

Carl Luke High School

Newsletter – March 2010



As we approach the end of what is always a busy term, we'd like to bring you up to date with some of the things that have been happening in the school. This is also a time when we want to ensure all of our S4/5/6 pupils have their eyes very firmly focussed on their SQA exams which start soon after the Easter break.

To this end the next Monitoring & Tracking report will be issued to

all years next week except S5/6 who have recently been issued with a full report. For pupils about to sit exams this really is a crucial time and many departments have already been running study support classes. We would appreciate your assistance in encouraging your son / daughter to take advantage of these opportunities. There is no doubt that putting in a few weeks of hard work and revision now will make a difference.

We were delighted to welcome a very special visitor to the school last week. The Moderator of the General Assembly, the Reverend Bill Hewitt was on a week long visit to the Clydesdale area. He was able to come and give our S1 pupils an insight into his role.

James Yuille

Head Teacher

Project Catwalk

Following on from the success of last year's event, senior pupils, working in association with the Parent Council, are organising a fashion show with bingo on Wednesday, March 17th. The purpose of the event is to raise funds to support a number of activities within the school.

Latest fashions from New Look, Dorothy Perkins, Wallis, Officers Club, Plaisir and Republic will be on show plus exclusive designer wear from Fiona DeWson a local designer and former pupil. A prom dress has been donated by Fiona DeWson; tickets for this are available at £2.50. Many other fabulous raffle and bingo prizes will be on offer.

Tickets costing £5 which includes refreshments are available from the Home Economics department or pay at the door on the night. Please come along to support us.

Helping Haiti

In the wake of the recent earthquake that struck Haiti, killing roughly 200,000 people, Carl Luke High pupils participated in 'Wear it Blue Day' in support of the victims. During this day, pupils substituted one item of their school uniform with an item of blue. Each pupil (and staff) who did this contributed £1 to the cause. On the day, Fairtrade chocolate bars, donated by Mrs McIntyre, and guess the teddy bear's birthday as well as the number of sweets in a jar were organised by S3 pupils in Miss Robinson's Modern Studies class. The combined total raised was a wonderful £908. This has been sent to the disaster fund to help get Haiti back on its feet and save lives. We would like to thank everyone who took part for showing support to people who really needed it.

Eco Garden

We are now starting to put our garden together, looking to grow herbs and vegetables which will be used in Home Economics. If you would like to help in any way, for example with any ideas on how to grow different kinds of vegetables, or through donating gardening equipment then Mr Jamil would be delighted to hear from you.

Green Flag Assessment

Next week the Eco Assessors are coming to Carl Luke High to see if we are ready for our second Green Flag in recognition of our Eco work being carried out around the school and community. If we are successful we will be only the second mainstream secondary school in South Lanarkshire to achieve this.



Carluke High makes the news with help from the BBC

On Thursday, 11th March, twenty pupils from Carluke High joined up with around 700 schools across the UK making the news. The pupils took part in BBC News School Report - a BBC project to engage 11-14-year-olds in the news.

Ex-teacher and BBC News presenter, Huw Edwards, is lending his support to the project. He says: "I'm involved because I want to give young people the chance to make the news themselves and I want to share the principles of good journalism."

Over the past few months S1 and S2 pupils have been working hard, training to be top journalists, carrying out interviews and producing reports. English teacher Miss Lindsay said, "The students have worked extremely hard to make sure that they produced good stories within the deadlines."

Last Thursday at 2pm the students broadcast their news, covering the stories of the day as well as their special report on the importance of young people watching the news. Lauren said. "It's been great fun. My favourite part so far has been recording in the studio with peers and interviewing the teachers and the head-teacher – even though I was nervous."

This year schools were also attempting to set the World Record for the largest Interactive Weather Report. To help with this, pupils from the school took the temperature at 9.15 am and submitted it to BBC Weather who compiled it into a weather report.

The whole day required a huge amount of effort and dedication

from all involved but pupils and staff had a great time.

You will find the reports on the school website (www.carluke-highschool.org.uk) or log on to the BBC website (www.bbc.co.uk/schoolreport).

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

Our Fairtrade group have had a busy few weeks because of Fairtrade Fortnight. The group organised a variety of activities to raise awareness of Fairtrade. Poster competitions were held for S1 & S2 classes while S3 designed Fairtrade T-shirts.

