



Link Schools Programme News

June 2010



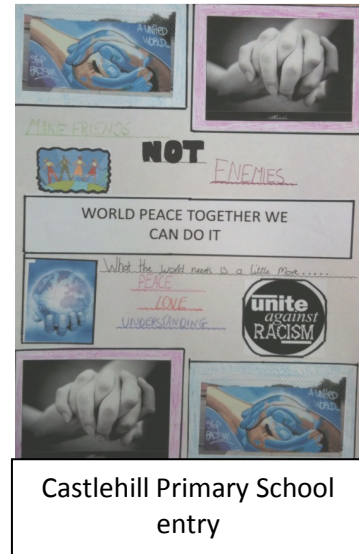
'How to make the World a Better place'

LCD was delighted to launch our new project 'Partners in Development' with the competition 'How to make the world a better place?' Schools from all over Scotland took part in the competition with entries coming in many different formats from DVDs on becoming an eco school, to raps on climate change, leaflets on Fair Trade, a mixed media sculpture representing a fairer world and posters.

The standard of entries was high, and the judges found it difficult to pick a winner from the primary and secondary categories. The winning entries came from **Castlehill Primary School** in Fife for their work on making the world a better place including a tackling litter and vandalism in the community project, to poems on war and the 'solution to pollution'; **Dalbeattie High School** in Dumfries and Galloway was successful with their poster which demonstrated working in partnership with their local community to make the world a better place.

The winning entries, as well as the runners up, will be displayed at the Scottish Parliament at our event on 27th October to celebrate the 5 year anniversary of the Scotland Malawi Co-operation Agreement, as well as winning video footage of their African partner school and a year's free subscription to the Link Schools Programme.

Congratulations again to the winners Castlehill Primary School and Dalbeattie High School!



Castlehill Primary School entry



Dalbeattie High School entry

Link Community Development

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African School term dates and mailing dates for 2010/2011

Through the Partners in Development programme we are happy to tell you that from 2010/2011 LCD will be offering **2 mailings per term to your Link School** one of which will give you the opportunity to take part in themed activity work. These mailing dates will be standardised across countries to make it easier for programme countries to co-ordinate the mailings.

The next mailing date for sending your parcels to Africa will be on **Thursday, 23rd September 2010**. We will send you notice of the dates for the 2010/11 school year after the summer holidays. In the meantime here are the school term dates for your African partner school.

Malawi

2009/2010

Term 3 7th June to 6th Aug 2010

2010/2011

Term 1 6th Sept to 10th Dec 2010

Term 2 3rd Jan to 8th April 2011

Term 3 25th April to 8th July 2011

Uganda

2010/2011

Term 1 6 Sep 2010 – 5 Dec 2010

Term 2 7 Feb 2011 – April 2011

Term 3 May 2011 – Aug 2011

South Africa

2010/2011

Term 1 4 Oct 2010 – 10 Dec 2010

Term 2 19 Jan 2011 – 1 April 2011

Term 3 11 April 2011 – 24 June 2011

Ghana

2010/2011

Term 1 14 Sep 2010 – 16 Dec 2010

Term 2 11 Jan 2011 – 14 April 2011

Term 3 10 May 2011 – 28 July 2011

Looking for an adventure?

Malawi Bike Ride 2011 July 16th-25th 2011



Are you thinking about taking part in the **Malawi Bike ride 2011**, an exciting opportunity to cycle almost 400km through the warm heart of Africa and to fundraise for improved education in rural parts of Africa? Places are filling up fast so don't miss out on your chance to take part in a once in a lifetime personal challenge and to meet people as passionate and enthusiastic as you are!

Sign up before August 31st 2010 to take advantage of our early bird offer.

For more information and to download the registration pack now go to:

[www.lcdinternational.org/scotland/events/Malawi Bike Ride 2011.htm](http://www.lcdinternational.org/scotland/events/Malawi_Bike_Ride_2011.htm) or email

malawibikeride@lcd.org.uk

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Mapping the Curriculum for Excellence outcomes

The activities you take part in as a Link School can help pupils to achieve many of the Experiences and Outcomes defined by Curriculum for Excellence. We have created a map of the **Experiences and Outcomes** for both primary and secondary that are directly relevant to the Link Schools experience in the curriculum areas of Religious and Moral Education, Social Studies, Health and Wellbeing, and Technology. The mapping documents, which are attached here, and are now available on our website at www.lcdinternational.org/scotland/link_schools/resources.htm, demonstrate how LCD supports Link Schools to achieve these aims and includes examples from real Link Schools to inspire you.

