

Argyll and Bute Council

Community Services: Education



Teaching and Learning 3 -12 across  
Helensburgh and Lomond Schools

# Introduction

Within the Helensburgh and Lomond area eleven primary schools and Parklands School provide education for 5-12 year olds. Pre-

five units within some primary schools along with commissioned providers offer pre-school education for 3-5 year olds.

## Teaching and Learning: Helensburgh and Lomond

### ALL THAT JAZZ!! At Rosneath Primary

A very welcome visitor to Rosneath Primary School – Becky from “Ultimate Arts” – took each class for a Jazz ‘n’ Jive session. The joint was jumpin’ all day and parents and friends came along to be entertained at 2.30pm. Becky commented on the childrens’ enthusiasm and teamwork. She said ALL classes were absolutely fantastic and most importantly had FUN, FUN, FUN!



### Primary 3 Big Draw, Colgrain Primary

On Thursday 24th January, P3 at Colgrain School had a visit from Eileen Ramsay as part of their Big Draw week. Eileen spoke about how drawing could be observational, imaginative and used to communicate ideas. Pupils had a chance to draw to music, draw what they

did in the morning and their favourite activity – drawing an ice-cream sundae from Eileen’s description. It left them all feeling very hungry! In class, they’ve had some super drawing stations, based on ideas from the Big Draw Pack. They LOVE drawing!



### Toyota Dream Car Art Ceremony

Pupils from John Logie Baird Primary recently entered the Dream Car Art Competition. Charlie Sutherland came 1st in her age group and was awarded an ipad mini at Toyota UK London. The children had a great day. Charlie’s Dream Car will now be sent to the World Competition. Good luck!



# Hermitage Primary School New Playground Development



Excited pupils from Hermitage Primary School thought that Christmas had arrived again when they returned from their Easter holidays. In just two weeks an exciting imaginative play area had grown up in a previously disused section of the grounds. As part of a larger

redevelopment the playground has been extended to include an imaginative play area. There are zones devoted to story-telling, drama, music and a fabulous Viking long ship. Here you can see that the Primary Seven pupils approve whole heartedly.

## John Logie Baird Pre-5 Responsible Citizens.

Recently the children at John Logie Baird Pre-5 Nursery have been learning about caring for others. They are becoming Responsible Citizens by planting Daffodil bulbs to sell and raise money for Marie Curie.

Marie Curie is a charity dedicated to the care of people with terminal illnesses.

This is also being reinforced through the PATHS Initiative where the children are encouraged to be thoughtful and kind. There is a beautiful tree in the foyer full of compliments shared in the nursery.



## GARELOCHHEAD'S GONE WITH THE WIND!



With a current proposal in the school's local area, P6/5 decided to investigate wind farms further. Most people have an opinion of some sort on the topic and even in P6/5 everyone had their own personal thoughts and feelings. The class decided to visit Whitelee Windfarm in East Renfrewshire to learn more. Whitelee Windfarm is the UK's largest onshore windfarm. Pupils discovered that the windfarm has 215

turbines which can power over 300,000 homes. During the day they carried out experiments and had the opportunity to stand underneath a turbine. The pupils were amazed at seeing the turbines up close and listened to how quiet they actually were! The class found learning about renewable energy production and how it helps tackle climate change fascinating.

## P1 Toy Testing at Cardross with Grasshopper Toys

Primary 1 pupils at Cardross Primary enjoyed an afternoon of toy testing as part of their toys topic this term. Wendy Hamilton of Grasshopper Toys devised the afternoon, allowing the pupils to experiment and test a range of scientific and traditional toys. Some of the P1 favourites were the space

rocket, eco house and the spy pens. All pupils were then given a special goodie bag from the Grasshopper toyshop. It was a truly memorable afternoon and the pupils and staff at Cardross are very grateful for the generosity and learning experience given by Grasshopper toys.



## Year of Faith

St Joseph's Primary School along with St Mun's, St Columba's and St Andrew's Primary Schools in the authority have been working collaboratively to create a special amalgamated Year of Faith prayer for Catholic Education during this national Year of Faith. Prayer, once completed will be used in ALL these catholic schools throughout the authority at assembly etc. It is hoped to have this on the SCES( Scottish Catholic Education Service) website.

