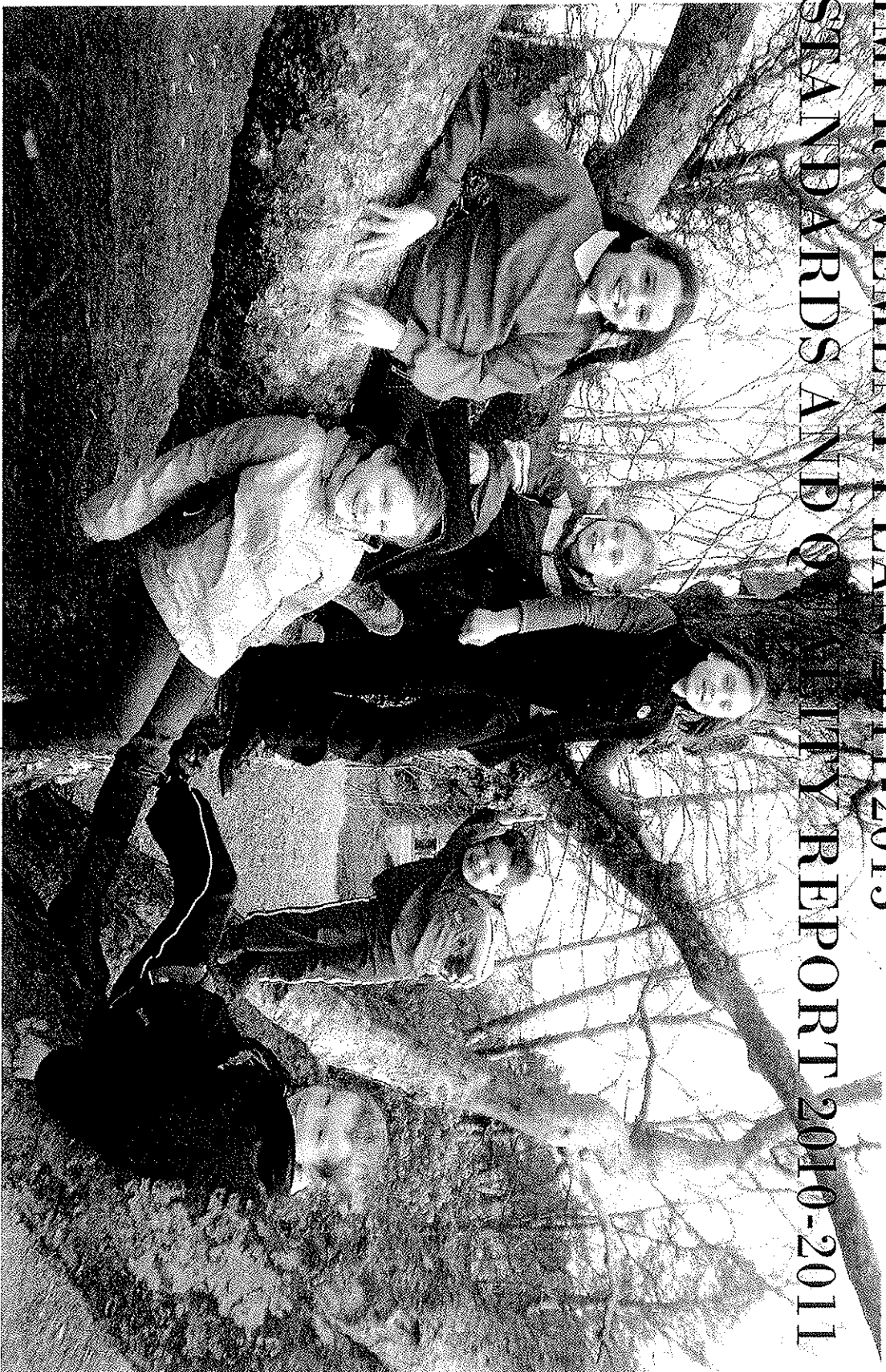


STRONE PRIMARY SCHOOL

IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2011-2013

STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT 2010-2011



VISIONS, VALUES AND AIMS

Strone Primary School Aims

To enable our pupils to become:

