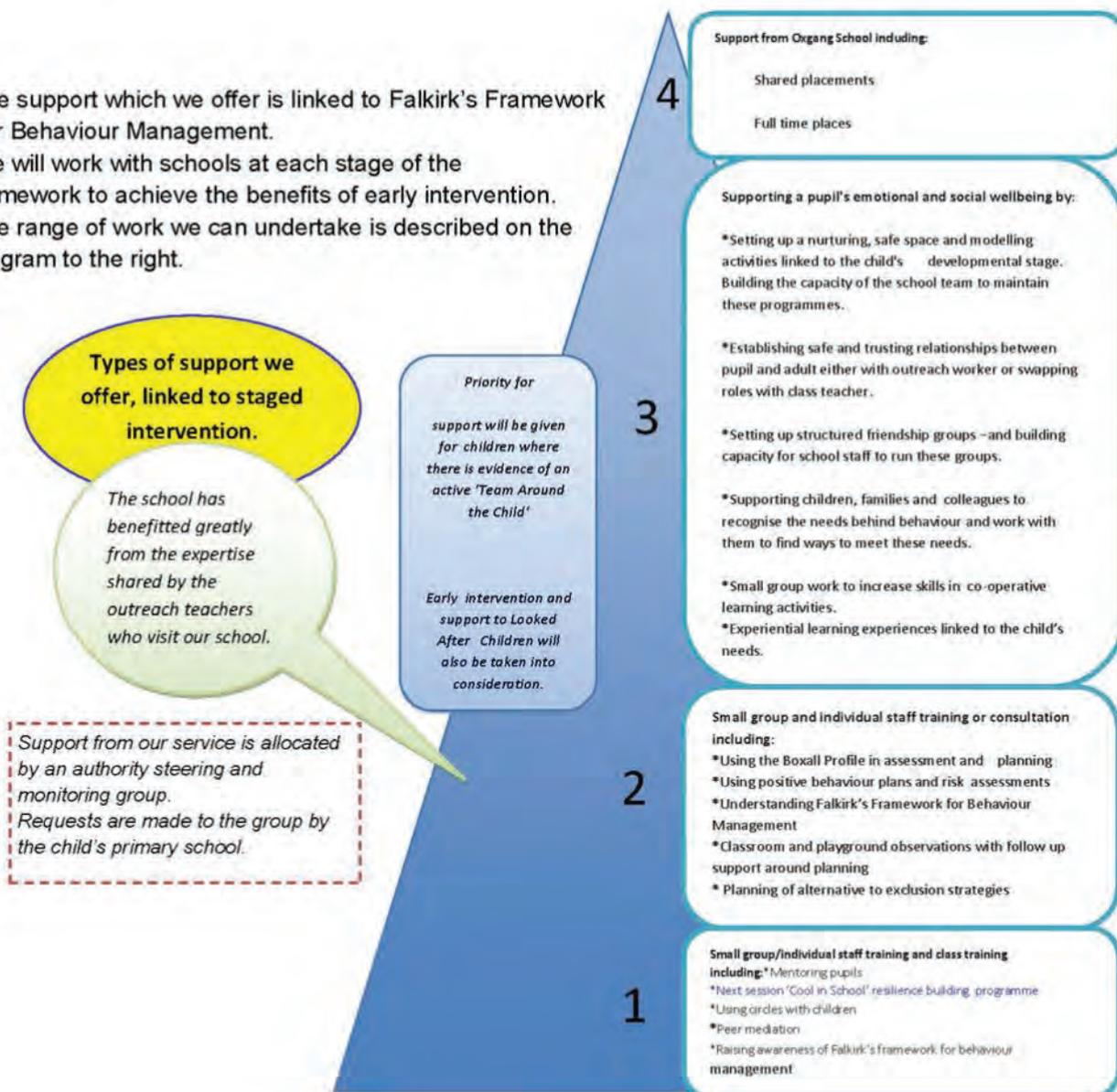
- Meeting with carers to share information

Supporting the child to settle into Primary 1

- Friendship group
- SfLA support in class

Oxgang School News cont'd

The support which we offer is linked to Falkirk's Framework for Behaviour Management. We will work with schools at each stage of the framework to achieve the benefits of early intervention. The range of work we can undertake is described on the diagram to the right.



Our Values statement

In Oxgang School and Support Services we believe that all children are good.

A child's wellbeing reflects the quality of their life and will affect how resilient they are. Challenging behaviour in children is a communication of unmet needs.

