

INTRODUCTION

This Information Bulletin is divided into two parts. Part 1 (all pages with the exception of the section coloured green, which relates only to tenders and which is found at the end of the Bulletin) presents a number of papers, which are designed to update Members, Officers and the citizens of the area of ongoing issues of interest which would not be expected to be dealt with through the Council's formal decision-making processes. These papers are relatively informal in terms of style and format and are an additional and important reporting mechanism for the Council which is easily accessible and which it is hoped will be a useful reference document.

In terms of its Contract Standing Orders, the Council has a requirement to report all Contracts referred to in Standing Order 6.2. The Information Bulletin is considered to be ideal for this purpose and any such papers can be found in Part 2 (the section coloured green) of the document.

Any general enquiries regarding the Information Bulletin should be directed to Chief Executive Office (Brian Pirie, Democratic Services Manager Ext 6110).

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VOLUME 3
2012/2013

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: ACCEPTANCE OF EXEMPTION FROM COMPETITION UNDER
 CLAUSE 5.6
 Meeting: INFORMATION BULLETIN
 Date: 5 December 2012
 Author: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION SERVICES

1. INTRODUCTION**1.1 The Hay Group Management Limited - ESCI**

As part of the Leadership Development Strategy, Education Services have, since 2010, provided members of staff with the opportunity to undertake an Emotional Social Competency Inventory (ESCI) using an online programme managed and licensed by The Hay Group.

The programme provides:

- An online system for completing ESCI
- A 360° tool which supports and validates self assessment
- A comparison maker/benchmark with other public sector organisations results
- A verbatim comments section
- An analysis of strengths and areas for development.
and supports
- Improved performance, motivation and teamwork
- Equips managers with Emotional Intelligence skills which help them to collaborate with
and manage others
- Complements our leadership development programme

1.2 Progress thus far

- Education Services currently has six members of staff fully trained to provide 1 to 1
feedback for participants.
- 73 individuals who have undertaken the inventory
- 19 individuals who will undertake the inventory during the 2012-13 session
- A positive evaluation from individuals who had undertaken the programme prior to June
2012 with 90% saying that they were using feedback as part of their PRD and making
comments such as *'To have 1 hour dedicated to talking about myself has been a pure joy' ~ 'You're
not telling me anything I didn't know - now I will do something about it'.*

1.3 Rationale for request to invoke Clause 5.6

The contract is deemed to be for specialised work and is considered to be in the best interests
of the Council for the following reasons

1. Having engaged with our colleagues in Procurement and other services we have been unable to identify a range of organisations that could quote or tender for this contract due to the specific nature of the service provided and the nature of the licensing attached to the product.
2. Key to the success of the programme is the facility to measure ourselves against a 'Norm' group of other local authorities. As we moved through the programme with our own staff we began to develop a 'Falkirk Norm' group. To move to another provider or a different programme would mean we lose this advantage.
3. We have seven members of our staff fully trained to provide feedback which reduces our costs. To buy in this service would cost £600 per feedback session.
4. We are currently benefiting from the economy of scale as our numbers going through the programme have grown we have accessed a discount of approximately 20% in the costs per person.
5. Our anticipated costs over the coming two years would be approx £19k
(100 individuals @ £95 = £9,500. X 2 years = £19,000.)

2. ACTION TAKEN

- 2.1 In accordance with Standing Order 5.6 I accepted the exemption request submitted by Anne Pearson, Curriculum Support Manager, Education Services for The Hay Management Group Limited, in the sum of £19k in respect of the Supply of Emotional Social Competency Inventory to Falkirk Council during the session 2012-13 and 2013-14. The contract will expire on 30 June 2014.

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Director of Education

Date: 16 November 2012

Contact Officer: Anne Pearson, ext 1994.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL

Education Matters

Learning to Achieve



Falkirk Council

Volume 12 Issue 2

September 2012



Andrew Sutherland meets new staff at St Bernadette's RC Primary School

On Wednesday 12 September 2012 Andrew Sutherland, Director of Education, held a welcome meeting for new members of staff who recently took up new posts within Education Services. The venue was the recently built St Bernadette's RC Primary School in Larbert. Over a cup of tea in the Assembly Hall Andrew chatted with staff and welcomed them to the service.



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MY FUTURE'S IN
falkirk

Enterprise in Education Awards

The 9th Enterprise in Education Champions Awards were held in June in Grangemouth High School. The Awards ceremony is where we get the chance to thank the people who have inspired and motivated our young people. These are people who have gone that extra mile. They have supported the schools as business partners, parents, sometimes just good friends. They have one thing in common. They have made a significant difference.... a positive impact on the lives of the young people of the Falkirk area.

During the event schools were also presented with their Enterprising School Awards at Silver, Gold and Platinum level. Schools gain recognition for achievement at either bronze, silver or gold level. Once they achieve gold, they must maintain that standard for three consecutive years before being considered for the platinum award.

Silver - Dunipace Primary, Grange Primary

Gold - Antonine Primary, Deanburn Primary, Larbert Village Primary, Kinneil Primary, Drumbowie Primary, Larbert High School, St Margaret's Primary, Easter Carmuirs Primary, Limerigg Primary, Maddiston Primary, Moray Primary, St Mungo's High School

Platinum - Avonbridge Primary, Denny High School, Bainsford Primary, Comely Park Primary, Falkirk High School, Slamannan Primary, Whitecross Primary

Congratulations to all champions and schools who were recognised at these awards.



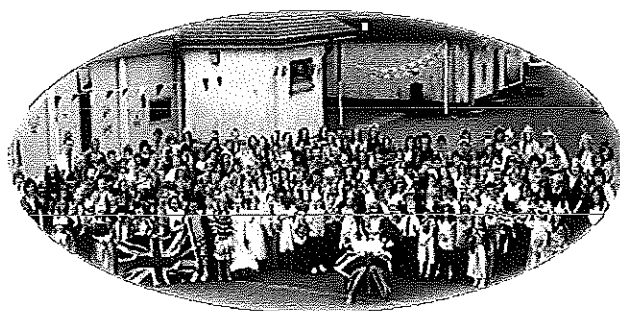
Antonine Primary School News



Antonine Primary enjoyed, like many others, a terrific end to the session, including Olympics gold-rated energy sessions and Jubilee sparking regal fun. Our pupils experienced many different sports- some Olympic and some simply new and interesting. When the torch found its way to the Falkirk Wheel, 50 of our pupils celebrated its arrival alongside many other Falkirk school pupils. What a privilege- it certainly was a day to remember!

The lead up to the **Diamond Jubilee** provided occasion to learn more about the Monarchy, a bit of British history and culminated in a celebration street party on the 5th June.

Everyone in the school and nursery received a photograph as a memento of the day.



Antonine Primary has many initiatives on the go that support **Eco** within the curriculum. In June we attained our second **Green Flag**. As part of the celebration we recently harvested potatoes and enjoyed a 'Potato Week'. Potatoes have been observed from 'seed to plate' – everyone in school had the opportunity to taste: crisps, mash, potato salad, chips and tattie soup! By far – the most popular was chips....hmmm...we sense a healthy eating project approaching!

Antonine P7 pupils enjoyed participation in the cluster transition **'Trash-Fash'** show. Keeping a link to the Olympics, our pupils created some innovative outfits on a sporty theme. Not sure they will ever be in regular use...but boy they were different! The pupils very much enjoyed engaging with their peers across the cluster.



The **Antonine Olympics** proved a real success. We even enjoyed an opening ceremony, entertained by our dance group which included five P7 girls who were all accepted into Denny Dance School, as they approached their secondary transition.

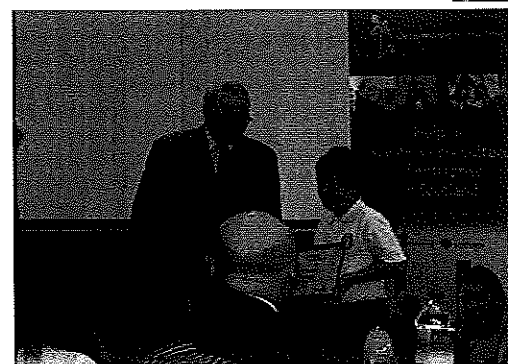
Two of our P7 pupils were selected to carry the **torch** at the P7 Olympics at Grangemouth – not yet the real thing... but warming up to it!



