

Argyll and Bute Council



Teaching and Learning 3 -12



Bute and Cowal Primary Schools 2014/15

Community Services: Education

Primary School Profiles: Bute

Primary School Roll (as at census) *						
Cluster Primary Schools	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	% change in Roll over 5 years ¹
North Bute Primary School	51	56	57	52	47	-7.8%
Rothesay Primary School	232	234	242	229	225	-3.0%
St Andrew's Primary School	105	100	102	110	103	-1.9%
Total Roll for cluster	388	390	401	391	375	-3.4%

Notes

* Data for rolls provided at Census each year

1: Please note the % change in Roll over 5 years shows the percentage change in roll figures from 2010/2011 to 2014/2015 and is not an average.

Footwear and Clothing Grant and Free School Meal Information for Bute Cluster

	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15
Clothing and Footwear Grant (CFG) (number of pupils) ²	75	90	95	95	125
Clothing and Footwear Grant (CFG) (% of cluster school roll)	19.3%	23.1%	23.7%	24.3%	33.3%
Total CFG for Primary Schools in Argyll and Bute	1119	1118	947	1096	1113
Total CFG for Primary Schools as a % of total school roll in Argyll and Bute	19.2%	19.3%	16.6%	19.2%	19.2%
	10/11	11/12 ³	12/13	13/14	14/15
Free School Meals (number of pupils)	81	0	115	109	97
Free School Meals (% of cluster school roll)	20.9%		28.7%	27.9%	25.9%
Total Free School Meals for Primary Schools in Argyll and Bute	870	0	871	898	856
Total Free School Meals for Primary Schools as a % of total school roll in Argyll and Bute	14.9%	0	15.2%	15.8%	14.8%
National Average for Free School Meals for Primary Schools (%)	19.8%	22.6%	22.1%	22.0%	Not yet collated

Notes

2: Clothing and Footwear Grant (CFG) is not shown as a National Average as each authority set their own criteria and therefore cannot be compared accurately. Please note that 2014-2015 data for CFG and Free School Meals (FSM) is to date (March 2015) and therefore may change as the year progresses.

3: Please note that Free School Meals data was not collated by Argyll and Bute for the year 2011/2012

National Averages for Free School Meals have been taken from 'Summary statistics for attainment, leaver destinations and healthy living, No. 3: 2013 Edition'

Exclusion and Attendance Information for Bute Cluster

	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15 ⁶
Attendance (% of cluster school roll) ⁴	95.70%	95.84%	94.63%	95.44%	95.12%
Unauthorised Absence (% of cluster school roll)	0.35%	0.58%	0.35%	0.55%	0.71%
Authority Average – (%) Primary Schools in Argyll and Bute	95.25%	95.74%	95.40%	95.87%	95.42%
National Average for both Secondary and Primary Pupils (%)⁵	0.75%	0.79%	0.87%	0.89%	0.89%
	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15 ⁷
Exclusion Openings	5	13	23	0	0
Exclusion Incidents	2	7	8	0	0
As a % of Total Argyll and Bute Primary School Exclusion Openings	1.2%	3.5%	7.7%	0%	0%
As a % of Total Argyll and Bute Primary School Exclusion Incidents	2%	7.6%	11.4%	0%	0%

Notes

4: Authorised absence includes bereavement, short – term exceptional domestic situations, religious observance, weddings of immediate family. Unauthorised absence includes truancy, unexplained absence and most family holidays during term time. Attendance and absence is outlined in Management Circular 3.03.

5: Attendance, Absence and Exclusion information is now collected on a biennial basis and was not collected for 2011/2012 or 2013/2014 academic year.

6: Please note that attendance data for 2014-2015 is for the year to date and not a complete year. It is therefore subject to change.

7: Please note that exclusion data for 2014-2015 is for the year to date and not a complete year. It is therefore subject to change.

National Averages for Attendance have been taken from Summary Statistics for Schools in Scotland, No.4 | 2013 Edition, 11th December, 2013 (amended 11th February 2014).

