



Link Schools Programme News

25th August 2009

Summer 2009

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Dear Link School Co-ordinator,

Welcome to the new term at school. We wish you all a successful year with your partnership and hope that you continue to work on interesting and useful curriculum projects together with your Link School.



Upcoming LCD Events

Mailing dates:

Autumn term 2009:

Scotland – Africa - 15 October 2009
Africa – Scotland - 13 November 2009

Spring term 2010:

Scotland – Africa - 29 January 2010
Africa – Scotland - 5 March 2010

Joint curricular activity - 25 March 2010

Summer term 2010:

Scotland – Africa - 7 May 2010
Africa - Scotland - 4 June 2010



Link School joint curricular project- March 2010

Following on from the 'Why do you go to school' poster project & the 'Swapping Stories' joint literacy project, LCD is planning another joint project in the spring of next year. The project will provide the opportunity for partner schools to share ideas and work each other. Full details will be with you by 25 September so you have time to integrate it into your plans.

Great Scottish Run 2009!

There are still places on the LCD Great Scottish Run team on September 6th in Glasgow. If you would like to join us or sponsor the team please contact Louise or visit

www.justgiving.co.uk/louisekstuart-10k



To find out more about any of our events, please email louise@lcd.org.uk or call 0131 243 2685.

Resources

NEW: school partnership agreement

LCD has designed a new partnership agreement for schools to use to help you to plan your partnership's activities; focus on realistic aims; establish mutually agreed educational goals as well as evaluate the effectiveness of the partnership. We have attached a copy of the new school partnership agreement.

If you have just begun your link we would ask you to complete and **send the partnership agreement to LCD by email within 3 months** of beginning your link and we will forward it to your Link School. If you have been linked for longer now may be a good time to review your partnership and perhaps draw up a new agreement together for the forthcoming year to help guide you/ your partnership.

FAQ about linking

LCD has compiled a list of '*frequently asked questions*' about the Link Schools Programme which we have designed to help support you through your partnership. You will find it attached. Please read through and refer to it throughout your partnership; we hope you will find it useful.

The FAQ responds to questions such as:

- How do I set up the Partnership with my Link School?
- How is my Link School fee used?
- Can we raise money for our Link School?
- Can I visit my Link School?

New board game on HIV/AIDS

'Choices & Decisions' is a **board game** developed in Malawi designed to equip young people with life skills and knowledge on HIV & AIDS. The target age group is young people aged from 14 - 18. The game is also a useful tool for teachers in Scotland who have links with African schools to raise awareness of the issues facing young people in African countries. You could buy a copy for your partner school. www.choicesanddecisions.co.uk.

Do you need support with fundraising for the Link Schools Programme fee this year? Would you like tips on how to approach companies and local businesses for funding?

For the past three years one of our Link Schools in the Highland area has been sponsored by a local company. Below we have some tips for how best to approach local companies for sponsorship for your linking fee.

Approaching local businesses for sponsorship:

- Local businesses are more likely to support people who they have a connection to. Do you, your family or friends have **business contacts** you could approach for support for the Link Schools Programme fee? A company that knows the school or has children attending the school is likely to be more amenable.
- Some companies offer to **match** the charitable fundraising efforts of their staff **£ for £** - check whether local employers offer this scheme for their staff.
- Could you offer any **publicity** to a local business in exchange for sponsorship?
- Why not write to **local companies** to ask if they will sponsor your link, and offer to give information on your school's plans and LCD's work?

Please let us know if you do secure support and LCD will speak to the company about our work, and arrangement payments etc.

News

New LCD website

LCD has a new website! Visit it at www.lcdinternational.org for updates on our work to improve education in Malawi, Ghana, Uganda, Ethiopia and South Africa. You can also find out more about the latest LCD Scotland news and events.



We will soon have a list of all Link Schools so that you can contact your nearest link school for support.

Global Teachers

Fourteen Global Teachers from around Scotland recently returned from Malawi after a successful 4 week school placement. If you would like to contact your nearest Global Teacher, a list of Global Teachers is available on our website. The Global Teachers this year hailed from Aberdeenshire; Dundee; East Dunbartonshire;



East Lothian; Falkirk; Glasgow; Highland; Midlothian; North Lanarkshire; Perth & Kinross and South Lanarkshire local authorities.

The Link2Learn Awards 2009

The British Council is holding the **Link2Learn Awards** to celebrate excellence and innovation in school partnerships. Entrants should submit a series of brief descriptions of their international school partnership work, as evidence of the impact and enrichment of the international dimensions of the teaching and learning in their school or local authority.

- There are prizes of up to **£5,000** each for primary and secondary schools, the runners up in these 3 categories win **£1,500**.

-Individual International coordinators at schools can win **£2,500** and Local Authorities **£3,000**.

Who can enter?

In order to enter this competition, your school needs to be registered for the DCSF International School Award. The deadline for entries is Friday 11 September 2009. To enter go to:

www.globalgateway.org.

Link Schools Task Group

Do you want to:

- Get involved in the development of the Link Schools Programme?
- Identify ways to enable schools to make better use of links and
- Provide guidance on curriculum and classroom changes, so that the programme can better meet the needs of Link Schools in Scotland?

If so, then join the LSP task group!

Who can join: Link School coordinators, former Global Teachers, pupils from your linking committee.

When: Meetings are once a term. Exact dates and location to be confirmed. To get involved in the task group, please get in touch: louise@lcd.org.uk or call 0131 243 2685.

New project to develop the Link Schools Programme

LCD has just received the fantastic news that we have been successful in our bid for 3 years of funding from the EU for 'Partners in Development'. Partners in Development will enhance LCD's Link Schools Programme across the UK and Ireland, which currently involves 700 schools - in partnerships with schools in Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, South Africa and Uganda. The project will:

1. Provide **professional support to teachers in development education;**
2. Support the **improvement of communication between schools;**
3. Support the development of **themed learning activities** for partner schools and their communities to work on;
4. Develop and sustain **strong school partnerships to raise public awareness of development issues** and encourage schools to take action to support the development of African schools and their communities.

More information to follow.

Contact us: 0131 243 2685, scotland@lcd.org.uk, www.lcdinternational.org