All pupils who took part in our school games received a **medal** in the 'Spirit of the Olympics' as a keepsake for the event.

Two of our younger pupils went to the Paralympics in London - a very special and possibly once a lifetime experience.

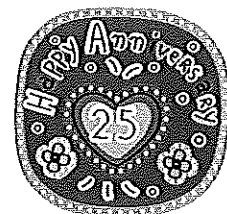
Our **Pupil Council** has been re-established; its first job was to organise our sports Relief day. They made wonderful job of this, including creating interesting ways to run a mile as well as a climbing wall.



More 'gold' came our way this summer with a **Gold Enterprise in Education** award. Much had been developed

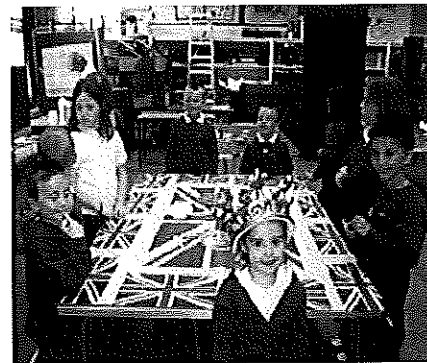
and enjoyed in school to bring this award.

This session sees the **25th Anniversary of Antonine Primary School**. We are very much looking forward to celebrations as the session progresses. If anyone has a link to Antonine and can help with photographs or information please get in touch with the school office!

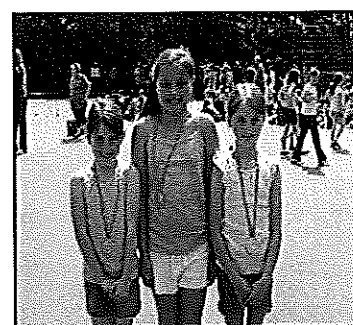


June was a very busy time at Bankier Primary

We started with the Jubilee Celebrations.



We also celebrated the Olympics at Sports Day.

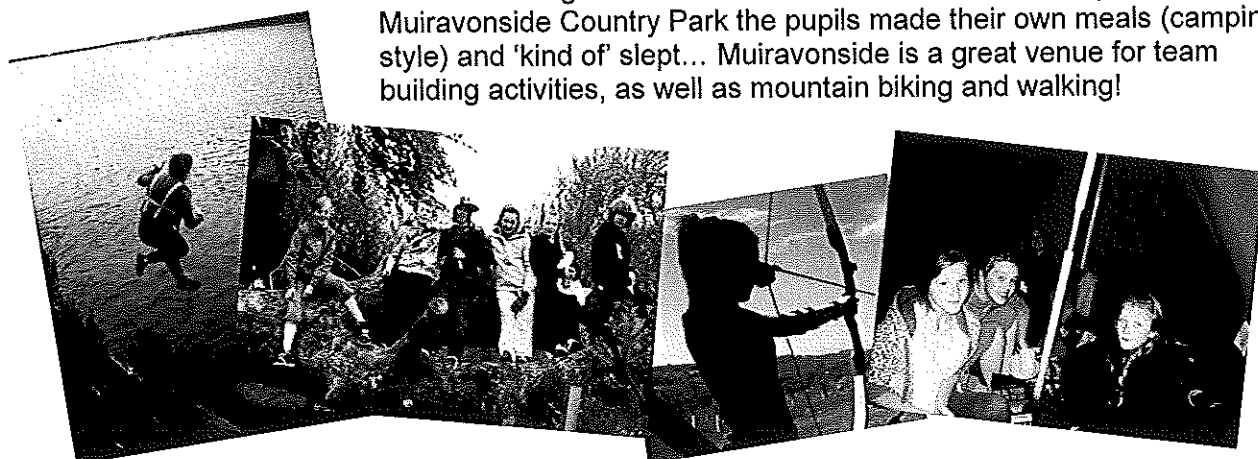


We may have been rained off but that did not stop us enjoying our Beach Party

Antonine P7 Residential Week

P7 used a wide variety of venues for their final **activities/residential week**; Cloybank for archery and orienteering, Benny Ben Crag was a challenge for rock climbing and Loch Ard allowed canoeing activities and gorge walking to take place.

We are very grateful to our Active Schools and Outdoor Education colleagues for helping organise this week – it was great fun! The week ended with an overnight camping at Muiravonside Country Park the pupils made their own meals (camping style) and 'kind of' slept... Muiravonside is a great venue for team building activities, as well as mountain biking and walking!

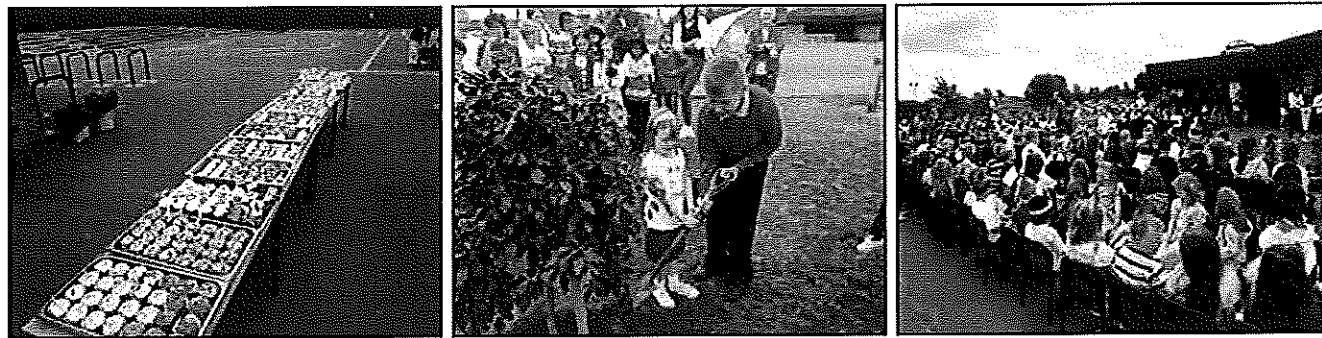


Head of Muir Primary News

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

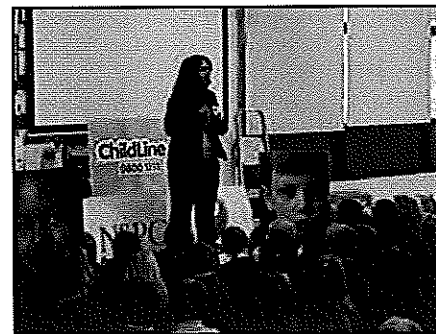
On Tuesday 5th June, Head of Muir Primary School celebrated the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. We came to school dressed up in red, white and blue colours. Basking in glorious sunshine we enjoyed a tasty barbecue lunch on the grass. In the afternoon we had a whole school tea party outside and sang songs to represent each of the British countries. We sang London Bridge, 3 Crows, a Welsh song called 'Heno, Heno' meaning 'tonight, tonight' and 'Tell me Ma'. We ate delicious Jubilee cupcakes, kindly made by our kitchen staff, and then we planted a tree in the garden to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee.

We had a fantastic day!



Charity Fundraising

On Friday the 1st of June, a member of the NSPCC came to the school to tell us all about the work of the charity. We learned that the charity helps children who are getting abused, bullied or just need some extra support. She told us about two children who called and needed help and how the NSPCC made a big difference to their lives and to other children. We decided to help the NSPCC by raising money. We all participated in a sponsored obstacle course and raised a fantastic £1708.41! Primary 7, as part of their World War 2 project, raised a wonderful £90 for the Combat Stress Appeal.



Olympic Fever!



A group of children from Head of Muir Primary school went along to join the Olympic Torch celebrations at the Falkirk Wheel on Thursday 13th June. The children were lucky enough to meet some of the torch bearers and to hold the torch! On Monday 18th June, Mr. Brown, an Olympic torch bearer, came to visit the whole school to talk about his experience and give everyone an opportunity to see and hold the torch! Our Primary 7 pupils participated in the Olympic Games event at Grangemouth Stadium and number of our class spent the last term studying the Olympics for their topic work.