We believe that all children have the right to learn and to reach their potential.

To achieve this they must feel safe and well and have a positive sense of self worth.

We believe that positive relationships and effective communication are essential to meeting children's' needs and to achieving successful outcomes.



Our mascot, Oxy.

Oxgang School News cont'd

Our School and Service Aims

We aim to keep the potential of the child at the centre of our work by:

- *supporting children, families and colleagues to recognise behaviour as communication of unmet needs and work with them to identify these needs and find ways to meet them.
- *advocating for the rights, support and wellbeing of the child at all times.
- *requesting that every child, we work with, will have a positive relationship with at least one key adult in their school.
- *ensuring that our work across the school and service will be driven by relationships and nurturing, restorative and solution oriented principles.
- *involving children and their families in all planning and decision making.

On Tuesday 27th May we held an Open Night for staff where we shared information about our service gave a tour of the school and allowed time for colleagues to learn about our work and ask any questions. We aim to continue this into next session with 2 new dates so look out for this on CPD Manager. Following this we have been asked to do a collegiate session in one school about Positive Behaviour Planning.

On Monday 2nd June 2014 our team received a visit from the Early Year Collaborative Leadership team. Elaine Costello (Acting Head of Additional and Individual Support) and Beverley Isdale (o.o.s. care development worker). The staff team took part in professional dialogue about our service; its successes and challenges. Both the leadership team and the service team felt that this was a very beneficial experience and look forward to the actions that can be taken forward as a result of our conversations.

We were part of the 'Better Relationships Conference' on 3rd June and delivered workshops including



- ***Introduction to the 'Cool in School' initiative that we have piloted in Carmuir's Primary School.***
- ***How to write a positive behaviour plan to support a child in class and school.***



- I enjoyed your tutorial yesterday on Positive Behaviour Plans and thought they could be introduced in my school.



Using a Strengths based approach. (following on from the Charlie Appelstein conference in February)

Oxgang School News cont'd

Developing Outdoor Play

Oxgang School and Support Service are very proud of this new addition to their school garden.



In August 2013 Oxgang School parent council and Friends of Oxgang put their heads together with the staff, families and children to think about the needs of our small school. There was a unanimous vote that to further improve the health and wellbeing of our children we should aim to create an outside play area for pupils.

<u>A very big thankyou to....</u>
The Big Lottery Fund
INEOS
Grangemouth Green keepers
Blackness Primary
Mrs Morris and Mrs Campbell's Class
Oxgang School Yellow day
Stenhousemuir primary
Head of Muir Primary School
The twa duggs
Danielle and Rhiannon
Dennis Fitzimmons
Grant Brown
Tait and MacLeod Solicitors
Dawn Anderson
Grange Primary School and parent council
Sterling Furniture
Kym's Krafts
Barnardos

The parent council and friends of Oxgang dedicated their time and creative thinking and came up with many ways to raise funds for a trim trail.

The children in Oxgang wrote letters and delivered them to local businesses and schools, asking if they could donate money to fund our trim trail. Everyone was amazed and overwhelmed with the support we received and in January 2014 we reached our funding goal.

Oxgang is such a small school and has a limited initial network of support but it shows that with creative thinking and the support from the wider community you can achieve results!

The children in Oxgang now have daily opportunities to play outdoors, keeping them active and healthy.

Oxgang School News cont'd

Oxgang Support
Summer Term Pilot
in Carmuir's School

Being Cool In School

The outreach team from Oxgang have been working to support the whole school social skills program Being Cool in School in a pilot in Carmuir's Primary this term. This has involved pupils and staff in Carmuir's at Stages P2, P4 and P6 and will be taught back so that all pupils have experience of this programme by next session



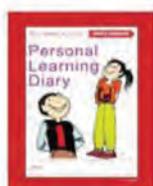
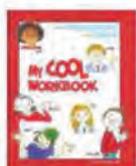
What is Being Cool In School?

- Resource from Fife Council – Whole School Approach
- Explicitly teaches the skills to deal positively with situations children encounter in school and in life

Assessment is embedded into Being Cool in school programme design through

Being cool in School Supports links throughout the curriculum including

- Active Learning
- Role Play
- Activity
- Health and Well being— Social Mental & Emotional
- Literacy



What is the impact?

I enjoy working with others to find cool ways of thinking.

I can use my word shield to help me when people say unkind words.

Positive impact on social skills and shared language.

I am getting better at COOL.

I can see my class working together on shared experiences and Language.

A glimpse of 'Going for Glasgow' at Head of Muir PS!