Successful learners who are able to:

- use literacy, communication and numeracy skills
- use technology for learning
- think creatively and independently
- make reasoned evaluation
- link and apply different kinds of learning in new situations

Effective contributors who are able to:

- communicate in different ways and in different settings
- solve problems
- work in partnership and in teams
- take the initiative and lead
- apply critical thinking in new contexts
- create and develop

Responsible citizens who are able to:

- develop knowledge and understanding of the world and Scotland's place in it
- understand different beliefs and cultures
- make informed choices and decision
- evaluate environmental, scientific and technological issues

Confident individuals who are able to:

- achieve success in different areas of activity
- assess risk and make informed decisions
- develop and communicate their own beliefs and view of the world
- pursue a healthy and active lifestyle
- be self-aware

REVIEW OF IMPROVEMENT PLAN PRIORITIES 2010-2011

Curriculum for Excellence

The staff have attended various courses throughout the year to develop their understanding of Curriculum for Excellence and in order to keep up to date with modern thinking and teaching strategies.

The teaching staff took part in a three day training course in Cooperative Learning in August 2010. The course was excellent and the staff were very enthusiastic to develop their new skills in the classroom. There was also a refresher day later on in the year.

The TLC meetings have continued to be successful and teachers from Innellan and Toward Primary who have worked with us at Strone to develop and improve our knowledge and practice of Aifl strategies. Mrs Witherow and Mr Wakefield have continued to attend training and lead these sessions.

Mrs McKirdy developed her science skills at two weekend courses organised by SERCC in Edinburgh. This involved practising skills in the classroom and a presentation to other colleagues on the course.

Miss Morrison has been learning to teach Gaelic in the primary school for one day a week this year. She will be using her skills next year at Strone.

Miss Mclean has attended a course on Active learning and a two day course on literacy in the early years.

Learning logs have been developed by every class and with great success. The staff have started to use GLOW.

Outdoor Learning

In March 2011 we finally obtained our first Green Flag.

The Eco committee led by Mrs McKirdy and supported by Miss Jackson, parents and other members of the community worked hard throughout the year on various environmental issues.

Mrs McKirdy ran an after school gardening club with the Eco group to plant seeds and flowers for the year.

Ben Neville worked with P4-7 on Forest School activities in the summer term using the local wood and continuing from the excellent work done by Steve Gillan.

Sandi Kielman a local artist worked with the pupils to make designs for the front playground. Using the sea theme the children worked in houses to design games, which would brighten up and make their play area more exciting and fun. These were finally painted in June.

The rangers from Loch Lomond continued to work closely with the school. During the sea topic they planned various activities for each class from rock pool dipping to visiting and comparing the local coast line.

Dr Burrows from Loch Lomond fisheries gave P6/7 the responsibility of looking after very rare powan eggs which are only found in Loch Eck. These were released in March with children from Strachur primary who were also caring for the eggs. A celebration was held in Benmore.

The Community

The parents and local community are always very supportive of all school events. The pantomime at Christmas was a great success. It was held at Highgate Hall and many members of the community helped with lighting and sound.

The switching on of the Christmas lights is always a popular event and this year the children walked in a torchlight procession from the school to Kilmun pier. Many members of the community turned out to listen to the children sing Christmas songs.

The soup and sandwich is a popular event with the children selling their arts and crafts. Many of the older members of the community enjoyed the daffodil tea and entertainment at the school.

Parents and relations have also been invaluable in providing support to the school. Many have given their time to help to paint the playground, to help on trips to share experiences with the children and to provide home baking.

The school continues to have strong links with Loch Lomond & Trossachs Park Rangers and the Forestry commission.