Young Traditional Musicians

On Thursday 30th August, three young traditional Scottish musicians from Fèis Rois came to visit our school. Fèis Rois has been promoting and developing young people's involvement in traditional music and culture for over 20 years. We were treated to a fantastic performance of different reels and jigs and learned all about Fèis Rois and how we could learn to play the fiddle, guitar and accordion.



Nethermains Primary - News

Nethermains PS and Nursery Winners of Community Green Initiative Award 2012

In June 2012 we applied for this award and in August 2012 we were presented with it at the Denny YMCA.

We have been working as a whole school on improving our Outdoor Area. In nursery, in particular, we have been active in improving the Outdoor Area.

This year our nursery planted a large number of trees. We applied to The Tree Fund and received £750.



Parents and grandparents were involved in planting. Our focus was on creating a 'woodland for the future'. We wanted our nursery pupils to watch the growth of their trees from nursery through to P7. This was a multi-disciplinary project that involved P6 pupils working with our nursery pupils. The older pupils were buddies to our younger pupils, thus developing skills in working together, problem solving and communication. Pupils also spent time learning about Science linked to the growth of trees.

Craigmarloch nursery, as well as 'Resolution Solutions', supplied labour and materials free of charge. We have now established links with local businesses, and developed the enterprise skills of the pupils whilst doing this.

Real Winners at Nethermains Primary!

Ewan Cameron, the Real Radio presenter, visited school in June to hand over a cheque for £1000 to be spent on PE equipment. In the run-up to the Olympics, Real

Radio, in partnership with Bank of Scotland, organised a competition for listeners to phone in with the answer.

Jason Cowan, dad of Daniel and Jamie, phoned in and



nominated the school for the prize. Ewan was as big a personality in the flesh as he is on the radio. After taking some photos to mark the occasion, Ewan spent some time chatting to pupils.

The school will make very good use of the money to broaden the range of PE resources and develop pupils' experiences of sporting activities.

Going for Gold at NPS!

Nethermains pupils got into the Olympic spirit last session through the Going for Gold Active Schools challenge. They took part in a variety of sporting activities and projects. P4-7 worked on a cross-stage interdisciplinary learning topic which looked at the history and traditions behind the games, dance, sports and the geography of the countries that take part. All children thoroughly enjoyed working together in collaborative learning groups with pupils from each of the different classes.

Our Enhanced Provision pupils took part in riding for disabled visits throughout this session as well as a Boccia event. These activities and events have become an important part of our learning experiences for our children, which we will continue this session.

Our P7's experienced a wide variety of new sports and challenges during their visit to

Dalguise, including archery and a variety of team work activities.

The school football team demonstrated excellent team work winning at the cluster football tournament as well as other local tournaments. We also linked up Denny High Community Sports leaders. They worked with several of our classes to give them a taster of table tennis, basketball and water polo, the children loved this experience!

Through our extensive after school club programme we were able to offer our pupils a variety of 6 week taster blocks in the first and last terms of school including: gymnastics, boccia, football, badminton, athletics, basketball, games club and many more.

P6 demonstrated their leadership skills by organising and planning a successful mini Olympic event for P1-3 pupils, with a little bit of help from our active schools co-ordinator, Jen.

We had visits from various future sporting stars to talk about, and demonstrate, some of their skills at assemblies. There were many other events such as a whole school taster of taekwondo, taking part in the active schools Athletics and Olympic events and school sports week and sports relief events.

We completed our Olympic experience by some of our pupils going along to see the Olympic Torch relay.

We hope to build on these worthwhile learning experiences as we head towards Glasgow 2014!

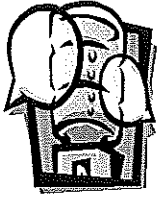
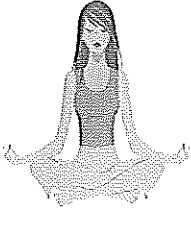




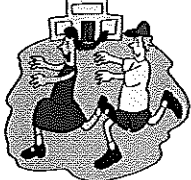






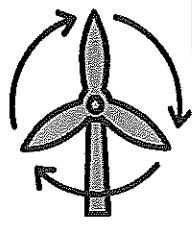



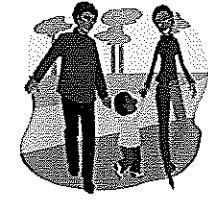
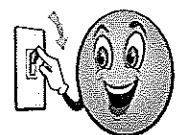



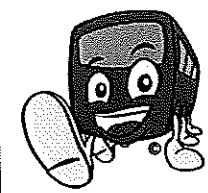

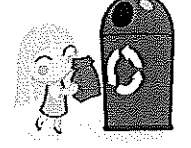





Bankier Primary Eco News

We had terrific news about gaining our 5th green flag.

Our picture plan shows what we planned to do and how much we have achieved.

Our next step is to work with Jane Jackson and Karen Thomson to make the school a centre of excellence for outdoor learning with a major focus on natural materials.

WATER	HEALTH AND WELL BEING	BIODIVERSITY	SUSTAINING OUR WORLD	FOOD AND THE ENVIRONMENT
Get rid of water fountain – new mains supply 	Whole school Health week 	P4/5 topic Birds of Prey 	P2 Fair trade picnic in health week 	P6 Enterprise café for Water Aid 
P5 topic Seas and Oceans 	Whole school activity days 	P7 Rainforest topic 	Fundraising 	P7 Fairtrade topic 
P1 Water topic Penny pot goes to water aid 	Whole school Olympic Sports Day 	Nursery Caterpillar topic 		
ENERGY	LITTER	SCHOOL GROUNDS	WASTE MINIMISATION	TRANSPORT
P6 Energy topic 	Whole school Big clean up 	Nursery new playground and equipment 	Eco council Campaign to have a waste free lunch. 	P3 Walk to School and Transport topic. 
Eco council Get parents to save energy at home. 	Eco council Prize for the cleanest playground. 	Eco council Plant orchard 	P7 Trash Fashion topic 	Eco Council walking bus 
Eco Council. survey 	Eco council Litter topic 	Nursery Growing potatoes and sunflowers 	Nursery Litter and Recycling 	Fix storm damage to shelter for bike racks 

Dunipace Primary - Olympics Celebration

How do you celebrate something as massive as the Olympics in Great Britain? The last time this happened was in 1948, where Britain only managed to come 12th in medal table. At the last Olympics we managed to come 4th, what an improvement. We have to play our part in encouraging our athletes to do the same again.

Q: Firstly how do we celebrate the torch relay?

A: We will run a relay for all of the children in the school to be a part of whilst the torch passes by.

Q: How do we celebrate the actual event?

A: We will have a week long celebration where all of the children take part in a lot of different sporting activities and they will learn about different countries.

Okay it went something like that!

The Torch Relay

What possibly could go wrong? We did not have any of the logistic issues of the real thing. We just have to bring each class at a time out to run around a circuit, easy.



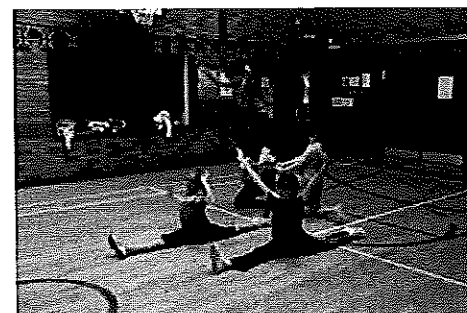
Primary 1 Torch Relay

Well it was a lot of fun! Each of the runners were cheered on by their own class with demands of faster, faster. We could have a few of the runners for the future Great Britain 100m relay team with the speeds they were reaching.

We had only one problem, the flame kept falling out of our torch! Don't worry all health and safety precautions had been taken. Only adults were allowed to pick it up and put it back into the torch.

Olympic Week

The children turned up on Monday all dressed for an active week but with no idea what was going to happen. We



suspect the banner in the hall saying 'The Dunipace Olympics' might have given the game away!

During the mornings the children participated in ten different sporting activities, met sporting stars and were visited by a nutritionist. This was all done in their own class groups.



