

# NEWSLETTER



**For Primary & Secondary  
School Teachers**

No. 44 Autumn Term 2009

## Comment

So much is happening this session to support teachers as you take up the challenge of a Curriculum for Excellence. Taking a global look at the Curricular Areas as well as the Cross Cutting Themes can be a source of 'inspiration'. With a global approach, young people are immediately working in real contexts which both excite and motivate them. They are inevitably developing critical and creative thinking skills as they weigh up evidence and problem solve. There are so many resources available for loan for all Levels and all Curricular Areas. Many have photographs which can be used in a variety of ways - to collect evidence, to awaken visual and emotional literacy. You may be fulfilling the outcomes for language / literacy or health and wellbeing but the class is also gaining an understanding of sustainable development and active citizenship in an enterprising way. Lots of CPD opportunities, which can come to you in your own school, are highlighted on the back page.

## Recent Events

**1. CPD opportunities** Probationary teachers came together in April for a *Joined up Thinking* day where they experienced tools to help them make connections between citizenship, sustainability, health and enterprise in a global context. At *Wimberley Way Nursery* the staff saw that the skills they aim to develop - matching, sorting, sequencing, can all be set in a global context using lively photos which encourage listening and talking. In May at a CAT session at *St Clement's School*, activities, transferrable to many themes, many based on photos, were explored to encourage communication and cooperative skills within a local/global context. In the *Orkney Isles* there was a session to introduce a global approach to a Curriculum for Excellence. The Global Teacher Network also met in May (please see over page)

**2. Classroom visits** ranged over many topics last term. At Muirtown it was *farming* with one



class and thinking about similarities and differences for the *Malawi Partnership Committee*. At Strathpeffer and Ardross the issue was *Fair Trade*. One class at Kirkhill played the *Global Rubbish Game* to enhance their understanding of waste issues while at Aviemore a

class played the *Eagle's Kingdom* to round off their study of the *Scottish countryside*. The PS - 7 class at Teanassie were totally engaged in the *India Exhibition*. This is Curriculum for Excellence', said their teacher as they were collaborating in pairs, working things out, asking questions and expressing opinions.

3. There were several whole schools events. An assembly was conducted for St Clement's to increase understanding of the 'carrying capacity' of the planet in relation to their *South America / Rainforest* topic and the displacement of people. Sessions were facilitated at Tore, Alvie and Nairn Academy during suspended timetable days where the *Sharing of Cultures* was the theme to support the Year of Homecoming. (More on next page.)

4. Eco-Schools has been supported at the Helmsdale conference (see over) and at Alness Academy where the committee are sharing their programme with a *partner school in Addis Ababa*. What a lot the young people here are learning - not just about 'green' issues but about aspiration

1. The *Global Teacher Network* meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> May focused on the *Year of Homecoming*. This was an exciting sharing session as teachers brought along so many exemplar materials of things their classes had been involved in producing. There were collages depicting *Journeys* children had made which contrasted with activities undertaken to illuminate the *forced journeys* made by refugees fleeing from manmade or natural disasters. There were also *Journey* story boards created by classes at *Dingwall Primary* and *Ullapool Primary* with *Lisa O'Brien* their Cultural Coordinator and a writer. *Torrison* teacher, *Peter Fenton*, shared, by 'distance learning', his class led topic plan on *Journeys* which started with an RME focus but branched out into Language, Maths, ICT and technology as children explored 'homes' including temporary shelters for refugees. *Helene Kaspis* from Knockbreck, Tain, contributed in the same way her class' exciting topic on *Minorities - racism, refugees and disability*. Much more about all of this is on the website [www.globaldimension.highland.schools.org.uk](http://www.globaldimension.highland.schools.org.uk). The evening also included a presentation from Kirsteen Wells, Bunsgoil Ghaidhlig Inbhir Nis, who outlined how she incorporated Homecoming into last term's topics which the classes planned on the theme of History, Heritage and Culture. Audrey Kellacher, LTS, was also able to join us and encouraged us to contribute all the exciting work that is going on in Highland to the map on the Homecoming page of the LTS website.

too and cultural similarities and differences.

