

A Global Week at Coulhill Primary



The preparation for this week in March began months ago! The energy and enthusiasm of the Depute kept it all on track. A CAT session with the staff led some to use of the African instruments. Young ones enjoyed learning about (and modelling) the clothing from around the world that HOWG has. Staff introduced global themes themselves. Visitors were invited in. The Red Cross worked with some classes. Elanor Gordon from CSV Action for Sustainability worked on climate change with others. Living more sustainably was the message from the Common Threads Group and Gill Challis of Artisan Threads who illustrated how craft activities can bring some of these challenging issues to life. They showed how re-using materials can be creative, enjoyable and good for the planet. HOWG offered a day of workshops. With the P4s and 5s the issue was waste, linked with our rights and global responsibilities. With P1, 2 and 3 the idea of global interdependence through food was investigated. The P6s and 7s explored values and attitudes, stereotypes, similarities and differences. All involved group work and discussion. What cooperation there was within these big groups!

The week finished with an amazing assembly where every class shared what they had learned and made. And then the parents were invited in for a Fair Trade tea party to see all that happened.

Was it worth all the effort? What were the hoped for outcomes? Were they achieved? What is the long term impact? Will it be done again? These are just a few of the questions

Global Teacher Network - next meeting – planning a global week or a ‘Malawi’ Day

The last meeting was held on Tuesday 26th January, in a short lull in all the snow and ice. Teachers arrived from as far afield as Gairloch and Plockton to discuss

Updates on school linking and developing global partnerships.

There was a lot of interest in a new partnership with South America which started because of the Rainforest topic of the class here but is now being woven into all the class’s themes. Energy being the next one. There was a lively contribution about the practicalities of taking pupils to Malawi. The impact of the partnership on the curriculum here provided lots of ideas to share. An over view of the highs and lows of European and global connections was the final in-put.

It was a very fruitful evening. Many thanks to Don Macleod, Lochardil, Sheena MacGillivray and Elizabeth McDonald, Nairn Academy, Angus Gray, Tain Royal Academy and Alison Stewart, Fortrose Academy for their stimulating presentations.

Many schools are looking for ideas for suspended timetable days or weeks. Others are aiming to encourage staff to find the global dimension within their own subject area. The next Global Teacher Network meeting will give us an opportunity to learn from the experiences of those who have already experimented with this concept. *Why did they do it? How did they do it? What help is available? What actually took place? What were the outcomes? Were the aims achieved? Is it worth all the effort in the long run?*

Teachers from Kingussie High School, Smithton Primary, Nairn Academy, Coulhill Primary and others will share their experiences about

GLOBAL TEACHER NETWORK

The next meeting will be on

Wednesday 12th May 2010 at Millburn Academy

Refreshments 6.45pm for 7pm - finish 8.30pm (sharp)

ALL WELCOME

Please contact janis.keast@highland.gov.uk if you plan to come, for catering purposes