Do you know your 'Rights and Responsibilities'?

'I have the right to education and also have the responsibility to respect my teacher. I would like to encourage you to work hard at school as education is very important in every day life.'

Quote from pupil Bless Adams Phiri, pupil of Mankhamba Primary School, Malawi.

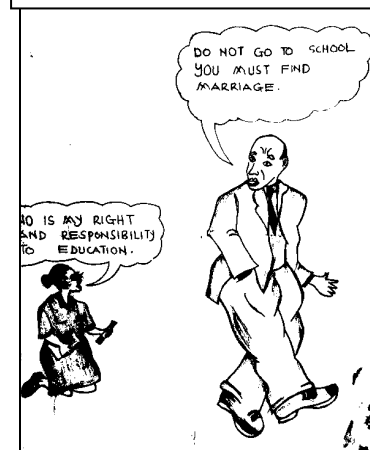
This year Link Schools were invited to take part in the joint themed activity on "Rights and Responsibilities". LCD was very impressed with the work that was exchanged on both sides and the project revealed some interesting results.

Schools took part in many different activities as part of this project; Aberuthven Primary School in Perth and Kinross held a special assembly on Right and Responsibilities and sent a 'big book' to their partner school Chimphalika Primary School, Malawi showing the children working on wants and needs cards, they then did research and looked at 5 main rights: education, childhood, clean water, fair treatment and health and finally they worked in groups to determine the responsibilities of different groups and made lists for parents, teachers and the government before holding a final assembly on the topic.

Other creative schools such as Killermont Primary School made a poem of the 'rights of the child', Castlehill Primary School in Fife put together a charter on rights and pupils from Strathaven Academy made a poster on the rights of the Scottish child to send to their partner school in Malawi. For many schools, this was a great opportunity to gather evidence to apply for the Unicef 'Rights Respecting Schools' award and an interesting way for pupils to compare their rights with those of their partner school.



Poster by Lockerbie Academy pupil



Poster by Malawian pupil

Former First Minister visits Link School

Clarkston Primary School in North Lanarkshire welcomed a special visitor when former First Minister Jack McConnell attended their special assembly on 'Aspects of Malawi' where pupils' presentations included an explanation of the story behind the Malawian flag. They also compared school life for children in Malawi and Scotland. One of the highlights of the day was when



Pupil Mark McKee with Jack McConnell

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a pupil from Clarkston Primary School, Mark McKee sang Amazing Grace in the Malawian local language of Chichewa.

Mr McConnell then gave a talk to the whole school on the subject of their partner country, before taking part in a question and answer session. Sharon MacDonald, the Link School Co-ordinator said: "Everyone was very excited to have such important visitors - Jack McConnell said it was the best presentation he had ever seen from a primary school and Karen Whitefield MSP for Airdrie and Shotts commented about it on her website."

What a bunch of Smarties!

Pupils and staff at Boghall Primary School, West Lothian have been busy filling up Smartie tubes with coins to raise money to enable them to continue their link with a school in Malawi. The Global Group in the school, which is made up of children from P1 to P7 and staff members, decided the 'Smartie Challenge' would be a good way of raising funds to continue their link into next year.

Since January everyone in the school has been working hard to contribute to the fundraising event.



Pupils from Boghall PS

For each Smartie tube filled a golden ticket was put into a special prize draw. The draw took place at assembly where a cheque for £500 was presented to Louise Stuart from Link Community Development.

Boghall Primary School has had a link with Nthulu Primary in Malawi over the past two years and this has been very successful. Both schools are currently doing a joint project about 'Rights and Responsibilities' and exchanging the work they have been doing with one another. 'This has been a great success and allows the children and staff to see the similarities and differences between the schools. Our thanks go to everyone who contributed to the success of this venture'. *Lee Buchanan, teacher and Link School Co-ordinator at Boghall Primary School.*

New Link School

We are delighted to welcome the Wendy House Nursery School in Perth which is linked with Namatuni Primary School in the Mulanje district of Malawi to the Link Schools Programme.

Staff changes at LCD

Monica Dearden, LCD Scotland Programme Director is now off on maternity leave from May- September 2010 and we are delighted to tell you that Monica gave birth to a baby girl on 13th June. Carol Ethershank, who has previously returned from VSO in India and has many of years of experience in North Lanarkshire council, is covering her maternity leave. You can contact Carol at carol@lcd.org.uk.

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