## Hermitage Art Show success!



Talented Young Artists from Primary Seven at Hermitage Primary School gathered at the Victoria Halls on Tuesday 19th March to show off their art at an Exhibition for parents

and invited guests. The pupils produced pieces of contemporary art around the theme of transition and the result was a very colourful and imaginative exhibition which included

a piece of art from all seventy three children in Primary Seven. The exhibition was opened by successful sculptor and artist Jason Pyper Davis who was very impressed by the vast array of skills and ideas on display. Head teacher, Lorna Jackson commented

*"Every year the children produce the most amazing work and their ability to translate their own thoughts and feelings into pieces of art never ceases to amaze me".*

Staff, parents and guests were treated to drinks and nibbles served by Primary Seven pupils while they mingled to discuss and view the art.

## Butter Fingers!

As part of this term's food and farming work, P6/5 in Garelochhead have been investigating dairy products and the journey they make to reach our plates. They have been looking at dairy farming and the milk industry in Scotland. They also tasted many of the different types of milk and discussed the similarities and differences. Pupils then went on to making their own butter. They found it really interesting to see the cream separate into curds and buttermilk.

The butter was put into the fridge overnight and in the morning pupils tried hot toast with butter. P7/6 loved the taste of the butter too.



## French Cafe

Primary 6 at John Logie Baird Primary School enjoyed sharing their learning with parents and guests at their recent French Cafe. The Children all wore blue, white and red for the event and each had a special role to play whether it was manager, waiter or chef. The guests were treated to a menu of croissants, baguettes, petit pain aux chocolat and a selection of cakes and drinks. Both children and guests had to speak only in French.



## Enterprise:

### P6 Finance Assembly

P6 children of St Joseph's displayed their excellent learning on their 'Finance' topic at assembly recently. The children staged a drama for the whole school where 'mum' took along her child to speak to the 'bank manager' about the advantages of saving with a credit union. This of course helped re-launch the 'Supersavers' scheme in school where all the children have the opportunity to save and belong to a subsidiary of

the 'real' Credit Union.

P6 also went on to demonstrate the excellent 3D posters they had created to promote the 'Supersavers' scheme in school, one of which will be displayed in each classroom. They also demonstrated their excellent knowledge of 'financial facts', showed photographs of their recent visit to the Dumbarton Credit Union and finished up with a wonderful rendition of Abba's 'Money, Money, Money'.



Mrs Connolly and her class really 'set the bar' for assemblies in school – it was a real treat for everyone!

# Contributions to charities:

## Cardross Primary pupils held a Raise the Flag Day!

Cardross Primary pupils held a Raise the Flag Day! It was a joint celebration for the school's recently awarded Green Flag and a fundraising event for Jeremiah, an African child sponsored by the school.

The day started with an African assembly with all pupils singing rehearsed African songs. The P1 pupils performed an African dance. All pupils were dressed in bright African colours. Pupils were split into their four house groups to participate in; a science water filtration lesson, African cookery and food tasting, the making of African tribal masks and finally tie-dying. After the inter-house lessons the school came together for a raise the flag assembly.

Mrs Girling and The Eco Committee presented the assembly along with Mrs White, a former Cardross Teacher, who was on hand to help Mrs Girling raise the green flag. Cardross Primary are exceptionally proud of the global citizenship and ecological awareness of their pupils and the contribution they and their parents, have made in helping the school to gain this recognition.



## Parklands Red Nose Day

Parklands School celebrated Red Nose Day on Friday 15th March with pupils either wearing something red or having crazy hair or even both. £68 was raised from donations from pupils and staff and a great day of fun and games was had by all.



## Community Links:

### OLYMPIC SILVER MEDALIST VISITS KILCREGGAN PRIMARY

Luke Patience who competed in the 470 class at the 2012 Summer Olympics and won a silver medal visited Kilcreggan Primary. Luke spent the afternoon talking to pupils and staff about his training, sponsorship and



winning a silver medal. Mrs Pender, the Primary 3/2 class teacher taught Luke to dinghy sail when he first took up sailing, so this visit had

an extra special meaning for her. At the end of his visit Luke was presented with a Kilcreggan Primary School polo shirt.