Pupils and staff at Head of Muir PS have fully embraced the opportunities that the Active Schools Going for Glasgow project has provided. Pupils have had the chance to experience sports they might never have tried before and staff have given of their time to pass on their skills.

Pupils have taken part in 17 different sports through curricular time, lunch time and after school clubs. Popular activities included Gymnastics, Athletics and Boxercise to name but a few!

This term all classes have chosen to study a Commonwealth country, with links being made with a family in Trinidad and a school in Australia.



Our Commonwealth Community Group even created our very own Opening Ceremony with the help from a local dance tutor. Pupils from P1 to P7 performed it to the whole school.

Last month pupils across the Denny Cluster along with St Josephs and St Patricks primaries took part in a cluster baton relay which started its journey in Banknock and finished in Dunipace. Staff and pupils ran the route with each school welcoming the baton in their own special way. The baton itself being designed by a pupil from St Josephs Primary.

Our pupils now look forward to welcoming the Queen's baton to the area in the last week of term and then of course to the games themselves. Good luck to all our athletes, perhaps as a result of this fantastic project we might just have a future Commonwealth Games competitor amongst us!

St Bernadette's PS Commonwealth Celebration

Two months before the Commonwealth Games arrive in Glasgow St Bernadette's Primary celebrated their own Commonwealth Games. The children represented 6 Commonwealth countries.

In front of an audience of enthusiastic parents, family and friends each country performed in a Grand Opening Ceremony which also saw the arrival of the Queen's baton and Clyde the mascot.

P7 pupil Ena Jawad read out her version of the Queen's message and declared the games open. The children then enjoyed a potted sports and traditional races.

At the end of an enjoyable day Team Canada were the overall winners.





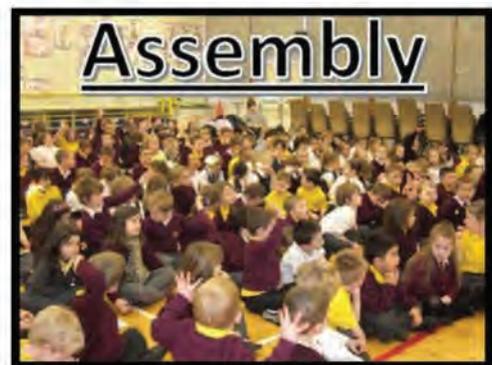
NEWS!! Sacred Heart Primary ~ Global Citizenship



Sacred Heart Multi Stage Groups ~ May- June 2014

Children have been participating in multi stage groups throughout the school. The Infant Groups include children from Primary 1, 2 and 3. The Upper Groups include children from Primary 4, 5, 6 and 7. The overall focus of these groups is Global Citizenship with a particular interest in OXFAM'S WATER WEEK. The Upper and Infant groups are; Enterprise, RRS, Health and Wellbeing, Active Schools and Eco. Children have been introduced to this project at assemblies and are enjoying working together and meeting and learning from different teachers.

- P1-3... 5 Groups
- P4-7... 5 Groups
- One day a week... Starting Thursday 8th May, 11am-12pm!
- Different topics as listed above
- Different teachers



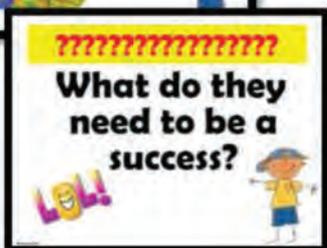
Aims

- To raise children's awareness of the wider world and their place in it
- To enable children to celebrate and respect differences and similarities between people and ways of life
- To explore issues which affect our world
- To identify opportunities for taking action to make the world a better and fairer place
- To create a sense of wonder and excitement about the world in which we live in
- To enable children to see themselves as global citizens who can make a difference to the world



Rainbow Bridge Activity - PUPIL PARTICIPATION March 2014

All classes took part in an activity where they thought about what was needed to make these groups a success. The results of these activities were put together in a presentation and fed back to children at assembly.





NEWS!! Sacred Heart Primary ~ Global Citizenship



Pupil Groups
Feedback!
What you said!

Class teachers carried out the “Rainbow Bridge to Participation” activity in class. The views and opinions of pupils were collected and made known to all pupils at a whole school assembly before the launch of the Multi Stage groups.

It was made very clear to the pupils that this activity was all about them and their opinions about participating in groups.

It’s all about me!!!

It’s all about me!!!



You!!



...and us!!!



It’s all about me!!



NEWS!! Sacred Heart Primary ~ Global Citizenship



What do these headings make you think about?