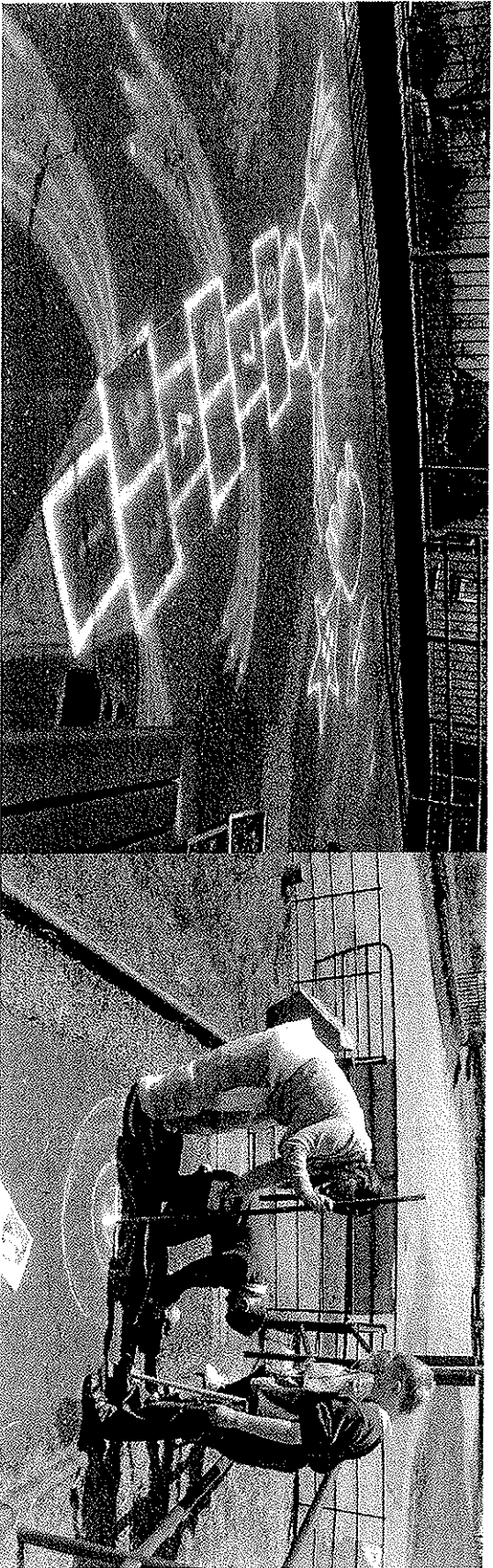
Weekly assemblies are a time of celebration when every pupil can share their outside achievements with their peers. Children enjoy bringing in medals and certificates from activities which they are proud of. They are encouraged to bring in photos

for our achievement wall so that everyone can share in their success. Previous pupils (usually older siblings) and their achievements are also celebrated.



Road Safety

P3's took part in a very successful road safety initiative. Each week they learnt all about how to keep safe on the pavement and crossing the road. They all bought these bright coloured jackets so they could be safely seen.



Developing the school grounds

Sandi has worked with the children to produce fantastic number and alphabet games, which can be used as teaching aids in a fun and active way.

The children chalked their final designs in the playground and parents and staff spray painted their work.

The results were bright and eye catching.

ECO-SCHOOLS

Hurrah for our Green Flag. The Eco committee worked hard to produce a fantastic power point display with Miss Jackson, which highlighted all the work that the pupils had completed over the last two years. This was shown to the judges from the Eco school award.

On Monday afternoons Mrs McKirdy and auxiliary staff have worked with the pupils in houses on various eco topics. Catherine from GRAB helped us to paint our compost bins in fantastic bright colours to encourage us to compost more and it has worked.



After school and lunchtime clubs



successful Netball 5ize club each week with pupils from P4-7.

Mrs Mckirdy and Miss Jackson ran an after school club with the Eco group.