Primary School Profiles: Cowal

Primary School Roll (as at census) *						
Cowal Cluster Primary Schools	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	% change in Roll over 5 years ¹
Dunoon Primary School	221	216	191	192	196	-11.3
Innellan Primary School	24	24	14	13	8	-66.7
Kilmodan Primary School	22	19	19	17	14	-36.4
Kirn Primary School	165	164	177	199	239	44.8
Lochgoilhead Primary School	25	29	26	28	22	-12.0
Sandbank Primary School	85	80	80	81	80	-5.9
Sandbank Primary School Gaelic Unit	37	38	43	40	39	5.4
St Mun's Primary School	156	157	148	129	134	-14.1
Strachur Primary School	59	58	67	54	47	-20.3
Strone Primary School	42	45	32	30	26	-38.1
Tighnabraich Primary School	27	23	26	30	30	11.1
Toward Primary School	20	17	29	37	31	55.0
Total Roll for cluster	883	870	852	850	866	-1.9

Notes

* Data for rolls provided at Census each year

1: Please note the % change in Roll over 5 years shows the percentage change in roll figures from 2010/2011 to 2014/2015 and is not an average.

Footwear and Clothing Grant and Free School Meal Information for Cowal Cluster

	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15
Clothing and Footwear Grant (CFG) (number of pupils) ²	284	292	223	259	247
Clothing and Footwear Grant (CFG) (% of cluster school roll)	32.2%	33.6%	26.2%	30.5%	28.5%
Total CFG for Primary Schools in Argyll and Bute	1119	1118	947	1096	1113
Total CFG for Primary Schools as a % of total school roll in Argyll and Bute	19.2%	19.3%	16.6%	19.2%	19.2%
	10/11	11/12 ³	12/13	13/14	14/15
Free School Meals (number of pupils)	211	0	185	194	187
Free School Meals (% of cluster school roll)	23.9%	0	21.7%	22.8%	21.6%
Total Free School Meals for Primary Schools in Argyll and Bute	870	0	871	898	856
Total Free School Meals for Primary Schools as a % of total school roll in Argyll and Bute	14.9%	0	15.2%	15.8%	14.8%
National Average for Free School Meals for Primary Schools (%)	19.8%	22.6%	22.1%	22.0%	Not yet collated

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National Averages for Free School Meals have been taken from 'Summary statistics for attainment, leaver destinations and healthy living, No. 3: 2013 Edition'

Exclusion and Attendance Information for Cowal Cluster

	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15 ⁶
Attendance (% of cluster school roll) ⁴	95.42%	95.84%	95.18%	95.70%	95.45%
Unauthorised Absence (% of cluster school roll)	0.45%	0.60%	0.88%	0.79%	0.83%
Authority Average – (%) Primary Schools in Argyll and Bute	95.25%	95.74%	95.40%	95.87%	95.42%
National Average for both Secondary and Primary Pupils (%) ⁵	0.75%	0.79%	0.87%	0.89%	0.89%
	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15 ⁷
Exclusion Openings	21	20	41	35	28
Exclusion Incidents	4	3	8	11	5
As a % of Total Argyll and Bute Primary School Exclusion Openings	5.0%	5.4%	13.8%	17.3%	19.2%
As a % of Total Argyll and Bute Primary School Exclusion Incidents	4.0%	3.3%	11.4%	17.7%	14.7%

Notes

4: Authorised absence includes bereavement, short – term exceptional domestic situations, religious observance, weddings of immediate family. Unauthorised absence includes truancy, unexplained absence and most family holidays during term time. Attendance and absence is outlined in Management Circular 3.03.

5: Attendance, Absence and Exclusion information is now collected on a biennial basis and was not collected for 2011/2012 or 2013/2014 academic year.

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Introduction

Within the Bute and Cowal area there are fourteen primary schools – three on Bute and eleven in Cowal. Nursery provision is provided in seven of these schools. Gaelic Medium education is provided at Sandbank Primary. This year there have been several staff changes in headship across the area. Barbara Gray took up the

post of Head Teacher at Kirn Primary in August 2014, Trisha McCurrach took up the post of Head Teacher at Rothesay Joint Campus in October 2014 and Jacqueline Shields became acting Head Teacher at St Andrew's Primary. Following the departure of the previous Head Teacher at Innellan Primary in June 2014, Cathleen Russell Head

Teacher of Toward Primary assumed headship of Innellan Primary in a joint headship pilot with Toward in August 2014.