Respect!

You get something out of it!

Feedback!

No Discrimination!





No discrimination

- Everyone treated fairly
- Everyone is equal
- Everyone joins in
- Everyone free to be themselves
- Show respect to each other
- Helping each other
- Everyone is important and special
- God made us all
- We are all different but still important
- Don't make judgements about others




Some



views



from Sacred Heart Pupils



Respect

- Be kind to each other/ Help others
- Think about Rights/ Responsibilities
- Follow rules
- Good role models
- Listen to others and their opinions
- Show good body language
- Treat others as you want to be treated
- Working together responsibly
- Paying compliments /encouraging each other to do well






NEWS!! *Sacred Heart Primary ~ Global Citizenship*



Information 

- Learn new things
- Find out in new ways
- Learn from different teachers
- You get inspiration /enthusiasm
- Must be able to understand it
- Might need it in the future
- Inform parents about it
- Time to talk/discuss
- Area to display news in school



The results of the class activity show that most pupils had a good knowledge and understanding of what would be involved in working together in multi stage groups. Pupils also displayed some understanding of what was required for the groups to be successful. Everyone is enthusiastic! We will hold a whole school Global Citizenship Week before the end of term when we will celebrate success!

Feedback 

- Teacher celebrates success/ Well Done!
- Group Assemblies
- Newsletters/Twitter/Website
- Improve confidence! Good Job!
- Learn how to improve!
- That's how you learn/ Get better!
- You try harder
- Be able to talk about learning
- Learn how to give feedback/Each other



Improving how we work 

- Trying new ideas
 - Co-operating with others
 - Outdoor Learning
 - Improve our social skills
 - Work with younger children
 - Exciting new team members
 - Demonstrations from teacher/pupils
 - Improving confidence
 - Learn from others, mistakes...
 - Make new friends... so happy!
- Participating
Trying hard
Good Behaviour



Sacred Heart R. C. Primary

Easter Carmuir's is Going for Glasgow!

Easter Carmuir's have been completing a whole school project on the Commonwealth Games



from January this year. As part of our Golden Time programme, the pupils have had the opportunity to try over 13 different sports



ranging from ten pin bowling to softball. These have been running on a 4 weekly rotation and have proved to be a popular choice for pupils of all ages.



large school of 493 students, with a former student, Cleopatra Borel-Brown, representing the island in the Shot Putt event. We are currently developing this link with the pupils exchanging emails and letters. We plan to complete a joint project on leather back turtles on the island, Operation Trinidad, in association with Gillian Simpson from Zoolab.

In individual classes, pupils have been completing personal projects; Primary 6/7



chose either Trinidad and Tobago or the Bahamas and researched the geography and culture. Primary 5/6

researched a Commonwealth country of their choice and completed a project about the athletes coming to Glasgow this summer. Primary 4 created their own mascots for Glasgow 2014.

Our Commonwealth Sports Day was a huge success! We had a great turn out from parents and invited guests, including Provost Pat Reid, Mr Webster from Falkirk High School and Yvonne McBlain. All pupils were involved in the



preparation for this event, creating flags and banners to lead their house onto the field. Everyone performed

Easter Carmuir's have also developed a Global Citizenship link with a school in Trinidad and Tobago. Mayaro Government Primary is a



Easter Carmuiris is Going for Glasgow! Cont'd



We have had pupils competing in a variety of sport festivals and tournaments this year. They had a great time at the Netball, Rugby and Athletics Festivals, the P7s enjoyed their Commonwealth Games at Grangemouth Stadium and some P5 and P6 pupils took part in a Triathlon event at Grangemouth High School. These events have been a great opportunity for our pupils, who have all behaved well and have been a credit to Easter Carmuiris.

Our Going for Glasgow project has been a fantastic opportunity for us to learn about the history of the Games and the countries involved in the Commonwealth. We have had so many great opportunities to take part in new sports and activities, allowing us to discover what Falkirk has to offer! We can't wait to continue these sports as we enter a new term in August!

fantastically, and in the end, Antonine were announced as winners, their trophy was presented to them by Provost Reid.