Mrs Daw has a very popular chess club, which on a Friday lunch time. Pupils from P4-7 have attended and have enjoyed playing against each other.

Mrs Morton and Mrs Hart ran a successful chime bell club. The children have performed beautifully at the Christmas service and at our Daffodil tea.

The Parent Council organised and paid for an artist to work with the children on an art and craft club. Their creations were then sold at the popular soup and sandwiches event in the community.

Mrs Mclean and Mrs McCheyne took a

Charities

Parents and the community are very generous in helping us to support charities. We continued to support our link school in Malawi until Ester this year.

Daffodil tea was very successful and we raised £64.50 for Marie Curie Cancer Care. P6/7 organised and hosted the tea. The children sang Easter songs, chime bells were played and there was an Easter bonnet parade.

Pots of care raised £102.00. The children planted and grew daffodils.

The annual sponsored walk raised money for leukaemia.

Red Nose day £68.10. Day for a Change £82.00

Sports

P7 participated in a very enjoyable volleyball competition with all the P7's in Cowal.

P4-7 enjoyed competing at the Police Sports in Dunoon where they won the football and won 38 medals altogether.

Tesco's provided funding for 6 weeks of football training with a football coach for p1-3. They had a great time.

Activity Centres

P6-7 had the opportunity to visit Ardentiny outdoor centre. Working with children from Bridge of Weir primary they had a fantastic time. Canoeing, abseiling, hill walking to name just a few of the



activities.

P7's also attended Benmore centre with P7's from Cowal for a weekend of activities. They made lots of friends before their transition to Dunoon Grammar school.

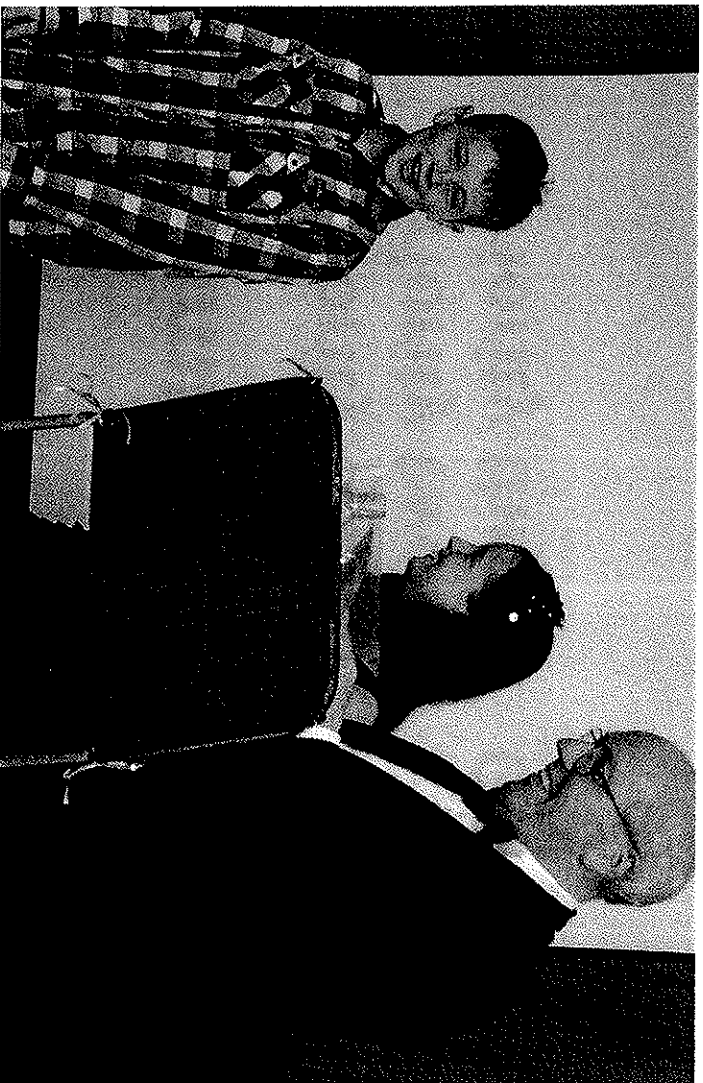
Panto Magic

The talents of both pupils and staff were evident at our Christmas performance of Cinders. High quality acting and singing, amazing costumes and a fantastic audience made the pantomime such a great success.