Trisha McCurrach left Rothesay Joint Campus in March 2015 and Julie Fisher Depute Head Teacher at Hermitage Academy took up the post of acting Head Teacher from 20th April 2015.

Teaching and Learning

Health and Wellbeing

Learning in health and wellbeing ensures that children and young people develop the knowledge and understanding, skills, capabilities and attributes which they need for mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing now and in the future. Learning through health and wellbeing enables children and young people to:

- make informed decisions in order to improve their mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing
- experience challenge and enjoyment
- experience positive aspects of healthy living and activity for themselves
- apply their mental, emotional, social and physical skills to pursue a healthy lifestyle
- make a successful move to the next stage of education or work
- establish a pattern of health and wellbeing which will be sustained into adult life, and which will help to promote the health and wellbeing of the next generation of Scottish children.

Healthy Eating at St Mun's Primary

Healthy Eating at St Mun's Primary continues to be a priority and is well supported by the Primary 5/4 class who continue to run the Healthy Eating Café for the whole school each break time and also ran a very successful Breakfast Week for St. Mun's and Clyde Cottage nursery.



SMOKE FREE ME

As part of their work on adopting a healthy lifestyle, P6/7 pupils at Toward Primary have been studying the health risks associated with smoking. The culmination of these lessons was the opportunity for them to go to Dunoon

Grammar School to watch and participate in a drama which tested their learning. The children were very well behaved and were able to recall many facts.

Better Eating Better Learning at Kirn

The Primary 6 class at Kirn Primary School have this term participated in the "Better Eating Better Learning" project in partnership with Children in Scotland. The children and their teacher have worked incredibly hard with Catering Manager Lynn Stirling and her catering team on this project which aims to highlight healthy eating and to promote a better understanding of our school dinners to the rest of the school community and to parents and carers.

The project involved surveying the school and collating the results, keeping food diaries and then planning, costing and cooking a healthy school dinner. Invitations were then made and sent to parents and carers to come and enjoy the dinner, which was cooked by P6 in the school kitchen.

Guests were seated and invited to watch a film made by the children to explain what they had been learning, followed by a quiz to see if parents' listening skills were as good as the



childrens' are in class! Everyone had a voting pad to select the correct answer to the quiz, which had been prepared in advance by P6. The lunch was a huge success, and parents were very impressed by the fact that the children had cooked the lunch themselves! There were even requests at the end for the recipes.



As they were nearing completion of this excellent project the class was invited to attend a celebration event at Dumfries House in Ayrshire on Thursday 5th March 2015 where they made a presentation to share with other Scottish schools about what they have been doing in Kirn Primary to promote and improve school meals.

Teaching and Learning

Numeracy

Being numerate helps us to function responsibly in everyday life and contribute effectively to society. It increases our opportunities within the world of work and establishes foundations which can be built upon through lifelong learning. Numeracy is not only a subset of mathematics; it is also a life skill which permeates and

supports all areas of learning, allowing young people access to the wider curriculum.

We are numerate if we have:

developed the confidence and competence in using number which will allow individuals to solve problems, analyse information and make informed decisions based on calculations.

The Navy to the Rescue

Dunoon Primary enlisted the help of a sailor to deliver part of the maths curriculum to two classes this session! Duncan Munro who is a Navigational Officer working in the Merchant Navy joined the classes to tell them about his job and to teach them about compass points, bearings and degrees.