***Inverness Book Festival***

At the last *Global Teacher Network meeting* Brid McGibben outlined a short story writing competition the Inverness Book Festival is running on '*Home and the Feeling of Home in this Year of Homecoming*'. The closing date is 22 August. There are several age groups. Full details on the website [www.invernessbookfestival.co.uk](http://www.invernessbookfestival.co.uk)



courages young people to value their own heritage while recognising and challenging the global pressures that are on it. But Highland One World Group also led a plenary workshop for all 120+ participants on *global cultural similarities*, highlighting our dislike of being stereotyped but revealing how easily we can make generalisations about others!

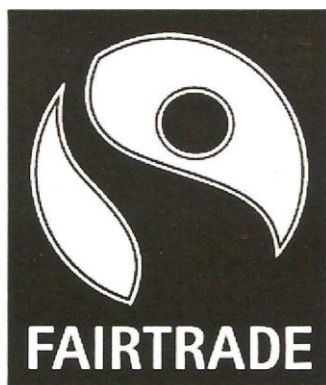
3. Variations on this Cultural Sharing workshop helped children at Muirtown (please see above) and Tore think more critically about their partnerships with Malawi, encouraged an outward looking approach for Alvie's Eco Week and caused controversy and debate for S3s at Nairn Academy during their Global Awareness Day on 14 June. It was especially stimulating to hear the S3 age group so engaged, questioning their own values and attitudes.



Next Global Teacher Network meeting Wednesday, 16th September-see page 4 for details.

## Homecoming Resources

What is a home? Why do people move? Many left Scotland as a result of the Clearances. Are factors like this still at work today in other parts of the world? There are many resources for all ages to encourage critical thinking about migration to and from Scotland over the years - key components to the Year of Homecoming. *Moving Here - The Refugee Experience* makes the links between refugees today and other migrants past and present including Roman soldiers and UK workers in Saudi Arabia. *Home from Home* offers guidance and practical advice for welcoming refugee children. *All you need for a refugee assembly* challenges myths and stereotypes. *Refugees - we left because we had to* looks at movements of people through the generations. *Human Rights in the Curriculum - Spanish* has a section on travellers and homelessness. *One day we had to run* gives young people's firsthand accounts of fleeing from their homes. *First Steps to Rights* shows children are never too young to start thinking about rights and the responsibilities they bring, including the right to a home. This pack gets them back to differentiating their needs from their wants which is the first step to understanding and appreciating rights. *Participation-Spice it up!* is a mine of practical activities to involve young people in decision making.



## Making the links between Eco-Schools and Fair Trade

--- Highland Council wants to promote Highland as a Fairtrade Zone. There is a lot of activity going on in schools around Fairtrade but there is also the FARITRADE SCHOOLS AWARD which would give recognition to all this and support the statistics to enable Highland to be a Fairtrade Zone, and contribute to Scotland becoming a Fairtrade Nation. This Award dovetails well with Eco-Schools. Asking Economic questions is very much a part of living more sustainably. For guidance on how to become a Fairtrade School please find information on

[www.scottishfairtradeforum.org.uk](http://www.scottishfairtradeforum.org.uk) and

[www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk) There are lots of resources

available to help young minds become more aware of what fair trade is and how it helps communities in less developed parts of the world. *Milking it* is an on line resource which compares the lives of dairy farmers in Jamaica and Wales. Fair Trade is a local issue too!

[www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/milking](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/milking_it)

[it](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/milking_it) *Passion for Fashion* explores the way the global fashion industry works

[www.risc.org.uk/educaiton/teachingresources.html](http://www.risc.org.uk/educaiton/teachingresources.html)

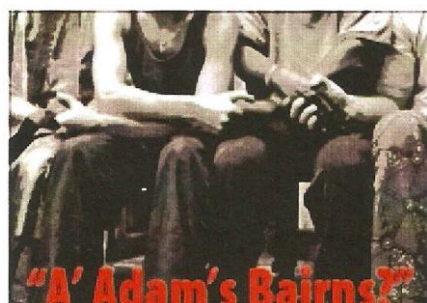
and Just Business encourages Business

Studies and Economics students to ask ethical questions about global trade

[www.jusbiz.org](http://www.jusbiz.org). Child Labour is a major issue to be confronted.