Our beautiful
sisters Ella and Bella
Oscar Madness



P6-7 learnt all about the history of film and film making from the Very Important Bear topic. Ollie the orang-utan became a star as groups wrote, filmed and edited short films. These films were then shown at the Oscars. P6/7 raised money for the Oscars with a Bring and Buy sale. They organised the night from the invitations to the delicious food with Mrs Witherow and Mrs Daw. A fantastic night was had by all.



Priorities 2011-2012

Summary

- Priority one: Reflection & Self-Evaluation**
- Priority two: Planning and Assessment**
- Priority three: Glow**

Reason for development School Priority	Timescale process to be completed by June 2010	Criteria for Success Ownership of aims and values by all involved in the life of the school
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Persons responsible

Target 1
To develop new values, vision and aims for the school

Resources required
Time for meetings with all involved
Authority & support gp
materials JTE box

<p>Task 1 Use JTE DVD as stimulus for parents and pupils. Collaborative work with pupils in Houses across age groups to mind map what an excellent school is and display. These will be displayed on parents evening for comment.</p>	<p>Task 2 Initial ideas to be shared with parents, Parent Council and staff at meetings.</p>	<p>Task 3 Questionnaires to be discussed with staff and given to parents and community for formal feedback.</p>	<p>Task 4 Results will be collated and shared with all. Feedback will be sought and adapted as required.</p>
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Record of impact / progress
Nov-09- pupils worked well together to discuss their ideas for an excellent school. All ideas were presented to each group and displayed along the corridors for all to read and comment upon. Some of the ideas were acted upon immediately for example a library area and others will be discussed at pupil council meetings.

Both parents and pupils enjoyed the JTE DVD and found it inspiring.

Jan 10 –lots of the ideas have been taken to staff and Parent Council eg. fund raising for settle and library units. Most ideas from the children were about how the school would look and that would change the way we feel. Parents and staff commented on a few of the ideas orally rather than writing on the space available.

Feb 10- need to develop questionnaire to ask parent and community views of school was discussed with Parent Council

May 10- questionnaire to be sent to parents and community. This will be discussed next term with parents and staff.

June 10- review of changes in the school with pupils in groups and a discussion on further changes needed.

Reason for development National Priority	Timescale 2009-2011	Criteria for success C/E embedded
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Persons responsible
All staff
Mrs Witherow -
TLC/GLOW leader

Target 1
To continue to implement Curriculum for Excellence

Resources required
CPD opportunities
resources
management time

Task 1 AiFL- two year programme 2009-2010 embed through Teacher Learning Community. Monthly meetings led by Mrs Witherow and Mr Wakefield with Innellan and Toward primaries.	Task 2 Develop interdisciplinary learning through whole school topics-Fairland and Magic Castle Jan-March 2010-06-03 Training with Toward and E. Magor Nov 09 Develop future topics in interdisciplinary learning for use throughout the school year. VIP Bear, Titanic, Egypt	Task 3 Implement cooperative learning and active learning in all teaching. Staff to attend cooperative learning course Aug 2010 Active numeracy-LKeith 8/09 Literacy -A Neal 8/10 Coaching and mentoring 2/10 Active learning in the early years- Miss McLean	Task 4 Continue to develop confidence using GLOW Mrs Witherow GLOW mentor will support staff and pupils Links to be made with other schools to share good practice.
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Record of impact / progress
Nov 09- staff inspired by interdisciplinary topics and looking forward to starting these next term.
Dec 09 Mrs Witherow has set up a link with Strachur using GLOW for pupils to share information. Mrs McKirdy still awaiting GLOW
password.