The children spent part of the morning working in groups in the playground,

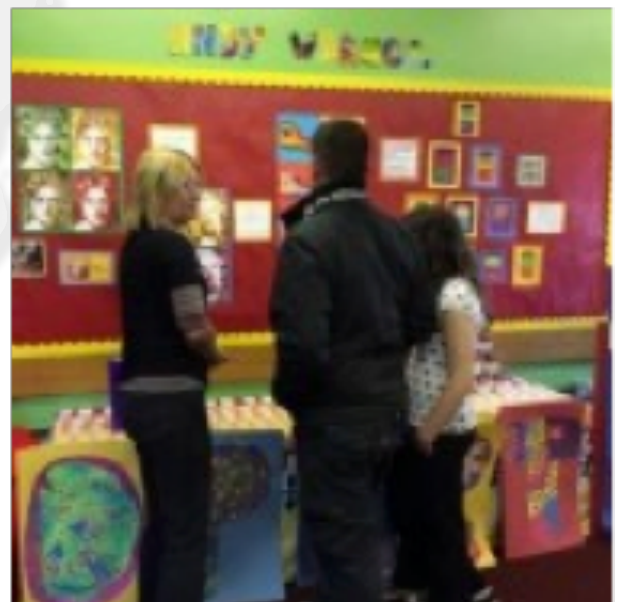
using a compass to navigate from one location to another. This was a great example of the use of maths in a real-life context. The pupils loved his presentation and hearing about real life pirates!



Parents Open Evening at Strone Primary School

Parents of pupils at Strone Primary School were invited to attend an Open Learning Evening, where pupils had a chance to show off their learning. To showcase the work of this term's Skills Clubs, parents were treated to delicious Rocky Road and Fruit Kebabs prepared by the Cooking Club, a guided tour of our Pop Art Gallery by the pupils involved in the Art Club, and they were also able to see examples of work displayed by the Science and Technology and Music Clubs.

The P5-7 class also gave a lesson in maths to their parents to keep them informed of different methods of maths working. It was a wonderful evening with lots of very positive feedback.



Teaching and Learning

Literacy

Language and literacy are of personal, social and economic importance. Our ability to use language lies at the centre of the development and expression of our emotions, our thinking, our learning and our sense of personal identity. Language is itself a key aspect of our culture. Literacy is fundamental to all areas of learning, as it unlocks access to the wider curriculum. Being literate increases opportunities for

the individual in all aspects of life, lays the foundations for lifelong learning and work. The literacy experiences and outcomes promote the development of critical and creative thinking as well as competence in listening and talking, reading, writing and the personal, interpersonal and team-working skills which are so important in life and in the world of work.

Pebble learning at Kilmodan

Pebble projects are pupil based learning projects that develop valuable life skills for use in secondary, further education and the world of work. Children in Kilmodan Primary have engaged enthusiastically and produced an interesting array of topics of learning.

The project criteria sets out that the project must be motivating to the learner, be ambitious possibly learning not covered in school and be supported by parents/carers and others within their community, where teachers and assistants become the facilitators of learning. The Pebble project meets the requirement of the curricular design principle – personalisation and choice. This year there was a wide range of topics chosen by the pupils including; Birds in the Glen, the history of animation, famous mountains around the world and how to build a bogey (go – kart.)

At the end of the project the children presented to their peers using Power-point or presentation boards and their peers give a final assessment of the project.



Innellan Primary Remembers World War 1



The senior class were all very involved in this interdisciplinary topic. The pupils made a poppy wreath to mark Remembrance Sunday and it was laid with the other wreaths at Innellan war memorial.

As part of this topic some of the senior pupils participated in a football tournament to mark the football game that took place between opposing sides during the war.

P3 The Big Bake Off at Dunoon Primary!

P3 held a Bake Sale to fund a visit to see a production of, 'The Boy and the Bunnet'- a musical story they had studied the previous term, being held at the Queen's Hall. £160 was needed to pay for the tickets and after much discussion the enterprising pupils decided to try to raise the money themselves. The children rose to the challenge of solving the problem and produced posters, wrote letters to parents for donations of baking and carried out a survey of the whole school to discover which cakes they should bake. On the day before the sale groups of children successfully baked a winning combination of Chocolate Brownies, Vanilla Cupcakes, Pretty Fairy cakes and Chocolate Crispie Cakes. The magnificent total of £313.66 was raised on the day which included a raffle with one of the prizes being a gorgeous chocolate cake!