In the afternoons the children were split into country teams. Each team had children from all of the classes as they learned about their country together. Throughout the week there were a lot of opportunities to share their experiences with the other members of their class.

This has been an excellent way to develop the four capacities that make up the Curriculum for Excellence.

Responsible citizens - as part of the closing ceremony the children released balloons with a message of peace to whoever received it.

Confident Individuals - at the end of the week the children presented back to the whole school what they learnt about their country.

Successful Learners - every day the children fed back to the rest of their class what they had learnt.

Effective Contributors - the older children had to support the younger children through their learning.

At the beginning of the week the children were gripped with the excitement of anticipation, this continued throughout the week. What are we going to learn? What are we going to make? What are we going to taste?

The event was thrilling for all of those that were involved whether children or members of staff.

The external staff that came and helped, loved the event and were very impressed with all of the children.

The balloon release was a sight to behold with 200 balloons being released nearly all at the same time, in the shape of the Olympic rings.

We would like to share some of the messages of peace that were released with you.

★ 'You are a great part of this world.'

Dunipace Primary - Olympics Celebration cont'd

- ★ 'Peace is a never ending chain of love, joy and happiness.'
- ★ 'I hope that everyone that reads this will hope for peace.'
- ★ 'Peace is like a warm hug showing you love.'
- ★ 'I pray for people to get along with each other.'

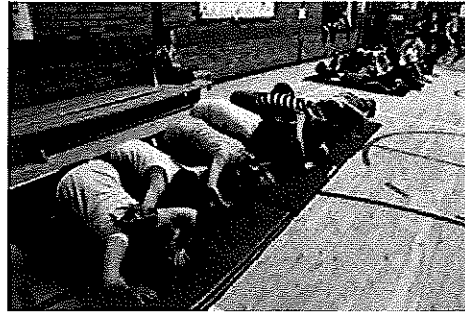
We have already been contacted by local people who have received our messages. We are hoping that our messages travel to the furthest ends of our world.

Recipients of the messages can enter a reply on the school website. Here are two examples of some of the touching responses we have received:

- ★ Your balloon didn't get very far Daniel, but your message was very much appreciated and reciprocated. I hope you have a great summer holiday.
- ★ Thank you so very much, it brought a tear to my eyes. Peace to all at Dunipace P.S.

Here are some of the comments from pupils about the whole Olympics celebrations -

- ★ 'It was fun punching the bags.'
- ★ 'I made some new dance moves, it was fun.'
- ★ 'The stretches at the beginning were hard.'
- ★ 'It was hard to save a shot, but it was fun.'



- ★ 'Never thought about trying it before.'
- ★ 'I enjoyed the talk because we learned about an athletes life.'
- ★ 'I liked working with P1, P2 and P3.'
- ★ 'It was a great experience and a good way to celebrate the Olympics.'
- ★ 'My favourite was hockey, I was puffed out.'
- ★ 'I wish it was like that every week.'

- ★ 'It was the best week the school has ever made.'
- ★ 'I liked when the balloons floated away.'
- ★ 'The week was great.'
- ★ 'It was the best day of my life.'

We unfortunately did receive one common complaint from the children. Why can't it be for longer?

The 7 countries chosen were China, France, Greece, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya and the U.S.A. This gave a massive spread in cultures and histories, giving a lot of scope

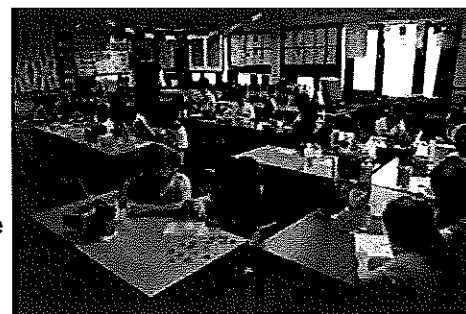
for totally different experiences in each country team. This certainly was the case with the children excited and motivated to learn more.



Karate with World Champion Paul Lapsley



The balloon release



The 'Italian' team hard at work

Provost's Reception

Once again pupil leaders at Falkirk's secondary schools have been honoured at the annual Provost's Reception, held at Callendar House on June 26. Provost Pat Reid and Andrew Sutherland, Director of Education both thanked the pupils, Head Boys and Girls and School Captains, for their service to their schools and to the Council, wish them all the best for the future. The young people were presented with a certificate and a small gift.



Films for Schools

Date	Time	Description	venue	Booking
Wed 24 Oct	10:00	I Am Eleven (9+)	Hippodrome	01324 506850
Thu 25 Oct	10:00	Workshop 1 (Shorts for Wee Ones)	FTH	01324 506850
Thu 25 Oct	11:00	Shorts for Wee Ones (3-5 yrs)	FTH	01324 506850
Thu 25 Oct	12:00	Workshop 2 (Shorts for Wee Ones)	FTH	01324 506850
Thu 1 Nov	19:00	NT Live: Timon of Athens	Hippodrome	01324 506850
Fri 2 Nov	10:00	Dr Seuss' The Lorax	Hippodrome	www.nationalschoolsfilmweek.org
Mon 5 Nov	10:00	Avengers Assemble (12A)	FTH	www.nationalschoolsfilmweek.org
Fri 9 Nov	10:00	Brave (PG)	FTH	www.nationalschoolsfilmweek.org
Fri 9 Nov	14:30	Minima: Masterclass	Hippodrome	01324 506850

I Am Eleven

Wed 24 Oct 10:00 – 11:30, Hippodrome

Recommended for Primary: P5 – P7

A global glimpse into the tumultuous, evolving experience of being 11.

Filmmaker Genevieve Bailey spent four years travelling the world talking to 11-year-olds to compose this gentle, funny and often affecting portrait of cross-cultural childhood. From an orphanage in India to a single-parent household in inner-city Melbourne, *I Am Eleven* explores the lives and thoughts of children from 15 countries, speaking in 12 languages. Encompassing rich and poor, privileged and outcast, Bailey's film offers a unique insight into both what unites us, and what sets us apart.

Eleven-year-olds share their thoughts on a range of subjects issues such as love, war, global warming, music, terrorism, culture, family, happiness, religion and the future. As straight up and personal as the '7 Up Series', and with the comedy and honesty of 'Spellbound' www.iameleven.com



Ministerial Visit

On August 30th Falkirk Council received a visit from Scottish Labour Leader Johann Lamont and Councillor Craig Martin. The purpose of the visit was to see how Falkirk Council is approaching youth unemployment.

During this visit nine youths who are supported through the Employment and Training Unit, were asked to speak about their experiences within education and employment and how they have tackled unemployment. This group included modern apprentices from all areas including Butchery and Child Care and myself, Danielle Gibson, Education Services Communications' Graduate Intern.

Falkirk Council is the only Council in Scotland to have a graduate scheme running and is funded locally. It has been set up by the Employment and Training Unit to give young graduates the skills and experience they need to further their careers. Both Johann Lamont and Craig Martin were impressed with the Council's efforts to tackle the issues of youth unemployment.



London Olympic Cycling Event Team

As someone who has been involved all their life in sport I was delighted to be selected as a Gamesmaker volunteer for the London Olympic Cycling Event Team.

After a few trips to London for various training I was offered a volunteering position as a course marshal on the male and female road races at the start of the Olympics and as a course flag marshal on the men's and women's mountain biking races.

For the road races I was based outside the Box Hill circuit in Surrey and my Olympic dream lasted all of about 30 seconds as the Peloton only took that time to approach and pass. Most disappointing! However the 6 days at Hadleigh Farm in Essex which was the mountain biking course was amazing. Four days of athletes practice which provided an opportunity to meet and talk to elite athletes from around the world. All with different stories of their dedication and commitment to this sport and with different levels of support.

The support to competitors ranged from the Swiss team, which comprised top bike mechanics with every piece of biking kit available to the other end of the scale with the competitor from Guam who was



Me on the winner's podium

there on his own, did his own repairs – as he only had one bike – and whom some of the Games makers chipped in to buy new tyres for him from the local bike shop! Race days saw crowds of about 20,000 each day and the support for the GB riders was ear shattering. Unfortunately the male GB rider landed at my feet with a fractured ankle which ended his race. Both races were live on BBC 1 / 2 with a global audience of approx 4 million – so no pressure to get things right !!

