



# **Education, Culture & Sport Committee**

## **Comataidh Foghlaim, Cultair is Spors**

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2009**



## Inverness Leisure nominated for Highland Diversity Awards

Inverness Leisure was shortlisted for nomination in two categories of the Highland Diversity Awards run by the Highland Employment Network:

- **Best Practice in staff development and retention** and
- **Overall Best Employer in the Highlands**

Businesses which were nominated had to be innovative and positive about employing people from more diverse sources, have flexible practices in the recruitment of new staff, supporting existing staff and be committed to breaking down barriers to employment in a real and meaningful way.

## Portree Primary School Best Enterprise Award

Portree Primary School collected a prestigious accolade at the Scottish Education Awards, sponsored by the Scottish Government to celebrate success and excellence in Scottish education.

Portree Primary School won the Best Enterprise Award after it was nominated by the island's local radio station, Cuillin FM.





## **Scotland's New Constellation for the International Year of Astronomy 2009**

Ruby Partridge, aged 12, a pupil at Broadford Primary School, won joint 3<sup>rd</sup> prize in a competition to create a design for a new constellation formed out of 8 stars selected by eight Schools from all over Scotland. As part of the Constellation Project for the IYA 2009, pupils also enjoyed two days of workshops with a planetarium show, magic and art workshops

## Abriachan Forest Trust Day out at Abriachan Forest

Funded by a Sustrans grant, 15 children from Smithton Primary School recently enjoyed a fantastic day out at Abriachan Forest. The children, ranging from P4-7, either using their own bikes or those supplied by the Trust, learnt the basic skills of using gears, safely stopping, riding in a controlled manner and riding over obstacles, prior to enjoying the main forest trails.





## **Active Schools Co-ordinator Selected for National Kayaking event**

Dawn Horsburgh Active Schools Co-ordinator will represent Scotland later this month in the World Surf Kayak Championships.

Dawn is based at the Craig Maclean Leisure Centre, Grantown, and will be competing for her country between 23 July and 2 August in Santa Cruz, Portugal.

This international competition is organised by the World Surf Kayak Association, which was set up following the 2001 World Championships in Santa Cruz, California.

Dawn has been kayaking for 16 years and started competitively in 2002. She has been runner up in the Scotland (International Class) to the reigning world champion.

## Golfing Success Scottish Cap for Hannah



Hannah McCook, 4th year pupil of Grantown Grammar School, gained her Scottish cap playing for Scotland in the Scottish Under 16's Championship played at Craigiellaw, East Lothian in early April

## Farr Woodcraft win YEUK Production Award



Farr Woodcraft have won the Young Enterprise Production Award supported by GKN plc at the Young Enterprise UK Finals in London. The Production Award recognises excellence in production of a Young Enterprise company's product or service.

The UK Finals took place on Wednesday 8 July in London and Farr with their Award came in third place overall.

In making the award the representative from GKN said they 'stood out a long way' from the other teams taking part.



## Portree Primary School demonstrates it's got an “Appetite for Action”

Portree Primary School has won £3000 as part of this year's ‘**Appetite for Action**’ competition run by Sky and Global Action Plan - a three-year partnership which aims to raise over £1 million for Global Action Plan and inspire consumers, Sky customers and staff to make positive changes in their daily lives to address climate change.

Primary schools across the UK and Republic of Ireland were encouraged to pick a challenge such as ‘Reducing Rubbish’ or ‘Get Growing’. Portree's pupils took on the ‘Greener Grub’ challenge and formed a team called The Punkrock Polarbears Society, interviewing school cooks, surveying 80 people's pack lunches, reducing disposable packaging in packet lunches and holding healthy snack tasting sessions. They also wrote and performed their own songs advocating healthy lunches.



## Cauldeen PS P6 win 'Digital Diary Dialogues' Award

Cauldeen PS P6 have won a UK National Award for Creativity and Innovation 2009 with their 'Digital Diary Dialogues' project.

The project connects European young people in Scotland, Finland, England and a guest school in Afghanistan in an exchange of their daily lives, feelings and educational activities. Digital Diary Dialogues is based on using pupil created learning objects and micro blogs, exchanged directly through engaging exclusively with mobile phone technology to communicate activities, ideas, and feelings through digital imaging, video, text, text speak and audio.



## **Brora Primary – SFA Quality Mark Award**

Brora Primary School is the first school in the North to be awarded the SFA Quality Mark at Standard Level.

The Scottish FA's Youth Action Plan carries a commitment to Club Development.

The Quality Mark Scheme seeks to encourage and acknowledge the development of good practice in football clubs.



## **ECS Committee – New Appointments**

Congratulations and welcome to Melanie Murray who has been appointed to the post of Committee Administrator for ECS.

Congratulations also to Jane Maclellan who moves on to the post of Principal Administrator. Our thanks to Jane for all her work with the ECS Committee.

We wish Melanie and Jane every success in their new posts.



# **Education, Culture & Sport Committee**

## **Comataidh Foghlaim, Cultair is Spors**

**Thursday 6 August 2009**