The Christmas Story



The Christmas Story was retold by pupils in Primary 1/2 in St Andrew's Primary School for an audience of family and friends. Pupils in P 2/3 helped out by warming-up the audience with some Christmas songs, providing narrators and designing posters to help advertise the show. The evening was concluded with the school choir, made up of pupils from P 4-7, leading a sing-a-long of Christmas favourites! It definitely helped put everyone in the mood for Christmas!

Sandbank's Remembers

The school's Remembrance observation in November was memorable with the children studying historical events, parents attending their assembly and older children participating in WW1 re-enactment of the Christmas day trench football game with other local schools.



Teaching and Learning

Wider Achievement: Outdoor Learning

Future Loggers!

Strachur Primary School's commitment to developing outdoor learning this session included a visit arranged in partnership with the Forestry Commission. Pupils visited a forest near the school to learn about the process of logging wood. They asked lots of questions and learned this is much more complicated than it looks!



St Andrew's Primary School's Third Green Flag!

St Andrew's Eco Committee met with Paula Love, the Eco Schools Assessor, and informed her of all the hard work put in by the pupils, staff, parents and community members to maintain the Eco School status. After an initial meeting to discuss what has been happening in their school, from weekly litter picking duties to organised days like UNICEF's Day of Change, the Eco Committee sang their Eco Code; complete with the newly choreographed actions.

The committee then took Paula Love on a tour of the school and grounds. The tour indoors allowed the committee to show the Eco notice board, pupils' work on display and their pictorial Action Plan display. This allowed the committee the chance to discuss the plans for the future. The outside tour included the painted wall murals, bug hotel and school allotment. Paula Love also had the chance to meet with a Community representative, Mrs Clarke, who shares her expertise with the pupils and staff of the school. She also met with some pupils from each of the classes to talk about the Eco work undertaken with class teachers. The Health & Wellbeing Committee impressed



Paula Love with their actions to improve our school playtimes, including the training of Peer Mediators and volunteer Playtime Monitors to buddy any boys or girls who are looking for someone to play with. Everyone was thrilled to have this recognition after all the work they put in and continue to put in.

Beach Science – Innellan and Toward Primary Schools take the learning outdoors

Through active learning, developing their problem solving skills and using relevant contexts the pupils at Innellan and Toward Primaries have been involved in a range of open-ended experiences and investigations which have generated new knowledge and greater understanding of the world in which they live.

The pupils are able to identify the different zones on the shore, use identification keys to help them name some of the more unusual creatures they have discovered as well as many of the more common ones. They know how the animals and plants have adapted, are interdependent and where they can be



found in the food chain. Developing the correct scientific language to accurately describe what they find has also been important and they can discuss tide conditions and how they change each week. This outdoor learning experience has supported the pupils by providing them with real life, hands-on contexts to practice a range of inquiry and investigative skills, scientific analytical thinking skills and support and encourage them to appreciate their own environment. The pupils have had a fantastic time and really enjoyed their weekly outing to the shore.



Rothesay Primary Young Green Fingers!

After months of sowing, weeding, transplanting, weeding, watering and weeding Rothesay Primary pupils were delighted to have some fine produce for the Rothesay Horticultural Society Show. They carefully choose their best fruit and veg and got them ready for the show bench. They entered two varieties of tomato, black grapes, peppers, yellow courgettes, runner beans, peas, curly kale, pears, rhubarb, onions, carrots and a whopping marrow! After judging the pupils learned they had won 3 firsts, 3 seconds and 4 thirds! To top it all they had also won a cup for their school entry on World War One!



St. Mun's Explore The Rainforest... In Cornwall

After scooping the coveted Eden Award, at the Rolls Royce Science Awards, held at the Science Centre in London, last November, with their Biodiversity project entitled 'If You Go Down In The Woods Today', the children of Primary 7, along with their teacher, set about planning the 1,100 mile round trip visit to The Eden Project, St. Austell in Cornwall.

As well as the beautiful trophy, the school received a cheque for £5,000 to be put towards the cost of the trip to The Eden Project.

With over 1 million plants, and iconic architecture and art, plus a purpose-built education centre, the Eden Project is the ideal destination for school trips and having travelled such a long way the children planned to get the most out of their prize.