I have been a volunteer with local youth projects for the past 28 years but this volunteering opportunity left me with many great memories and loads of new friends. I would recommend volunteering at events like this to anyone and I have already signed up for the Glasgow 2014 Frontrunners volunteer programme. Me on the winner's podium

John Nicolson - Area Co-ordinator, Youth Scotland.

Everyone in Community Learning and Development is very proud of our colleague John Nicholson who returned triumphant from his stint as a Gamesmaker!! WELL DONE JOHN.

Paralympics Flame Festival

In August 2011 Sainsbury's launched their Million Kids Challenge. The challenge was to encourage a million able bodied children to experience a paralympic sport.

As a result of taking up the challenge Bonnybridge Primary was selected to take part in the Guard of Honour at the Paralympics Flame Festival held at Meadowbank Stadium in Edinburgh on Sunday 26th August.



Six very excited pupils and two staff joined the celebrations at the Meadowbank Stadium where we were given

our official t-shirts to wear for the procession and shown how to light and carry our lanterns.

Before the procession we had time to enjoy the stalls and listen to the acts on stage. Faces were painted with Olympic flames, photographs were taken holding the torches and a good time was had by all.

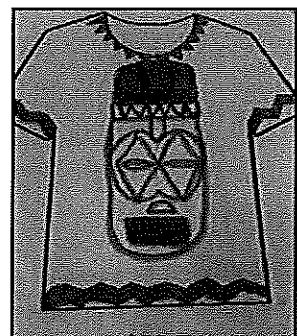
As the darkness began to fall we were ready to follow the eight torch bears and the Samba band as we made our way to the stage as part of the Guard of Honour. The climax of the evening was the lighting of the cauldron and the Lord Provost of Edinburgh wishing all the paralympic athletes good luck in London 2012. He then sent the Scottish flame on its way to Stoke Mandeville Hospital and finally to the opening ceremony in London.

There was so much to see and do during the festival and the pupils were delighted to have been chosen as only one of ten schools present. They were very proud to be part of this historic event and were even interviewed for Sainsbury's television!

The pupils returned home with their t-shirts and lanterns ready to tell the rest of the school of their experience.



Seedlings Design Competition - Winners



Winner 13-16 Category
from Graeme HS

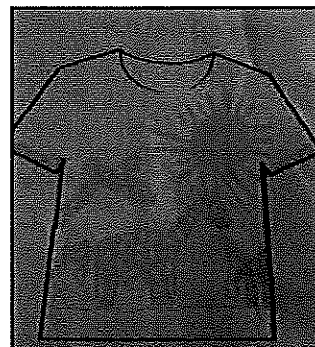
A hard task faced Patsy Perry, Fashion Retail Marketing Lecturer at Heriot Watt University, when she was invited to judge the Johari Seedlings Design Competition. With a fantastic array of designs to choose from in each of the three categories it was difficult decision. However she chose the designs that she felt stood out because they were bold, powerful and had a strong African influence. The Johari team are delighted with the choices and are looking forward to seeing the winning designs go into production at the studio in Kenya during July.

The winners have been notified and have had the chance to model their designs for the Seedlings shop on the Johari website. 100% of the profit from the sale of these t-shirts will be helping to support children through the Johari Foundation's Miale Social Development Programmes in Kenya.

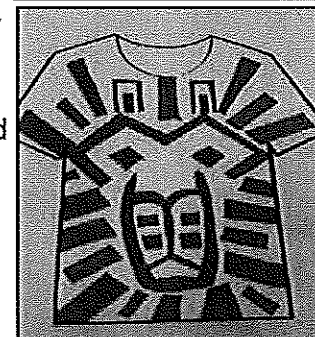
Well done to everyone who took part in the competition, images of the shortlisted designs will be posted on the website.

Three of the winning entrants were from schools in Falkirk District for more information follow this link - http://www.joharifoundation.org/mt/NewFoundation/2012/06/seedlings_design_competition_w.html

Look out for more information coming soon on the 2013 Seedlings Design Competition.



Winner 5-7 Category from
Bo'ness PS



Winner 8-12 Category from
Graeme HS

Aiming High – For Your Child

Parents and Families Workshop Event, 3rd November, Grangemouth High School, 10:00am to 14:30pm, free lunch, childcare and activities for all ages.

All Parents in the Falkirk Council area who have children at a school or nursery are invited to this year's Parents and Families Workshop Event.

Our topic this year is **Aiming High**, in the widest sense, for all children, not only in terms of academic achievement. Parents will find out about preparing their children for learning from our keynote speaker (TBC) and parents can then choose from a range of informative workshops which will help them support their child's learning.

To register attendance at the event simply e-mail education.communications@falkirk.gov.uk or phone (01324) 506603. Free childcare, lunch and activities for children and young people are on offer and let us know if you have any specific access or communications needs. Childcare places must be booked alongside registration.



Bowhouse PS Olympics Trip

We received 36 free tickets for the first Olympic Football games between America-France and Columbia-North Korea. We travelled with pupils, parents and staff from Airth PS. The children all



had a really good time and we were very grateful to the staff who came along to help too.

Calendar of Events**October 2012**

Breast Cancer Awareness Month (www.breastcancercare.org.uk)	01-31 Oct
International Walk to School Month (www.walktoschool.org.uk)	01-31 Oct
Public Social Partnership - Project Team - 9am - CVS - Callendar Business Park	01 Oct
Extended ESMT - Sealock House	03 Oct
Admin Team Meeting - Staff Room, Sealock House	04 Oct
Falkirk Children's Commission - Executive Group - 1.30pm - Committee Room, Municipal Buildings	04 Oct
National Poetry Day - theme is 'Stars'	04 Oct
World Teachers' Day	05 Oct
Policy & Resources Committee Meeting - 9am	09 Oct
ESMT - Sealock House	10 Oct
World Mental Health Day (www.wfmh .org/00WorldMentalHealthDay.htm)	10 Oct
Falkirk Children's Commission - Implementation Team - 9am - Conference Room, Sealock House	11 Oct
Accelerated Incremental Progression Meeting - Sealock House	12 Oct
Autumn Term Ends	12 Oct
Education Matters - Submitting articles deadline date	12 Oct
World Food Day (www.fao.org/getinvolved/en)	16 Oct
Winter Term Begins	22 Oct
Parent Council Essentials - 6.30pm - Seminar Room, CEC	24 Oct
Eid Al Adha - Festival marks end of pilgrimage Hajj (Muslim)	26 Oct
National Make a Difference Day (www.csv.org.uk/difference)	27 Oct
Tell a Story Day	28 Oct
Education Committee	30 Oct
National Bug Busting Day - Head lice Beware! (www.chc.org)	31 Oct
Halloween	31 Oct

COMMUNITY SCHOOL CHARITY - GRANTS

The Community Schools Charity was formed following the Council's most recent building programme for secondary schools. The Charity receives funds annually from the main NPDO Schools Project Company (Gateway PFI).

Applications for grant awards to advance education or to provide recreational facilities within the Council's operating area with the objective of improving the conditions of life are invited to be submitted to the Charity Board for consideration.

To date the Charity Board has issued £3,500 in grants to various groups and organisations.

For further information and details on how to apply please contact Kirsty Wilsdon on **01324 506605**.

E-mail kirsty.wilsdon@falkirk.gov.uk

PrintWorks and Exam Success

Well done to the the Falkirk Council Print-works team who worked with four pupils from Braes High School to produce their Advanced Higher magazine. All pupils passed and 3 of them passed with grade As.

Schools can contact PrintWorks on (01324) 501490 if they have any similar projects they would like PrintWorks to collaborate on.

Green Flag Alert
 Bainsford PS have achieved their 3rd Green Flag status - Well Done!

Coached off the Couch

Well done to the Campbell Family who recently appeared in on STV television encouraging families to take up a more active, healthy lifestyle by getting 'coached off the couch'.

Amanda, PT at Grangemouth High, her husband Craig and two children took up cycling with the help of cyclist Mark Beaumont, Munro bagging and had a go at rock climbing as part of the programme and pushed themselves to try something different.