[www.savethechildren.org.uk/eyetoeye](http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/eyetoeye) does just that and is available in Spanish too. There are many other paper resources too for loan, which are all activity based.

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Exploring attitudes to justice and equality in Scotland past and present.

New Resource and CPD Opportunity this Autumn - Watch out for the new resource 'A'Adam's Bairns' from the National Library of Scotland and ScotDec. It draws on archive materials and is great for tackling primary sources, as well as exploring culture through song. This is an exciting, challenging way to value Robert Burns, investigate issues of identity, consider reasons for migration and face up to some of our prejudices, including sectarianism. Ideal to provide a legacy for the Year of Homecoming.

2009 -10 CPD Opportunities from HOWG These workshops (and others) can be delivered at

your school or for cluster groups during CAT or part of an inservice day:

- (a) Addressing the Multicultural Aspects of Curriculum for the Early Level
- (b) Development Education support for a Curriculum for Excellence & NP4
- (c) A global approach to enterprise activity - support from Development Education resources
- (d) Introducing Joined up thinking for the classroom - Citizenship and sustainability
- (e) Health and wellbeing and global citizenship -an active learning approach



### Central CPD Opportunities

<p>Early Years 16 September Education Centre, Dingwall 9.30 - 12.30 - Active learning approaches to a Curriculum for Excellence for young children ... The session will make citizenship, learning outdoors, health connections between and wellbeing, environmental awareness, a global dimension and developing enterprising attitudes while delivering, amongst others, literacy and numeracy outcomes as well as support for social and personal development. There will be a display of colourful, relevant resources for loan.</p>	<p>Highland CfE Showcase at Dingwall Academy 27 / 28 October- Highland OneWorld Group, with partner teachers, will be there with a variety of workshops to support school partnerships, or a global approach to a Curriculum for Excellence, or Determined to Succeed - a global perspective. There will be opportunities to try out some popular simulation games which get to the heart of CfE. There will be resources to borrow and also offers on well-received resources which you may want to buy.</p>	<p>Joined up thinking for probationary teachers 4 May 2010 in Dingwall. This is advanced notice! The course is described in the online CPD calendar. Working with real issues, as heralded by CfE, there is something here for every subject area. From climate change, to cultural sensitivity, there are tools to support all teachers. Are primary children too young to deal with issues like these? Not if the activities are at the correct level. Lots of ideas will be on offer to bring critical &amp; creative thinking into the classroom through active learning.</p>
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Red Cross CPD opportunity for secondary teachers coming to Inverness on 8th October. An Introduction to Humanitarian Education Red Cross movement, global citizenship, conflict, child soldiers, disasters, emergencies, building a refugee shelter, Humanitarian education  
For more information and to reserve a place for this full day course please contact ssabino-hunt@redcross.org.uk or 01313385700

**GLOBAL TEACHER NETWORK**  
The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 16th September in Millburn Academy Meeting Room, where the topic for sharing will be  
**Resources for a Curriculum for Excellence**  
An active learning approach in a global context  
Highland exemplars

Funder's News  
It is well worth taking a look at Oxfam's website. There are free downloadable lesson plans on various issues. Climate change for young children starts with enabling them to value water as a precious resource. The story and African instruments mentioned are available for loan to support the activities found on [www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/global\\_music/Jesson\\_plans](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/global_music/Jesson_plans)  
GLOBAL TEACHER

Diary Dates or themes for assemblies  
Sept 16 Global Teacher Network Meeting, Millburn Academy  
October Climate Change month  
Oct 16 World Food Day  
4.. Oct 16/18 GCAP -Global Campaign Against Poverty, International Education Week and Enterprise Week 5. Oct 18/25 One World Week - hungry for one world 6.Oct 27/28 Highland CfE showcase.  
7. Dec 1 World Aids Day  
More from DFID: <http://www.globaldimension.org.uk/calendar/>