## Halloween Party at Colgrain Primary

On the 1st of November 2012, Colgrain Primary school had two Halloween parties. One was to entertain the infant children and the other was for the upper school. The parent council had arranged a DJ and all the children played party games. They also sold

hot dogs, popcorn and lots of sweets and drinks. They also had a costume contest. The winners in the upper school were a Dead Bride and Dr Killjoy. The winners in the infant school were a vampire, and a cat. All the kids had a blast.



## Outdoor Learning/Forest Schools:

### OUTDOOR LEARNING IS GREAT FUN! ROSNEATH HEAD TO ARDEONAIG, PERTHSHIRE



Primary 7 children from Rosneath Primary School recently had a week away at Ardeonaig Outdoor Centre. They had rain, sleet, snow and sunshine – just a typical Scottish week! Pupils had such a great time taking part in so many outdoor

activities involving challenges, teamwork, problem solving, exploring – and we were delighted to complete a John Muir Award. Pupils even think they might have come across the famous “Big Foot” while hiking up Drummond Hill!

## Luss Primary School pupils win ITV Animal Honours award

Luss Primary School has received national recognition for their environmental project to save Loch Lomond’s native powan fish. The pupils were invited to appear on The British Animal Hours 2013 Show hosted by Paul O-Grady on the 18th of April. Nominees in a variety of categories were suggested by the public and winners chosen by a jury of thirty animal experts, charities and celebrities. The powan has been under

threat since another species of fish, the ruffe, was introduced accidentally to Loch Lomond about twenty-five years ago. Funding from Scottish Natural Heritage started local schools hatching powan eggs and returning baby fish to the water. Working in partnership with the Loch Lomond Fisheries Trust and the Loch Lomond National Park Authority the Luss pupils have raised and released hundreds of this rare whitefish, which in Scotland only occur in

Loch Lomond and Loch Eck, to try to save the species from extinction.



# Eco Learning- Eco Schools:

The aim of the Eco-Schools programme is to make environmental awareness and action an intrinsic part of the life and ethos of the school for both pupils and for staff and to engage the wider community.

The Eco-Schools programme can help schools and pupils to:

- Improve the school's environment
- Reduce litter and waste
- Reduce energy and water use
- Devise efficient ways of travelling to and from school
- Promote healthy lifestyles
- Encourage active citizenship
- Build strong partnerships with community groups
- Develop international and global links



All of Helensburgh and Lomond schools have been awarded at least a Bronze award and currently have the following awards:

Green Flag: Arrochar Primary, Cardross Primary, Colgrain Primary, Garelochhead Primary, Hermitage Primary, Kilcreggan Primary, Luss Primary, Rhu Primary, St Joseph's Primary.

Silver: John Logie Baird Primary, Parklands, Rosneath Primary.

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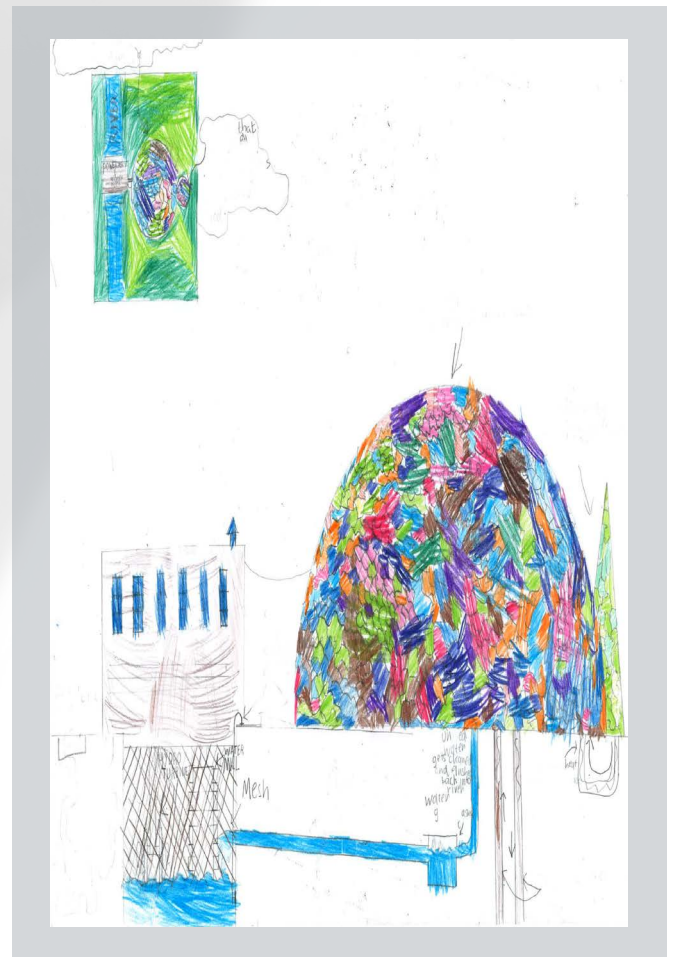
## Climate Week Challenge