Jan 2010- TLC meetings well led and well attended by all 3 schools. Sharing ideas and progress with Toward school re-castle topic. Interdisciplinary topics started and everyone staff and pupils enthused-real buzz around school. Pupils becoming involved with the planning too.

Mrs Mckirdy visited Kim to observe active maths lesson and report back to staff.

Feb 2010 – GLOW link not working at present.
Interdisciplinary topics going well

March 2010- Parents, friends invited to Castle extravaganza. Tours of the school and performances enjoyed by all. Feedback written on the castle walls.

- visit from Dragon Keeper to Fairyland magical. Children and staff have enjoyed the topics.

May 2010 - TLC meetings continuing there is a need to share good practice with each other through classroom observations.

- Building the Curriculum 5 inservice-all schools- assessment
- Jay Helbert meeting with Mrs Mckirdy re planning – twilight on planning with whole staff June 10

Feb- 2011: Learning Unlimited Topics purchased and topics chosen for following term

P4/5 Unsinkable ship – great enthusiasm for weekly missions

P1-3- Egyptians- Class enjoyed the topic, great art work

P6/7- VIP Bear- ICT topic –video cameras purchased for filming, Maggie Irvine helped with making DVD's

March 2011- TLC meetings still going strong everyone enthusiastic

May 2011- Miss Maclean visited Sandbank Pre-5 and Clyde Cottage to meet new pupils but also to see active learning

May 2011- new furniture arrived for P1-3 classroom to allow for creative play-new house, child friendly storage, tables, puppet tent

June 2011 - Oscar Night celebration with P6/7 parents and all who have helped support the school this year

June 2011- Mrs Mckirdy working with Head Teacher at Toward and Maggie Irvine on GLOW-making glow groups with classes and using GLOW for homework tasks

June 2011–TLC meetings have been difficult to arrange this term due to commitments by each school

Reason for development
School Priority

Timescale
2010-2012

Criteria for success- outdoor classroom

Persons responsible
All staff
Community
Forestry Commission

Target 1
To develop the school grounds and surrounding area for outdoor learning

Resources required
CPD opportunities
resources
management time

<p>Task 1</p> <p>Meetings with Steve Gillen, ECO group, GRAB, staff and community to discuss and implement changes to the school grounds for work and play.</p> <p>Visits to other schools for ideas</p> <p>Outdoor learning festival 10/5/10</p>	<p>Task 2</p> <p>Working in partnership with Blaimore trust, Forestry commission, GRAB to apply for our Green flag Oct 10.</p> <p>To obtain planning permission and funding to install wind turbine.</p>	<p>Task 3</p> <p>To use the immediate environment as an outdoor classroom for stimulus and learning-Cool Seas 9/09</p> <p>Forest Training Intro -A. Morrison 10/09</p> <p>Outdoor learning-M. Pierson</p> <p>Weekly forest visits led by S Gillen for each class Feb-June 10</p>	<p>Task 4</p> <p>To appreciate and improve our local community</p> <p>Working with rangers from National Park on phenology project P4/5 10/09</p> <p>Work with J Downy to research and replant Coronation Wood in Ardenninty- Sept 10</p>
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Record of impact / progress

Nov 09 initial discussion with pupils for their ideas of changes they would like for their school grounds. Presented to staff and Parent Council.

Dec09- HT meeting with Steve Gillen to discuss the use of local forest in outdoor learning. Permission from local landowner sought. Staff meeting with Steve to discuss ideas for forest learning. Everyone enthusiastic.

HT meeting re outdoor learning with Ruth Jackson to discuss use and purpose for different areas.

Jan 10 -Permission refused from landowner- another member of the community offers their land for children.

