

Link Schools Programme News

August 2010



Welcome back to school year 2010/11. We are delighted to bring you details of many developments to the Link Schools Programme which will enhance your experience as a Link School including our new teachers' pack, cluster training support and our themed Partnership Projects. We wish you every success for your partnership for the new school year and if you do have any questions about your partnership please do get in touch as we are very happy to help.

Mailing dates

LCD is happy to announce that from now on there will be 2 mailing dates per term giving you added flexibility and the opportunity to communicate more with your partner school. See below for calendar dates. These are the dates **by which** your mail must reach our office to ensure that they are included in the mailing. The dates have been standardised across the 9 countries corresponding in the Link Schools Programme to make it easier to co-ordinate mailings.

DHL Mailing	UK / Ireland DHL date	Africa DHL date
Autumn term	Friday 1st October 2010	Friday 5 th November 2010
	Friday 10th December 2010	Friday 17 th December 2010
Spring term	Friday 28th January 2011	Friday 18 th February 2011
	Friday 25th March 2011	Friday 15 th April 2011
Summer term	Friday 20th May 2011	Friday 10 th June 2011
	Friday 1st July 2011	Friday 29 th July 2011

What to send: Remember to send only items which have an educational value and only send a jiffy bag of up to **2kg**. LCD is unable to send valuable items such as electrical equipment, football kits and other clothing (these may be subject to high import duties) or stationary and books – schools can purchase these locally to support the local economy.

Link Community Development

Tel: 0131 243 2685 Email: scotland@lcd.org.uk Website: www.lcdinternational.org/scotland
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Link Schools Programme developments

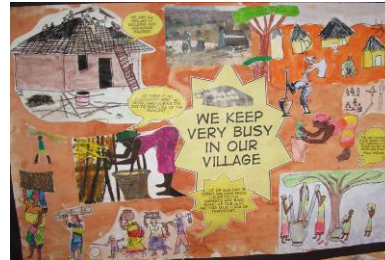
New teachers pack

LCD has developed a new pack for teachers responsible for maintaining a school partnership. The pack will provide practical advice on how to make a partnership a success as well as providing you a firm basis in international development and training activities to share with colleagues to develop the capacity of teachers responsible for the school partnership. The new pack will be sent to all Link School Co-ordinators by the beginning of October 2010.

Partnership Projects

LCD will soon be providing you with resources to enable pupils to learn about development through themed learning activities based on the needs and priorities of African partner schools. The Partnership Projects, which have been piloted in several Scottish schools, aim to maximise the educational value of your partnership through allowing pupils to engage in a piece of work with your partner school based around a curriculum subject. The Partnership Projects will be linked to the Millennium Development Goals with the following themes:

1. *The environment*
2. *Health*
3. *Gender*
4. *Education for all*
5. *Global Poverty*
6. *Partners in Development*



The first Partnership Project pack on the environment contains 6 lesson plans with activities to share with your partner school, case studies, links and resources and will be available by December 2010.

Cluster support

As part of the Link Schools Programme you will have access to training about good practice in school linking on a cluster basis so that you can form relationships with and take advice from other local schools that have partnerships.

Clustered support will:

- Provide local training to teachers involved in international schools partnerships on best practice in linking and bringing the global dimension into the curriculum.
- Provide support to teachers taking part in partnership curricular projects through LCD
- Provide participating teachers with peer support
- Provide teachers with the opportunity to exchange experience and good practice

We will shortly be providing you with details of which schools are in your cluster as well as dates of forthcoming cluster training. If you are interested in becoming a cluster co-ordinator for your Local Authority area please contact louise@lcd.org.uk.

Update your contact details

If the Link School co-ordinator at your school has recently changed please send us the contact details of the new contact person so that you continue to receive our newsletter and event invitations.

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Solar connect

An exciting new LCD initiative will provide rural African schools and Departments of Education with access to solar power and internet facilities. This will enable schools to carry out monitoring and communication by email, improving school performance and enabling teachers to spend more time in the classroom.



Solar powered laptops and equipment will be placed in hub schools and teacher development centres in our programme countries. School partnerships will be strengthened by more frequent communication and opportunities for sharing joint learning between partner schools in Africa, the UK and Ireland.

If you would like to help rural African schools to benefit from Solar Connect, contact LCD to find out how to make a donation.