Amanda said, 'I can say that it has worked for us as Craig and I completed the 47 mile "Pedal for Scotland" challenge on Sunday!!'

You can catch the programme on STV player and also have a laugh at the Campbell's video diary.

Education Matters

Learning to Achieve



Falkirk Council

Volume 12 Issue 3

October 2012



Learning to Achieve Awards 2012

The third annual Learning to Achieve Awards ceremony was held at Larbert High School on Thursday, 27th September. This event is held to highlight and celebrate a wide range of projects and people who have contributed to improving learning, teaching and support to children, adults and the local community.

Andrew Sutherland began the event, his first Learning to Achieve Awards, by welcoming the biggest ever audience of over 200 staff along with some pupils and members of local communities. This year's awards attracted the highest number of nominations to date and reflected the good work going on in our schools, nurseries and community learning centres as well as all the excellent support provided by staff at centre.

Nominations were announced and award winners presented with their trophies by Quality Improvement and Curriculum Support Officers along with representatives from sponsors who, this year, sponsored five of the 12 categories. The categories, nominations and winners were as follows -

Category - ICT, Science and New Technology



Thank you to Falkirk for Business for agreeing to sponsor the award

in this category.

1st nominee - Fast Track, Community Learning and Development - Led by Linda Weatherly, Carol Ann Wright, Ruby Cochrane, Jane Nelson, Angie Wrotny and Tom Paterson.

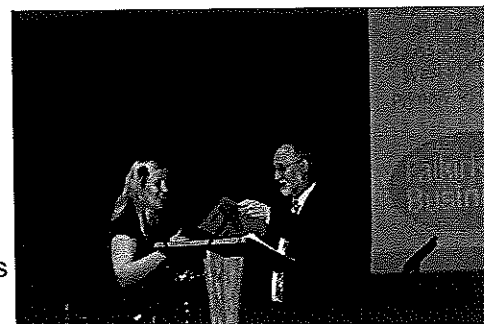
2nd nominee - S1 Science Course at Larbert High School - led by Larbert High School Science Department.

3rd nominee - Carronshore Primary Pupil Council BBFM Radio - Led by Mr Murray, Depute Head Teacher, and Carronshore Pupil Council.

4th nominee - Using Glow to support Nursery to Primary 1 Transition - Kinnauld Primary School - Led by Lynette Wilson, Caroline Patterson, Donna Green, Judith Walker, Judith Cowie and Donna Melville.

And the winner was -

Mary Jalland and all pupils, **Class Blogs at Westquarter Primary**



School. Mary has raised the profile and quality of class blogs from Nursery through to Primary 7 and taken those with IT phobia - pupils and staff - from tears to triumph. All children feature on the blogs, excelling in some way that parents can also enjoy. This good work was showcased on Glow and even extended families in India can keep up to date with their grandchildren and what they are learning in school here in Scotland.

Category - Environment, Heritage and International Education

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Thank you to the Helix for



agreeing to sponsor the award in this category.

1st nominee - Dunipace Primary School Orchard led by Laura Guidori, School Eco Co-ordinator, Primary 6 and Steve Moizer, Grounds for Learning School Orchards Project.

2nd nominee - S1 Humanities Experience led by Larbert High School Humanities Faculty Staff.

3rd nominee - Global Citizenship Showcase led by Megan Farr, Lorraine Speed, Carol-Anne Morrison and staff at Bo'ness Academy.

4th short-listed nominee - Flat Stanley at Moray Primary School led by (con't on page 2)

Learning to Achieve Awards 2012 cont'd

Alison Feasby and Sharon Simpkins.

5th short-listed nominee – Hatching Ducks at Carronshore Primary School led by Innes Purvis.

6th short-listed nominee – Storyline in Practice in Different Countries, Kinnauld Primary School led by Pamela Adamson, Fiona MacDonald and Jacqui Campbell.

7th short-listed nominee – The Helix Transition Programme at Graeme High School led by Paul Dunn, Laura McEwan, Audrey Duguid, Vickie MacLean, Joanne Lloyd, Roxanne Foster, Linda Dickson, Claire Paton, Jackie Campbell, Julie Todd and David Burke.

8th short-listed nominee – St Patrick's Primary School 150th Anniversary led by St Patrick's Anniversary Committee.

9th short-listed nominee – Ghostly Guides Community Learning and Development led by Liz Paton, Anne Lacey Adamson and Jacqui McArthur.

10th nominee – Adopt-A-Park by Carronshore Primary School led by the Eco Group, P7W, P3P and P5K.

And the winner was -

New Look Whitecross led by all staff and pupils supported by business partners and the local community. The school wanted to use their grounds more effectively for learning and teaching so it was transformed into a multi-use space which everyone



can work in and enjoy. Pupils worked hard on the designs and plans and lots of support was offered from parents, former pupils and local businesses

who donated time, equipment and labour. The results will last for years and benefit current and future pupils. Thanks to everyone's generosity, the pupils' initial vision has now become a reality.

Enterprise and Careers

Thank you to Co-operative Learning for agreeing to sponsor the award in this category.

**Co-operative
Learning**

1st nominee – S1 World of Work Day at Larbert High

School led by Mrs P Jones, Mrs I Hewitt, Mrs S Hill, Miss E Forsyth and Mr S Baird.

2nd nominee – Market Stall at Shieldhill Primary School led by Rhona Gardner.

3rd nominee – Dragons Den at Carronshore Primary School led by P6G.

4th nominee – Healthy Tuckshop at Moray Primary led by Yvonne Howie, Anne Pudelko and Primary 6.

5th short-listed nominee – Sensory Book Bags at Kinnauld Primary School led by Julie MacNeil and Laura Gillespie.

6th short-listed nominee – World of Work Group at Carrongrange School led by P Steggles, J O'Neill, E Dow, J Gillespie, H Galloway, A Lind and L Brockie.

7th nominee – Victoria Primary School Junior Savings Club led by Jim Marshall, Community Education Worker, Sheila Scobbie, Deputy Head Teacher, Caroline Cowan, Classroom Assistant and Falkirk District Credit Union Board.

And the winner was -

Dunipace Parrot Newsletter at Dunipace Primary School led by Michael French and Dunipace Primary Pupils. This pupil led newspaper club at the school is open to all Primary 7 pupils who have given up their own time to write and research articles. Over the year pupils have interviewed a premiership footballer, and the Scottish Minister for Public Health as well as producing an Olympic Special edition. This real life work experience has certainly made all pupils involved 'confident individuals' and they are keen to build on their journalistic skills when they get to Denny High.



Star Performer – non-teaching

1st nominee - Cheryl Butler – Open Doors Confidential Pupil Listening Service – Braes High School.

2nd nominee – Eric Ross, Janitor – Grange Primary School.

3rd nominee - Margaret Ramage, Clerical Assistant, Queen Street Nursery School.

4th nominee - Debbie Gray, Clerical Assistant at

Learning to Achieve Awards 2012 cont'd

Larbert High School.

5th nominee – Michael French, Support for Learning Assistant, Dunipace Primary School.

6th nominee – Isobel Gray, Monitoring Officer, Sealock House.

7th nominee – Sandra Hastings, Support for Learning Assistant, Tryst Community Cafe, Carrongrange School.

And the winner was -

Gordon McCall, Janitor, Kinneil Primary School. Mac, as the children know him, has been janitor at



Kinneil Primary School since 2002 and the pupils say 'we're really lucky because not every school has a jannie like Mac'. A well as his work

within the school, Mac often accompanies classes to Dalguise, runs a Chess Club for P4-P7 children after school, referees lunchtime football matches for pupils and is involved with the school's Citizenship committee. 'Mac is epic!' says Ryan in P7.

Star Performer – teaching

1st nominee - Linda Weir, Staff Pamper Evening, Carmuir Primary School.

2nd nominee – Kimberley Thomas, Learning Profiles Westquarter Primary School.

And the winner was -

Helen Malloy, Inclusion and Positive Destinations, Braes High School. Helen is the head of the Support for Learning Faculty in Braes High School and her focus is always to build strong and trusting relationships with the young people especially those who are Looked After and at risk of being disengaged. Helen's professionalism is highly valued,



she never gives up on a young person and they all know that she is there for them. Helen has had a high level of success in supporting these pupils to a positive destination and everyone she works with cannot praise her highly enough.

