



Tiree High School Aiming for Excellence

In the context of 'Curriculum for Excellence'¹ and supported by our values of Respect, Integrity, Responsibility, Equality and Challenge, our aims are:

1. To continue the development of courses using teaching and learning methods which enable all pupils to achieve to the best of their ability
2. To continue to provide varied and enriching opportunities for pupils to develop and practise skills outwith the classroom
3. To place a high value on developing positive, responsible and caring attitudes which allow pupils to leave school confident of finding a meaningful place in society

Progress of School Improvement Plan

Session 2011/2012 showed continued progress and improvement across the school and considerable development towards Tiree High School's Curriculum for Excellence.

Curriculum for Excellence Assessment

- Pre-5 staff established system of tracking children's progress which integrates comments from parent & child.
- Across all sectors learning is captured through a variety of media (recordings, observations, constructions)
- Assessment is built in when planning interdisciplinary learning
- Big Writing initiative has proved to be successful at all stages of Broad General Education (BGE) from P1 to S3 as it encompasses so many elements of literacy. There is evidence of improved standards in talking and writing.

¹ Visit www.hmie.gov.uk/documents/publication/hgiosjte

- Around identified themes, Pre-5 workers work with children to plan their activities and map out learning in line with Early Level Experiences and Outcomes

Planning

- Secondary teachers have prepared curriculum outlines for senior phase courses in S4 and S5
- Pre-5 and Primary staff have joint planning sessions to coordinate learning at Early Level (Pre-5 to P1)
- Primary staff hold joint planning sessions to improve consistency
- Common format created for planning and assessment in numeracy, literacy and Religious and Moral Education across BGE stages
- Appointment of Principal Teachers in both Primary and Secondary departments has established our leadership team allowing improvements to be taken forward

Skills Development and Tracking Progress

- Following the introduction of ASDAN Skills programmes, the first tranche of S2 pupils completed the Secondary Steps programme
- Principal Teacher Primary and Principal Teacher Secondary jointly have a lead role in taking skill development forward in line with Authority developments

Links with Parents and Community

- Parents have responded well to encouragement to visit playroom at Pre- and more regularly look at the children's work
- Parents meet on scheduled basis with Key Pre-5 worker to discuss children's progress
- Parents have attended termly Primary Assemblies in substantial numbers giving their children and audience and added purpose

Support for Pupils

- Behaviour support was revisited through in-service training for staff. This led to revised approaches with creation of rules reflecting the school values
- Staff development has resulted in improved support for children with additional support needs
- Close working with Educational Psychologist helps identify suitable resources to support pupils

Pre-5 Outdoor Play

- Pre-5 garden is gradually being developed and recent purchase of dungarees and jackets for the children allows outdoor play on most days
- The assistance of parents and helpers has allowed the children to plant up a variety of crops

Attainment

Curriculum for Excellence Broad General Education: June 2012

Pupils have responded well to the revised methodologies and assessment strategies developing to follow curriculum for excellence principles. Pupils are assessed continuously on what they make, do and say as well as what they write and receive regular feedback on their learning through all of these strategies.

Children in Early Years (Pre-5 to P1) are progressing well with Curriculum for Excellence Early Level with P1 children now consolidating knowledge and skills across curriculum areas. Most children are consolidating their learning at level 1 at the Primary 3 stage with pupils in P6 and P7 developing and consolidating learning at level 2. Pupils in S1 are consolidating learning at level three across curriculum areas with individual pupils developing literacy and numeracy skills at levels 2 and 3. Use of Big Writing methodologies has allowed teachers to more accurately identify pupil's needs and set next steps accordingly.

Most pupils are learning with the levels below with demands of literacy and numeracy being adapted to suit appropriate development level.

Early Level: Pre-School - Primary 1
 First Level: Primary 2 - Primary 4
 Second Level: Primary 5 - Primary 7
 Third Level: Secondary 1 - Secondary 3

The increased emphasis on interdisciplinary learning has allowed pupils to set their learning in context and reinforce their knowledge and skills to make their learning secure. Young people across the stages are showing improved skill levels e.g. in working with others or presenting, reflecting the greater emphasis on skill development in the curriculum.