Calendar of Events August 2014

Admin Team Meeting - Staff Room, Sealock House	06 Aug
Staff Development Day	18 Aug
Staff Development Day	19 Aug
Autumn Term Begins (Pupils)	20 Aug
Falkirk EYC Away Team - 1.30pm	20 Aug
Falkirk EYC Leadership Group - 3pm	20 Aug
ESMT - Sealock House - 9am	22 Aug
Falkirk EYC "Home" Team - St Bernadette's - 3pm	25 Aug
Education Executive - Pre-agenda - Municipal Buildings - 9am	27 Aug
ESMT - Sealock House - 9am	28 Aug

A big Day for Walking in Scotland



Minister for Public Health Michael Matheson promoted an active life by joining children, Health Walk groups and local walkers at the Commonwealth Big Fit Walk at The Helix in Falkirk on Friday 13th June.

Paths for All, the Scottish

charity behind the national events hope the Commonwealth Big Fit Walks inspire communities across Scotland to come together for a walk to celebrate the benefits of being active. The events also aim to share the excitement of Scotland hosting the Commonwealth Games.



Local community Health Walk Group, Step Forth led the walk through The Helix park. They brought with them over 50 of their walkers and volunteers, 100 local school children from Moray Primary School and Grangemouth High School, and over 30 staff from Paths for All and their partners.

The Big Fit Walk has been running for 10 years and was developed by Falkirk Community Trust and a group of Grangemouth school children. Paths for All secured funding from The Big Lottery Celebrate fund to promote and expand the project across Scotland capitalising on the opportunities that the Commonwealth Games are bringing to promote physical activity.



The Commonwealth Big Fit Walk is a national project providing Walking for Health and community groups, workplaces and schools with resources and support to organise a 30 minute led walk during June. Over 200 walks are taking place throughout June from Shetland to Dumfries and even Canada!

Chief Officer of Paths for All said, "The Big Fit Walk is always a great success and we're delighted to be involved this year with over 200 walks happening during June. Walking is the easiest, cheapest and simplest way for everyone to get the 30 minutes of every day physical activity they need to stay healthy. By walking together, we're showing how easy and enjoyable it is to get active."

These led walks let people discover the brilliant places to walk in their local neighbourhoods – such as today's venue, The Helix. With Glasgow's Games round the corner, we hope everyone feels inspired to get walking and feel great."





Education Matters

Learning to Achieve

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The Crocodile Trap By Leah Faulks

Interview conducted by Caitlin Evans
Leah Faulks (aged 11) of Kinnaird Primary School, has won a major prize in a competition run by the ITV Broadcasting Company. Leah wrote a short story and created a storyboard for 'The Crocodile Trap.'

Lucky Leah will now have her story made into a television programme which will be shown on CITV in October. In August she will travel to the television studios in Manchester to help televise her story. Caitlin Evans interviewed a delighted Leah to find out more.

Q1: What is your story about?

A1: My story is about a crocodile called Chomp who lives in a sewer and bites people's bums! A boy called Flint makes a trap to catch him. He puts chilli powder on a scarecrow and ties a rope to its head. Then he sits the scarecrow on the toilet. Chomp bites the scarecrow and Flint pulls him out the toilet. The chilli powder makes Chomp's mouth go on fire and flint pours sleepy tablets in the toilet. Then Chomp goes to drink out the loo and he falls fast asleep!

Q2: How did you get the inspiration for the story?

A2: I was sitting on the loo and I was thinking about crocodiles. Don't ask me why, I just was. So I was just sitting there and it just popped into my head!

Q3: Why is the main character called Flint?

A3: I was watching Cloudy With A

Chance Of Meatballs and I liked the name.

Q4: How long did it take to write it?

A4: It took me about a week to plan it, a week to write it and a week to draw it.

Q5: How did you think of the amazing trap?

A5: I just tried some ideas, I drew them and thought about what would be good in a story.

Q6: How did you do all the drawings?

A6: I looked on the internet for pictures of everything and I got ideas from them.

Q7: Have you entered any other writing competitions?

A7: Yes, I have entered the 500 words competition 3 times and Share A Story twice. The second time I entered the 500 words I got into the top 2000 out of 75,000 people when I was 9 years old.

Q8: Did you enjoy it?

A8: Yes I did! It is one of my favourite hobbies.

Q9: What is the prize?

A9: In August I am going to Manchester with my Mum to the CITV studio so I can create my story into a mini movie and do the voice over. It will go on TV in October. I am looking forward to meeting the important guys.

Q10: How many practises did you have to have?

A10: Lots! I have some here. I had to

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do writing and drawing practises. My Mum had to check my spelling as well.

Q11: Are you entering again?

A11: Yes. I am also trying lots of new competitions so I will be very, very busy.

Needless to say, everybody at Kinnaird Primary School is eagerly anticipating the television adaptation of Leah's story.