Events

Malawi Bike Ride 2011



Places are still available for the Malawi Bike Ride 2011, a wonderful cycle through the 'warm heart of Africa'. You have until the end of August 31st to take advantage of the early bird offer where registration fees are £200 as opposed to £250.

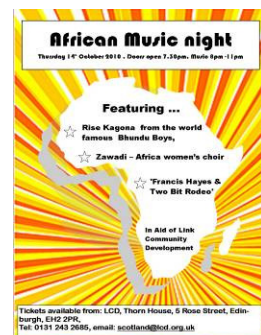
Download the application form at www.lcdinternational.org/scotland and become our fan on **facebook** to receive updates on the Malawi Bike Ride 2011 and spread the word to your friends.



www.facebook.com/pages/LCDs-Malawi-Bike-Ride/100394240014514?ref=sgm

Africa Music night, Edinburgh, 14th October 2010

LCD will be holding an African music night at the Roxy Art House, Roxburgh Place in Edinburgh on Thursday 14th October from 8pm in aid of our work to improve education in rural Africa. The event will feature the bands Rise Kagona, Zawadi African women's choir and 'Francis Hayes & Two Bit Rodeo'. Please come along for some wonderful entertainment and to support our work. Tickets can be purchased in advance from LCD on 0131 243 2685 for £8 or £5 for students.



Discover Africa through Film, 21st October- 5th November



The Africa in Motion (AiM) is an annual African film festival aimed at overcoming the under-representation of African film in the UK and to introduce Scottish audiences to the riches of African cinema. The festival which is based at The Filmhouse Cinema in Edinburgh has been running for 5 years now and this year's central theme is **celebrations**. AiM wishes to celebrate 50 years of independence of 17 African countries, to emphasise the complexity of global politics and power structures, and to evaluate the state of Africa 50 years after independence. To find out more go to www.africa-in-motion.org.uk.

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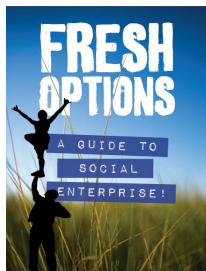
New Malawi Flag Unveiled

On the 29th July 2010 President Bingu Wa Mutharika unveiled the new national flag for Malawi. The stripes have been altered from the previous flag which was adopted on 6 July 1964, to match the original Pan-African Flag layout. The rising sun was replaced with a full, centred white sun representing the economic progress Malawi has made since becoming independent. The rising sun represented the dawn of hope and freedom for the continent of Africa.



President Mutharika urged Malawians to consider the new flag a symbol of progress, highlighting the fact that Malawi is still transforming and developing, and will continue to define its own future.

Using social enterprise to support schools in Africa



The Social Enterprise in Schools Award promotes social enterprise awareness as a way of doing better business within your school. Created and run jointly by the Social Enterprise Academy and Determined to Succeed the Award it is now in its third year. It aims to develop young people's understanding of social enterprise while providing them with hands-on experience of running a business for the benefit of communities both home and abroad.

Craigdhu Primary School in East Dunbartonshire ran a social enterprise project to support their Link School in Malawi. The enterprise committee organised for the whole school to bring in used books, CDs, DVDs and computer games. They then with the help of P7 sold the items to the children at lunchtime and then opened it up to parents one day after school. The money raised was used to link with Lidzinji Primary in Malawi. As they have raised enough money to link for two years the school has been able to respond to the crisis in Pakistan by organising a fundraising event for there. Various fundraising events organised by the enterprise committee will continue as the year goes on.

Please contact claire@theacademy-ssea.org or call 0131 243 2677 to learn more about how your school can get involved with the award, and the social enterprise learning resources available to you.

Scottish Learning Festival

You will no doubt be aware that the Scottish Learning festival (SLF) is taking place this year in Glasgow on 22nd and 23rd September at the SECC. Of particular interest may be the workshops being held on Developing Global Citizens including 'Developing Global Citizens through Sustainable Development Education' on 22nd, the preview of 'Developing Global Citizens within Curriculum for Excellence' on the 23rd and the 'A visit to Citizenship through visual art gallery'.



If you are planning to attend the SLF and have a stall there please let us know as we would be happy to send you some Link Community Development materials to display at it. To register go to www.ltscotland.org.uk/slf.

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