SQA Results 2011

The percentages of pupils gaining the levels of national qualifications shown are as follows:

	THS	Argyll & Bute
In S4 5+ Level 3 (SG Foundation or equiv)	100	92
5+ Level 4 (SG General or equivalent)	90	79
5+ Level 5 (SG Credit or equivalent)	50	37
In S5 1+ Level 6 (Higher)	47	49
3+ Level 6 (Higher)	13	27
5+ Level 6 (Higher)	7	13
In S6 3+ Level 6 (Higher)	75	37
5+ Level 6 (Higher)	38	23
1+ Level 7 (Advanced Higher)	25	16

Cumulative successes of pupils by end of S6 (three year averages, 2008-2011)

	THS	Argyll & Bute
5+ Level 3 (SG Foundation or equiv)	100	95
5+ Level 4 (SG General or equivalent)	100	86
5+ Level 5 (SG Credit or equivalent)	100	57
1+ Level 6 (Higher)	64	55
3+ Level 6 (Higher)	48	36
5+ Level 6 (Higher)	16	23

Collaborative working with Argyll College has proved to be popular with students with the introduction of Skills for Work Courses in Construction and Hospitality this session.



Our Primary pupils took on the Summer Reading Challenge in significant numbers and all enjoyed a celebration of their success on return to school in August.



Achievements Confident Individuals

Pre-5 Farm Visit



Pre-5 Children visited a local farm when they were learning about the season Spring. They enjoyed seeing a new born lamb.

Pre-5 children enjoying their first school Christmas lunch



Pre-5 and Primary children put on a very entertaining Christmas Performance, with an adaptation of the Musicians of Bremen and a Tiree take on Strictly





The S5/6 Induction programme in June 2012 proved to be very challenging with a lengthy cycle route and a raft build with race to follow. The rafts did float and everyone managed to complete the course.



The regular S1/2 trip to Ardentenny saw our pupils take on a range of outdoor challenges including mountain biking, canoeing and hillwalking. They rose to the challenges



physically and developed their team-working skills.



Responsible Citizens

The Annual Beach clean saw an impressive 39 bags of rubbish collected from Gott Bay causing a number of people to comment on the big improvement.



Primary pupils spent a day fundraising for Children in Need. The smartest teddy competition brought several Pudsey lookalikes and there was keen competition for the best Pudsey portrait





The Gala King and Queen carried out their duties very responsibly at the Tíree High School Grand Gala Day in September. Having provided a warm welcome to all who attended they entered into all the activities.

Effective Contributors

One of our more ambitious interdisciplinary tasks involved pupils in S2 working on the topic of Christianity. Working with the school Chaplain, they planned the entire delivery of the school Easter Service in Heylipol Church. They discussed the Minister's address and built this into their plan. Parents who attended the service were very impressed with the poetry, prayers, artefacts, artwork and the hot cross buns



World Book Day was celebrated in style with staff and pupils dressing up as their favourite character and bringing in their books to read.



We were happy to welcome teams from Oban High School who visited Tiree to give highly valued competitive matches in hockey and football.



As part of a very interesting, informative and enjoyable workshop with Kilmartin Museum staff, Primary pupils had the opportunity of visiting a local Glassmaking studio. They designed glass tiles as part of a large mural and created a beautiful finished product.



The annual Tiree High School Grand Gala Day proved to be very successful with a good turnout of parents and friends. Although it is principally a fundraiser, each year the staff and pupils organising the event make extra efforts to provide new and interesting events. This session, the highlight (for the audience) was the Bush-Tucker Trial where the Gala King & Queen joined staff volunteers to sample some exotic foodstuffs. The brave volunteers raised a substantial sum in the auction and provided great entertainment for the crowd.

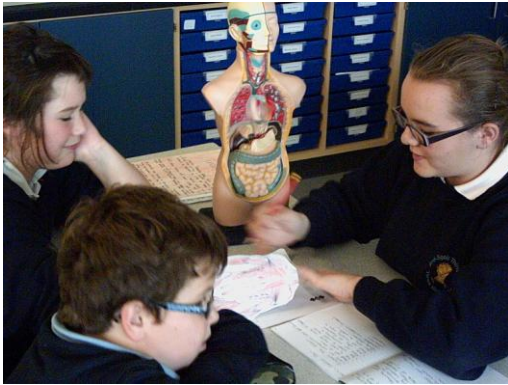
A whole school Zumba session raised money to support the Children in Need Appeal





Senior pupils playing some lively tunes at the infant party were greatly appreciated by their audience.

Gaelic Medium pupils had the opportunity to attend workshops with Rona Wilkie where they composed and sang their own songs.



Pupils in S1 and S2 worked collaboratively on an interdisciplinary task focussing on health & wellbeing. They researched a variety of health topics and finally presented their information to all our primary pupils at a Health Fair.