Cluster Award for Joint Project

1st nominee - Falkirk Cluster, A Shared Understanding of Standards in Literacy and Numeracy led by Martin Opgaard and Lynne Ferguson.

2nd nominee – Denny Cluster, Trash Fashion Show led by Susan MacLeod and Heather Muir.

3rd nominee – Larbert Cluster Transition led by David Killin, Morag McIlwraith and Susan Orr.

4th nominee - Grangemouth Cluster Nurseries, Little Bear Goes to School, led by Lynda Bancroft, Ros Waddell, Sandra Brown, Sandra Atkinson and Lisa Stewart.

5th nominee – Carrongrange School and Stenhousemuir Primary School, Reading Skills Project led by Carrongrange School and Stenhousemuir Primary School Staff.

6th nominee – P7 Transition Project – the Gambia in Bo'ness Cluster, led by Bo'ness Academy Teaching Staff and P7 Primary Teachers.

7th nominee – Graeme Cluster, Francophonie – Developing French at Transition Working Group led by Laura McEwan, Paul Dunn, Gillian Purves, Morag Carson, Louise Machray, Loran Hart, Jan Cunningham, Caroline Bryden, Donna Perez, Alison Finlay.

And the winner was -

Windsor Park School and Sensory Service, **P7 Sign Language Project**, led by Catherine Finestone, Alan Sanders and Mae Williamson. This



project involves the profoundly deaf sign language tutor, Alan Sanders from Windsor Park, teaching basic sign language to P7 pupils in each of the cluster primaries before they go to Falkirk High School where they will meet and learn alongside deaf pupils from Windsor Park. Mainstream pupils become more deaf aware and learn a new skill into the bargain. Other benefits include enhanced transitions for pupils and

Learning to Achieve Awards 2012 cont'd

this unique project has been admired by other local authorities who would like to implement something similar.

At this point in the evening there was an entertainment interval provided by Stenhousemuir Primary School - 'Stenny Performs', then Larbert High



School Dance Class and Larbert High School Expressive Arts Team signing songs from next

year's school production 'Hairspray'. This was a thoroughly enjoyable part of the evening and the applause from the audience was thunderous!



Arts, Culture and Sport



Thank you to the Falkirk Community Trust for agreeing to sponsor the award in this category.

1st nominee – S1 Creative Arts Experience at Larbert High School, led by Alison Humphreys, Ashley Laughland, Alison Easton, Lena Auchinvole, William Henderson, Ruth Hamilton, Lauren McLelland, Any McClean, Eileen Wardrop, Laura McKell, Derek Easton, Brigid Hames, Sameena Wright.

2nd nominee – Larbert High School of Rugby led by G Simpson, J Latimer, Steven McGuckin and J Swinney.

3rd nominee – G in the Park Charity Music Festival at Graeme High School led by Adrienne Galletly, Yvonne McBlain and colleagues.

4th nominee – Go Dance and the Cultural Olympiad Project 'Truce' led by Laura Baird and Jennifer Lesko from Stenhousemuir PS.

5th nominee – Landmarks by Enhanced Provision at Moray Primary school led by Helen Frew, Margaret Ann Marsh, Ann Marie Ivory, Yvonne Hardie and Liz Thomson.

6th nominee – Carronshore Primary School Olympiad led by all parents, pupils and staff.

7th nominee – Creative Art in the Outdoor Setting at Maddiston Primary School led by Anne Rodgers and all school staff.

8th nominee – Olympic Sports at Grange Primary School led by Carolynne McArthur, John Chalmers and Susan McKelvie.

9th nominee – Dunipace Primary School Glee Club led by Susanne Bell, YMI Tutor, Robina McAnish, Head Teacher, and 35 pupils.

10th nominee – Grange Primary Art Exhibition led by Fiona McDonald, Ruth Duncan and Gillian Webster.

11th nominee – Olympic Celebration Dunipace Primary School led by – the whole school!

And the winner was -

Fusion Management Team at Bo'ness Community Education Base led by Owen Griffiths, Susan Baird, Lindsay Mullen, Dylan Holmes, Jamie Griffiths, Kirsten Baird, Adrian Moodie, Kelly Anderson. Fusion is a senior youth programme which runs on Saturday evenings at

Bo'ness Recreation Centre. The success of Fusion stems from the weekly support of a group of passionate, enthusiastic and highly motivated volunteers to meet the needs of the young people. The fluid programme of art, music, sport and cultural activities attracts over 60 young people a week and without the passion of the volunteers these kinds of opportunities would not exist!



Leadership in Action - teaching

HayGroup®

Thank you to the Hay Group for agreeing to sponsor an award in this category.

1st nominee – Claire Spittal – Maddiston Primary School.

2nd nominee – Kim Davidson, Probationer Teacher at Bo'ness Public School, Eco-Schools Green Flag Award.

Learning to Achieve Awards 2012 cont'd

And the winner was -

Elaine Disbury at Larbert High School supported by Jade Anderson, Linsey Fletcher and John Inglis. Elaine is a Principal Teacher of Integrated Pupil Support and she has co-ordinated the team



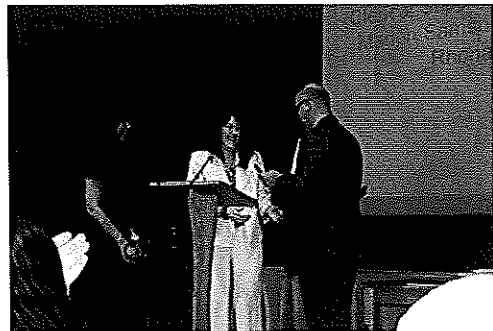
around one of our S6 pupils, Jill Hendry, who lost her sight during the course of the year to a degenerative eye condition. Elaine sourced many of the support mechanisms herself – staff at the Royal Blind School in Edinburgh were left in awe of everything Elaine achieved to support Jill. Elaine's resilience and positivity has shone through in her work and made a real difference to Jill and other pupils who were involved in supporting her.

Leadership in Action – non-teaching

1st nominee – The Apprentice at Graeme High School led by S4 pupils, Laura McEwan, Davina Gallacher, Alastair White, Lorna Lyon and Lesley Carroll.

And the winner was -

Graeme Cluster Clerical Support Network – led by Marion Samson, Eira Walls and Rhona Kiernan. This support network was set up to share good practice, improve communication and build working relationships between the primary clerical staff in the



Graeme cluster of schools. The impact of this project has been noticeable – head teachers have seen improvements in the level

and quality of the support they receive and the clerical staff themselves report that they feel more supported and confident in their work as well as feeling more valued, and able to take pride in the critical service they deliver.

Democracy and Social Responsibility

1st nominee – The India Project at Bo'ness Academy led by S1 Pupils, Teachers of Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies, Comenius Assistant and Youth Worker at St Andrew's Church.

2nd nominee – Parliament Week at Falkirk High School led by Senior Pupils, Douglas Boyle and Lesley Harrison.

3rd short-listed nominee – Leadership, Citizenship and Enterprise through Community Learning Teams at Whitecross Primary School led by all pupils, staff, parents and community members.

And the winner was -

Learning to Achieve Intervention Groups at Larbert High School led by Scott Cockburn, Bill Scott, Morag McIlwraith, Andy Auld and Chris Fall. This project was set up to help groups of young people who may need extra help when transitioning to life after school. The young people have been working towards gaining Duke of Edinburgh Awards, ASDAN, John Muir Awards and working with other groups locally



such as Communities Along the Carron to broaden their educational experience and equip them with skills for life. This project embraces several aspects of GIRFEC and increases the chances of a positive destination for all the young people who take part.

Community Involvement and Citizenship

1st nominee – Dunipace Primary Citizenship Approach led by Angela Donnelly, PT, and pupils Brooklyn Shaw, Matthew Stocks, Yasmin Taylor, Alexander Stewart, Amy Rogers, Jake Leary.

2nd nominee – Eco Schools Scotland 3rd Green Flag at Larbert High School led by Alison Fyfe and Pupils.