During their visit they had many opportunities to hone their scientific skills and knowledge of classification, adaption and interdependence, completing an activity to review the classification of living things (rainforest organisms) and the use of identification keys. They ventured deep into the Rainforest Biome to locate, identify and classify unusual plants and also consider their associated animal communities.

In the evening, the children explored the sights and sounds of the Rainforest Biome, by moonlight.



The visit saw them see the environment in an entirely different way and appreciate that different animals and plants come out by day and night. The session ended with tales of Rainforest tribes and the children composing and performing their own Rainforest music.

In keeping with the ethos of sustainable living, accommodation on the site, is provided by the YHA and made from reclaimed shipping containers, which have en-suite facilities, TVs and Wifi access. But the highlight of the accommodation had to be the tractor-train ride morning and night to and from the accommodation to the Eden Project biomes!

The trip was a resounding success, encouraging growth in skills, confidence and self-reliance and broadening the pupils' horizons through real experiences in the great outdoors. The children plan to produce a presentation about their experiences, which they will invite their parents and the other children in the school to see.

Teaching and Learning

Wider Achievement: Enterprise

Pyjamas Day in St Andrew's

Pupils in St Andrew's Primary have been busy using their enterprising skills to raise money for good causes. The Pupil Council organised a 'Bedtime Story Day' to mark World Book Day. Everyone wore pyjamas and brought in books to have a book sale. The total raised was £88.50 which will be used to buy new books for our school. In preparation for Mother's Day St Andrew's P4/5 class organised and ran a Gift business. A range of gifts were available for the bargain prices of 50p or £1. The choice included jewellery, soaps, perfumes, candles and flowering plants. Customers were then given a gift card to write, their gift was wrapped and later delivered to be taken home for Mother's Day. The business successfully managed to deliver all of the gifts and made a profit of £102. The money raised has bought seeds and equipment in order to grow vegetables and flowers in their allotment.



Developing Business Skills at Strone Primary

P5-7 pupils have been developing their entrepreneurial skills this session. They organised a Bring and Buy Sale at school to recycle unwanted toys, games and books and raised £90.00 towards the transport costs of their residential trip to the Outdoor Centre at Dalguise in April. Pupils have also been running their own mini enterprises in school as part of the Micro-Tyco initiative. The idea of the initiative is to start a business with £1.00 and make as big a profit as possible in six weeks, which then gets donated to charity. The P5-7 businesses include selling soft drinks at breaktime, selling used books, and selling sweets at afternoon break.



P7 Dragons Den at Rothesay Primary 2014

Primary 7 pupils at Rothesay Primary wowed the 'Dragons' with innovative inventions at their Dragons' Den event in December 2014. Each pupil designed a product, composed a pitch and made a model. These ideas were presented to a panel of 'Dragons' – local business people who gave up their afternoon to grill each pupil on their product, and choose the award winners. There were three awards given for the Best Pitch, the Most Innovative Idea and the Most Likely to Invest. Well done to all the children for their efforts and entrepreneurship.



Lochgoilhead Primary's-Honey Money.

Pupils in Lochgoilhead Primary are using their initiative to raise money for things they want. Each Monday and Friday morning throughout the term the Honey Money group has been busily preparing toast for sale during morning break. To date they have made a profit of £52 which they are going to spend on new playground toys. Next term they hope to start a new venture.

Teaching and Learning

Wider Achievement: Community Partnership

Rothesay Primary WW1 talk

Pupils from Primary 5-7 had a fascinating interactive talk from Stephen Grant, a Children's Worker from Hope Hall Church, Bridge of Weir. The talk was based on a WW1 stretcher bearer – William Coltman, whose grandson is a friend of Stephen's. He talked to the children about William Coltman's upbringing and how his strong Christian beliefs and faith helped him choose



to join in with the war effort in 1914 as a medic to help his fellow man.