Four Primary 4/5 pupils from Arrochar Primary School reached the Climate Week Challenge final. The pupils were set the challenge to create the ultimate eco-home.

Over 200,000 participants took part in Britain's biggest Climate Challenge environmental competition. This year, the judge was Robert Swan O.B.E. He is one of the world's most pre-eminent polar explorer and environmental leader.

The children designed a fabulous dome house, made out of multi-coloured recycled glass. This challenge was set to develop creativity, innovation, enterprise and team working skills. The pupils definitely achieved this.

The group of pupils also included a written report along with their design, detailing all the eco-friendly items in their house, such as hydro turbines, recycling water with their own water mill. Heat would be supplied from their green house.





## Green Flag erected at St Joseph's Primary



The children, parents and staff of St. Joseph's Primary were delighted to see their Green Flag finally erected this week. A very enthusiastic Eco Group were very pleased as they are very committed in their mission to make all things 'Eco-Friendly' at St Joseph's. Each year the Eco Committee encourage all children and staff to audit the school for 'green' capacity and from this

audit produce their own 'Eco Plan' for the school.

This year the school is looking to reduce litter, waste minimisation, biodiversity and, in addition, will be spearheading a community litter pick this session. As ever, the children and staff were ably supported by parents in this venture with two parents purchasing the flagpole for the school. Another relative made it a family affair by helping to install the flagpole in the school grounds.

It's onwards and upwards for St. Joseph's and their Eco Committee as we head towards another term and more 'Eco' opportunities to develop in the school.



## TREE PLANTING KILCREGGAN PRIMARY

The Primary 7/6 class took part in an Eco-Schools competition and won a range of fruit trees and on Friday 8th March the Eco-Committee, parents, carers and staff took part in a tree-planting session in the School gardens. Everyone is looking forward to the fruits of their labours!!

## Parental links:

### Parent planning meeting at Rhu



P1 and 2 at Rhu, had a very exciting start to the term when they discovered a giant egg in the playground. After the mysterious creature hatched, the children decided to make a study of dinosaurs. The children were asked what they knew about dinosaurs and what they might like to learn. In order to involve parents, a letter was sent inviting them to a planning meeting.

To accommodate working parents a reply box was provided and an opportunity to email suggestions was given. On the day of the meeting parents were left with the same questions to browse over. While tea and coffee was made for our visitors, they brain stormed all their ideas in peace. A successful session finding new pathways to explore was then held.

## CAST projects:

In Helensburgh and Lomond, the Creative Arts in Schools Team (CAST) have had pleasure in providing the following during the last academic year:

**Big Draw:** authority wide project involving inspirational artists visits to most primaries accompanied by in depth resources and planning tools.

**Creative Learning Network CPD:** provided six twilight cpd opportunities covering music, drawing, character creation, film making and drama for Helensburgh and Lomond teachers.

**TAC Writing:** running The Argyll Collection primary writing competition with successful third place prize winner from Rhu Primary.