3rd nominee – Our Robertson Court Friends at Stenhousemuir Primary School led by Christine Hodges, Primary 2 Pupils, Residents of Robertson Court, P7 Pupil Volunteers, Jackie Brown, Gillian Wilson and school support staff.

4th nominee – Trash Fashion Show at Larbert High School led by N Scott and C Neill.

Learning to Achieve Awards 2012 cont'd

5th nominee – Larbert High School Link with Woodlands School, Cape Town led by Jon Reid, John Martindale, Fraser Johnstone, Steven McGuckin, Jo Latimer, Scott Cockburn, Kirsty McGowan, Melissa McIlquham.

6th nominee – Parental Involvement at Stenhousemuir Primary School led by Laura Jarvie and Audrey Duncan.

7th short-listed nominee – Moray Primary Skipping Club led by Gina Gallagher, Carol Milton and Margaret Penman.

8th short-listed nominee – The Bo'ness Fair at Bo'ness Public Primary School led by all staff and pupils.

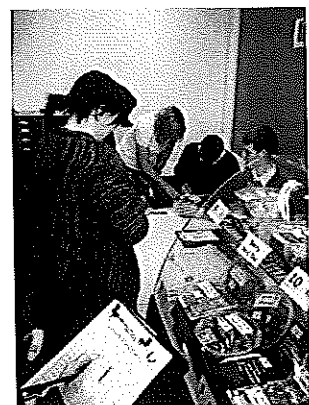
9th nominee – Alanmart Day Care Centre at Carrongrange School led by all staff, pupils and Alanmart Day Care Centre.

10th short-listed nominee – Slamannan Fruit Barra by Slamannan Community Education Association led by Jennifer Hogg, Sharman Kirkwood, Debbie McLuckie, Audrey McLure, Karen Morgan and Vicky Tolmie.

11th short-listed nominee – Carefree Project at Carrongrange School led by Danny Gallegher, Maxine Thornton and Falkirk Football Community Association.

And the winner was -

Bon Appetit! at Bo'ness Academy led by Steve Dougan and Kevin Rae. This sustainable school based community project gave pupils the opportunity to gain qualifications in employability, food handling, health and safety and first aid in the workplace. Working with Caledonian produce in Bo'ness, pupils worked to improve the lives of families in the Bo'ness area by re channelling



excess food production to families in need. The exceptional real life employability skills gained by the pupils will improve their chances of finding work post school and this project has been recognised at the Falkirk Herald Business awards.

Outstanding Service Delivery

1st nominee – Clearing the Hurdles, Free Meal Uptake Review Group led by Jayne McIntyre, Margaret Malcolm, Isobel Gray and Carol Milford.

2nd nominee – Dinner Ladies Offer Recipe for Success at Nethermains Primary School led by

Janice Foster, Moira Baird, Marie Ferguson, Katrina Ahara, Elaine Douglas.

3rd nominee – Falkirk East / Braes MAG led by Anne Stewart, Anne Rodgers, Evelyn MacDonald, Hazel Swanston, Margaret Chalmers, Stacey Collier-West.

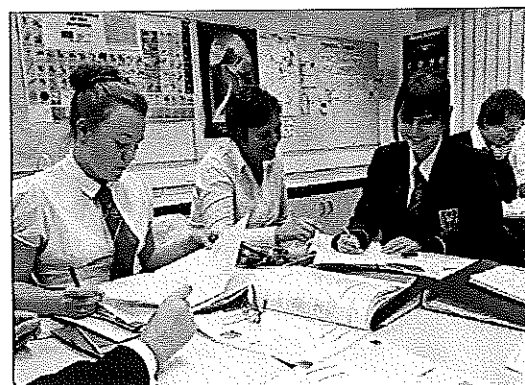
4th short-listed nominee – Raising the Bar led by the Resource Officers Team – Rosemary Dickson, Maggie Kennedy, Julia Rice, Rhona Kiernan, Lesley Dobson, Donna Fleming and Lesley Alston.

5th short-listed nominee – Nethermains Nursery into Primary 1 Transition Programme led by Gail McGlynn, Fiona Beaton and P1 CT's Nursery Staff.

And the winner was -

Creation and Launch of New Learning and Teaching Policy at Larbert High School led by the Learning and Teaching School Improvement Group – led by Allan McIntosh and layout / design of the project led by Catherine Kay. The Learning and Teaching School Improvement Group was initiated in August 2010 and over the past two years they have been working on a new Learning and Teaching Policy. The policy

was launched in March 2012 and it includes valuable resources and templates which staff can print and use with classes in all year groups. This project has given staff an opportunity to work collegiately with other faculties to share ideas and feel part of a bigger team. The school believes that this is the first 'one stop shop' learning and teaching policy of its kind and all staff can access it and use it to support quality learning at the school.



At the end of the event Andrew Sutherland praised all the nominees for their outstanding contribution to the service and thanked all those people who had made the event possible. Special thanks to Larbert High School for hosting the event, and for providing the entertainment and technical support, all the presenters, the Graphic Design Team in Corporate Communications for producing the programme and the certificates and the pupils from Larbert HS for taking photos of tonight's event.

Next year's event will be even bigger and better!

Beancross Primary News

Maths Focus Week

Primary 1 - Maths Focus Week

The whole school took part in a *Maths Focus Week* - we all focussed on telling the time. We made our own clocks and learned how to tell o'clock times. We took part in lots of active learning.

We also looked at Days of the Week and the order in which they go. Interdisciplinary learning was carried out when we read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and used this to help us sequence the days of the week.

We carried the maths focus into our PE lessons where we played *What's the Time, Mr Wolf?* This also helped us with our counting skills.

We enjoyed our focus week and look forward to the next one!

Primary 2/3 - Maths Focus Week

During our 'Time' Focus Week, the children created timetables for a day so that they were able to tell what time they did things at; we made clocks and read o'clock and half past times on them. We also counted how many times we could do something



in 30 seconds i.e. star jumps, singing Happy Birthday and writing our name.

Primary 5/6 - Maths Focus Week

During our Focus Week on Time P6/5 made up our own timetable for our school week, putting in much more of the items we like such as ICT, PE and Art. One of our favourite activities was finding out about a French school day as our topic this term is 'France'. We discovered that in France school starts at 8.30am and ends at 4.30pm. We definitely would not like to be in school as long as that!

We also investigated 24hr time and why it is necessary to write am or pm after 12hr times.

We were also fascinated by World time zones.

One of our classmates emigrated to Perth, Australia and we discovered that she is 7hrs ahead of us, so when we are having lunch, she is thinking about going to bed!

P7 MATHS FOCUS TIME:

We related our formal maths work on time to real life situations. As a result, we looked at the 24 hour clock, time durations, timetables, recipe times for cooking and international datelines.

Science Focus Week

P4 Science Focus Day

P4A studied the human skeleton. We started off by measuring some of the main bones in our bodies like the spine, tibia and fibula. We then worked alongside Primary 1R to see how much our bones had grown since P1. This helped us understand what we can do to help our bodies grow like eat a sensible diet and exercise regularly. We really enjoyed working with the younger pupils in the school and the sense of responsibility this gave us.

P6 Science Focus Day

Last Friday 28th of September we had our Science Focus Day. The first experiment we did was put water into a glass then we put some oil in the glass which sat on the top of the water because of the liquids being different weights. Next we put a small drop of food colouring into the oil which sat in the oil. Soon we got an old pencil and pushed the food colouring into the water. The food colouring dissolved and because the food colouring was pink it also turned the water a light pink.



Our next experiment was to smell different things. We were blindfolded and we had to try to guess what each smell was and write it down. Here are some of the things we had to smell:- coffee, garlic, chocolate, an orange, chilli powder and ketchup. We guessed most of them correctly.

We enjoyed the Science Focus Day very much.

By Amy Brown and Ben Tollins, P6.

P7 SCIENCE:

Gravity

We compared the different gravity of the planets in our Solar System and discussed how this would affect our weight if we were to visit them.

Solution

We dipped copper coins into a solution of salt and vinegar and witnessed how the solution scoured the coins, making them look as good as new.

Electricity

We investigated electrical circuits, discussing why they would or wouldn't work. This involved discussing the technical terms used regarding electricity and analysis of circuit diagrams.