Feb10-Twilight session of local wooded area with staff led by Steve Gillen

- Visits to forest begin- practicalities wellies, outdoor clothes and where to store them.
- Ruth Jackson takes a wildlife group for Fun Friday P1's start collecting bread from the kitchen after lunch and feeding birds. Erin P5 has important role of maintaining the bird feeders.

March 10-Blairmore trust invite ECO group to community event to showcase work done by school. Donation given by the group to the ECO group. Bank account set up.

- ECO group meet on Fun Friday to take forward issues. Make bird boxes wood donated by parent to sell at Castle day.

April 10 -Mrs Doherty SNH offers and installs a bird cam in bird box. Probably too late for nesting birds.

Mr Smith parent- donates wood, soil and plants for a new vegetable bed which he constructs. Fabulous. Classes work on planting area

May 10 - Nothing in bird box

- Litter audit ECO gp and Mrs Jackson
- Steve's woodland experiences are a great success and eagerly anticipated by all. Planning time given by HT to staff to plan with Steve.
- Sat 10 th Mrs McKirdy attend Outdoor learning conference Inveraray

Oct- 10- Sandi Kielman artist visits and works with the children to design games for the new playground.

Oct-Dec 10- whole school sea topic- Rangers help with rock pooling and trips around the coast line

Feb- Bird box camera installed and TV set up in library

Rangers work with P1-3 on phenology topic- signs of spring, visits to the local environment-tadpoles etc

March 11- GRAB support painting of compost bins by each house group to encourage compost making

Andy Burrows from fisheries Loch Lomond makes P6/7 foster parents to powan fish eggs. Andy gives science lessons each week to class. Powan are released back into Loch Eck and a celebration is held at Benmore Gardens with Strachur Primary

March 11- Green Flag awarded to Strone-HURRAH

- eggs in bird box, hatch and fledge in May-- children enjoy watching and recording their growth

April 11- P1-3 are bought caterpillars for their class which they watch turn into butterflies

Gardening club after school with Mrs McKirdy

May 11- Ben Neville Forest Schools takes P4-7 weekly to the local wood for activities

June 11- Sandi to visit and paint games on playground with children and parents

No sign of wind turbine ever being erected- despite PC contacting ALL energy (and myself)

Coronation Wood has been shelved until Oct 2011

Reason for development School Priority	Timescale process to be completed by June 2013	Criteria for Success Staff and pupils confident in the use of GLOW
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Persons responsible
Mrs Witherow

Target 1
Using GLOW

Resources required
Time for meetings with all involved

Task 1 To evaluate staff competence with GLOW and how to take this forward	Task 2 To use GLOW for personal professional use on a day to day basis. To share with class	Task 3 To give children passwords and tasks on GLOW daily	Task 4 Reflect upon results and share with parents
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Record of impact / progress

Reason for development School Priority	Timescale process to be completed by June 2013	Criteria for Success Planning and assessment in place and understood by all
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Persons responsible
Mrs Witherow
Staff

Target 1
To develop new ways of planning and assessment for CFE

Resources required
Time for meetings with all involved

Task 1 To evaluate existing plans and assessment. Discuss the best ways of taking these forward. Staff meetings and CPD time	Task 2 To decide upon a new way of planning and assessing	Task 3 To trial new plans and assessment	Task 4 Reflect upon results and share with parents
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Record of impact / progress

Reason for development School Priority	Timescale process to be completed by June 2012	Criteria for Success Everyone involved in the life of the school to have a role in taking the school forward
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Persons responsible
Mrs Witherow

Target 1
Reflection and self-evaluation

Resources required
Time for meetings with all involved
Authority & support gp
materials JTE box

<p>Task 1 Self evaluation with staff Where are we in terms of learning and teaching? What needs to be improved?</p>	<p>Task 2 Questionnaires to parents and local community to seek their views.</p>	<p>Task 3 Pupils to contribute their views and opinions through Pupil Council.</p>	<p>Task 4 Results will be collated and shared with all. Feedback will be sought and adapted as required.</p>
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Record of impact / progress