The pupils were shown video footage about life in the trenches and no-man's land, smelt samples of what trench foot and mustard gas may have smelt like and looked at other artefacts based on life during the war. Mr Coltman was the most decorated soldier in the Great War for his bravery in the field and the children enjoyed hearing about all of his awards and his many acts of bravery. They found hearing about a 'real' person, helped them understand more about the war and how many lives were affected. Thanks go to Stephen Grant as the children are enthused and inspired to do their own research about how world war one affected Bute.

Kirn's P7 Great Spaghetti Marshmallow Challenge!

Parents, grandparents and carers were invited to join with P7 and face the Spaghetti Marshmallow Challenge. Each team was made up with P7 children, one or two parents or helpers, 100 sticks of raw spaghetti, 20 marshmallows and just 30 minutes. The challenge was to build the highest tower using just these materials, plus lots of communication skills, teamwork, determination, creativity, problem solving and speed! The teams found a variety of ways to construct their tower, and quickly learned that weight should be at the bottom of the structure, sides should be even and that marshmallows which had been halved are very very sticky! The triumphant winning team was presented with delicious Creme Eggs.



Wildlife Watch Group at Innellan Primary



The Royal Horticultural Society and Keep Scotland Beautiful presented Innellan Primary pupils with a 2014 "It's Your Neighbourhood Award of Level 4: Thriving". Councillor Mike Breslin presented the pupils with this prestigious award in recognition of their hard work in their school community. Obtaining this award would not have been possible without the commitment and dedication of Eleanor Stevenson and Vicky Walkingshaw who worked tirelessly with the children.

North Bute Primary Beach Clean

All of the pupils of North Bute Primary School were out at their local beach to clean it up and make their local community a litter free place to be. Beachwatch Bute in partnership with parents organised the event and the pupils' efforts made a huge difference to the sea shore. It is reported the pupils whistled while they worked!



Potatoes Galore at Dunoon

In September, children in Dunoon Primary School's Gardening Club harvested their first crop of potatoes. After throwing away the bad ones and cleaning the soil from the rest, the children piled the potatoes into the barrow and delivered them across the road to the local health food store, Eco Grain, to be sold. (They also kept a few behind for tasting and all agreed that they were very tasty!) Local shoppers had to be quick off the mark as already they have heard that the potatoes have sold out! They'll need to start working on a bumper crop for next year ...

Sandbank Community Celebrates Guy Fawkes Night

Sandbank pupils worked with the local community to celebrate Guy Fawkes Night. The children studied this part of history and enjoyed making their 'Guys' in their house groups in November.



Lochgoilhead Children's Burns Supper



As in previous years, Lochgoilhead Ladies invited the children of Lochgoilhead Primary to a Burns Supper held in the Village Hall. All Pre-school children were welcome to attend with their parents as well and a good turnout was achieved. While the Ladies and adults enjoyed homemade shortbread along with their coffees etc., the children had the benefit of traditional Burn's Fair with a Haggis,

Neeps and Tatties Supper. The haggis was piped in, in the traditional way and after the supper the all the children provided some Scottish themed entertainment with singing, poetry reading, instrument playing and traditional dancing.

Nordic Walking at Tighnabruaich.

As part of their community working pupils at Tighnabruaich Primary are participating in a Nordic Walking Club with members of the local community. The club meets after school on a weekly basis and the age range of the club members is four to seventy years of age. The club is very well supported and led by two instructors.



Drama in Strachur

Working in partnership with Strachur Drama Club Strachur Primary School presented "Aladdin Trouble"- a whole school production. During December 2014 performances took place for the Senior Citizens Friendship Club and then the whole village! Everyone had a wonderful time.



Teaching and Learning

Wider Achievement: Contributions to charities

Save the Children & Dunoon Food Bank Fundraising from Toward Primary and Innellan Primary Schools

Pupils from both Toward & Innellan Primary Schools went along to sing some carols on Friday 12th December to the residents of Dalriada Grove, Innellan (Retirement/Sheltered housing). They were well received and as always were a credit to their schools. They wore Christmas jumpers that day and made £44 for "Save the Children – Christmas Jumper Day Appeal".