## MOD projects:

Helensburgh and Lomond schools have benefitted from three successful bids to the Ministry of Defence £3M Support Fund for State Schools with Service Children. This fund is now in its third of four years. Argyll and Bute were awarded £147,320 in session 2011-2012, £20,000 in session 2012-2013 and £64,000 for session 2013-2014. The funding has provided: training for staff in the Seasons for Growth and Maths Recovery programmes; resources for active maths; extra staff to help pupils in the classroom; resources for the HMS Heroes group set up in John Logie Baird Primary School; and support for a

Steering Group. Feedback so far on the work supported by the MOD fund is very positive and it is hoped to place a further bid for the last round next year. Lynda Fisher, Director of the MOD's Children and Young People Directorate, said:

*"We know that moving from one school to another can be a challenging time for the children of serving personnel and this £3m fund has been set up to help mitigate some of the effects of moving away from familiar surroundings.*

*The money will allow schools to provide measures to ensure children of Service families do not suffer any disadvantage by moving to or through different*



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*school systems. It was pleasing to see the interesting and varied projects that local authorities, academies and schools with Service children are already putting in place to help cope with the potential impact caused by deployment."*

# Schools contact details

SCHOOL	HEAD TEACHER	ADDRESS	WEBSITE
Arrochar Primary School	Alison Palmer	Arrochar Primary School, Tarbet, Arrochar, G83 7DG 01301 702261	<a href="http://www.arrochar.argyll-bute.sch.uk">http://www.arrochar.argyll-bute.sch.uk</a>
Cardross Primary School	Elsbeth Davis	Cardross Primary School, Kirkton Road, Cardross, G82 5PN 01389 841433	<a href="http://www.cardrossprimary.org/">http://www.cardrossprimary.org/</a>
Colgrain Primary School	Johanna McClelland	Colgrain Primary School, Redgauntlet Road, Helensburgh, G84 7TZ 01436 673557	<a href="http://www.colgrain.argyll-bute.sch.uk">http://www.colgrain.argyll-bute.sch.uk</a>
Garelochhead Primary School	Laura Freeland	Garelochhead Primary Garelochhead, G84 0DG 01436 810322	<a href="http://www.garelochhead.argyll-bute.sch.uk">http://www.garelochhead.argyll-bute.sch.uk</a>
Hermitage Primary School	Lorna Jackson	Hermitage Primary School, Argyle Street East, Helensburgh, G84 7EW 01436 672949	<a href="http://www.hermitageprimaryschool.org">http://www.hermitageprimaryschool.org</a>
John Logie Baird Primary School	Carolyn Randall	John Logie Baird Primary Winston Road, Helensburgh, G84 9EP 01436 674001	<a href="http://www.johnlogiebaird.argyll-bute.sch.uk">http://www.johnlogiebaird.argyll-bute.sch.uk</a>
Kilcreggan Primary School	Frances Bretman	Kilcreggan Primary School, School Road, Kilcreggan, G84 0HT 01436 842109	<a href="http://www.kilcreggan.argyll-bute.sch.uk">http://www.kilcreggan.argyll-bute.sch.uk</a>
Luss Primary School	Carol Ann Struthers	Luss Primary School, Luss, By Alexandria, G83 8NY 01436 860244	<a href="http://www.luss.argyll-bute.sch.uk">http://www.luss.argyll-bute.sch.uk</a>
Parklands School	Gwen Gilmour	Parklands School, 27 Charlotte Street, Helensburgh, G84 7EZ 01436 673714	<a href="http://www.parklands.argyll-bute.sch.uk">http://www.parklands.argyll-bute.sch.uk</a>
Rhu Primary School	Anne Milne	Rhu Primary School, School Road, Rhu, G84 8RS 01436 820316	<a href="http://www.rhu.argyll-bute.sch.uk">http://www.rhu.argyll-bute.sch.uk</a>
Rosneath Primary School	Pamela Atack	Rosneath Primary School, Rosneath, G84 0RJ 01436 831354	<a href="http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/node/303">http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/node/303</a>
St Joseph's Primary School	Michelle Collins	St Joseph's Primary School, Old Luss Road, Helensburgh, G84 7LR 01436 671748	<a href="http://www.st-josephs.argyll-bute.sch.uk">http://www.st-josephs.argyll-bute.sch.uk</a>

Appointment confirmed in last 2 years