Toward Primary performed The Christmas play "Children around the World" and the performance was very well attended at Toward Church by parents, friends, families and members of the community. The children decide that they would divide any donations they received from tea/coffees between 'Toward Church,' Save the Children' and 'Dunoon Food Bank'. They each received a cheque for £30. Toward Primary School also had a raffle for a food hamper kindly donated by parents. Mrs Campbell (a local resident and grandparent) won the hamper and very generously donated it to Dunoon Food

Bank. The pupils presented Rev Swift with a cheque and the hamper and he informed the pupils that the food bank helped to support about 12/15 people in Cowal over the Christmas period. The pupils, as responsible citizens, have plans to continue to support the food bank.



RNLI Sale at North Bute Primary School



Primary 6,7 at North Bute Primary School organised a Bring and Buy sale to raise money for the RNLI.

They had a wonderful day and parents and members of the local community came to support the event. They had a book stall, a toy stall, bric-a-brac RNLI souvenirs, nail painting, loom band creations, face painting and competitions.

All of the pupil's enterprising ideas and efforts were rewarded with a grand total of £800 for the RNLI.

Strachur Primary School Coffee Morning

Primary 6/7 at Strachur Primary School held a very successful coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

The children organised the event and did all the baking themselves. They created posters to advertise the coffee morning and encouraged other pupils in the school to try their hand at baking too. They were very pleased with the turnout in the Memorial Hall in the village and raised the sum of £367.05



Strone Primary School Superheroes for a day!

From Wonder Woman to Superman, Batman to Super Gran, Strone Primary School pupils dressed up as Superheroes for Children in Need. From donations and sales of Pudsey merchandise the magnificent sum of £95.00 was raised for the charity.

Lochgoilhead World Book Day.

On World Book Day, the children dressed up as their favourite book character. The children spent the day looking at a variety of books written by Scottish authors. Ingrid and Anne from the Fiddle Folk group shared some traditional Gaelic music with the children; accompanied by the clarsach the children learned some Gaelic folk songs. The children's donations totalled £40 which was sent to Book Aid, a charity which sends new books to children in Africa.

Rothesay Joint Campus raise £1320.62 for Comic Relief

Everyone at Rothesay Joint Campus took part in a host of events on Friday to raise money for Red Nose Day. In Primary, P6-7 and P7 pupils organised various activities including 'red nose and spoon' races, beat the goalie, face painting, hair/nail salon, dress-up karaoke, cupcake decorating, 'red nose' treasure hunts, sponge the teacher and a power hoop challenge. Red noses were sold throughout the school. The Academy held a bake sale at morning interval and many staff/senior pupils had their legs waxed for the charity! Mr Gault even allowed the pupils to shave all his long curly hair off for the cause!



Teaching and Learning

Creative Arts in Schools (CAST)

Strone, Dunoon, St Mun's, Sandbank, Kirn, Tighnabruich, Rothesay and North Bute sign up for samba.

The rhythmic sound of surdo drums, agogo bells, tamborims and ganza shakers playing together will be heard throughout school grounds during the spring and summer terms. A Youth Music Initiative music practitioner is leading various sessions in school prior to delivering a performance. They are focussing on teaching samba rhythms using a range of Brazilian instruments. The children will have the opportunity to increase their listening and playing skills, and work collaboratively to create interesting and fun compositions. The session leaders ensure the experience is lively, fun and enjoyable.

The annual samba drumming project for p5-7 is delivered by a music specialist, focusing on rhythm using Brazilian percussion instruments. In the last week of the block the children will have an opportunity to perform either to other pupils or an invited local audience.

The sessions comprises a consecutive six week block of approx 1 hour-long sessions (depending on numbers) programmed to fit the school's timetable between January and June 2015.

Playing samba increases pupils' playing and listening skills whilst taking part in collaborative music making giving pupils a chance to enjoy the pleasure of performance in a collective music situation. This project has often been expanded to include a rich variety of cross-curricular CfE opportunities inc. expressive arts, social studies and languages.

It is funded by Creative Scotland Youth Music Initiative funding which is an annual grant that the council's music service receives to enable delivery of music to P5. It is a targeted fund for Scotland's 32 local authorities with £8 million being distributed based on a Scottish Government



School Contacts:

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