Presentations were made at assemblies and Fairtrade goods were sold at lunch time. The group also organised a staff coffee morning which proved very profitable! R.M.E teachers also taught students about the meaning of Fairtrade. Our local newspaper will be running an article about our Fairtrade group and our recent efforts.

Over all it has been a very hectic time but well worth it because we have sold so many products to help Third World countries. We couldn't have done it without the support of pupils, parents and staff. Including reaching our goal of becoming a Fairtrade school. Thank you.

UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge 2010 Results

This Intermediate Mathematical Challenge encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve non-standard problems. It is designed to make students think and sometimes smile! Receiving a bronze certificate were: Ellyn Russell 4D1, Callum Dent 4D2, Rachel Leghorn 3M, Mhairi McCulloch 3H, Julia Hamilton 3K1, Megan McIntosh 3L and Gillian Anderson 3M A silver certificate went to Hannah Thomson 3H. A gold certificate and Best In School was awarded to Caitlin McEwan 3H. Congratulations to all.

Rag Bag Day

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to our Rag Bag Day. We managed to raise £72.



Band Camp – report by Eilidh Lindsay 5M

On March 5th, members of the Carluke High School bands went on a residential trip to the Broomlee centre in West Linton for a weekend. We arrived at Broomlee around two o'clock on Friday afternoon, unpacked our cases and headed off for a bite to eat. There was no time to spare as we were whisked off for a Samba Band rehearsal then dinner.

After that we went on a fantastic outdoor activity in which we had to find our way round an obstacle course blindfolded with only a bit of rope to guide us. We had to completely rely on the person in front of you to warn you of obstacles, not so good when the person in front of you is Daniel Carmichael! Everyone was caked in mud, but we all agreed it was excellent fun!

Afterwards, once we were all changed it was off to one of the classrooms for a Singstar competition! Teachers vs. pupils, and with Miss Gibson on the teacher's team, it wasn't hard for the pupils to win - although the teachers impression of Rocky Balboa was second to none! After a very tiring day we all headed to bed, although there was very little sleep had!

Saturday was mainly rehearsal day which kicked off with breakfast, then jazz band followed by concert band, folk group and the rockers with lunch in between. Saturday night was by far the best as we all headed up to the main hall after a hard day of practice to find out we would be doing a pub quiz! After a fair bit of cheating and "checking of answers" by Mr Falconer we had yet another game of Singstar! Allison Hickman and Linzi Doyle were excellent! Then the teachers treated us to

a performance of Final Countdown only to finish, and realise everyone had walked out the hall in horror! It was back to the dorms for a midnight feast and a gossip then off to bed.

Sunday morning was action packed with breakfast then off for some more muddy activities which included archery, zip wire, obstacle course and tree climbing! Mrs Farren and Miss Gibson were especially good at the obstacle course! After that we went back to the hall for a quick rehearsal for all the bands, packed the instruments away and put them on the bus ready to come home. All in all we thoroughly enjoyed the weekend. It was a good opportunity to meet new people within the band and of course practice!

Just one question, when is the next one?

Scotland v Australia Netball

Last month a number of our S1 and S2 netball girls had the privilege of being ball girls at the Scotland v Australia netball match. Despite the fact that our national team were comprehensively beaten and outplayed throughout the match (losing 18-76) the girls had a fantastic night and were excellent representatives of the school.

Crazy Hair Day for CHAS

For a number of years Mr Kerr has organised a Penny Mile to collect money for CHAS (the Children's Hospice). This has now run for around 15 years and we have collected about £17,000.

This year we think it is time for a change. So, to replace the Penny Mile we are going to have a Crazy Hair Day. This is simply a day when pupils and staff come to school sporting a rather different hairstyle, or colour, the crazier the better. It will be normal school uniform and it will cost £1 to take part. This will happen on Wednesday 31st March which is the day before the Easter holidays begin.

We have usually been able to raise around £1000 each year for a very worthwhile cause and we hope this year will be no different. We hope to encourage as many people as possible to take part.

Additional In-service Day

The Scottish Government has allocated all schools an additional in-service day to allow preparation for Curriculum for Excellence. For Carluke High this will be Tuesday 1 June, 2010.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

The Home Economics department are collecting these vouchers in order to gain cooking equipment. Vouchers should be handed into Miss Murray or any other member of Home Economics department.



Congratulations

To Andrew McGregor, who is in 5th year at Carluke High. Andrew recently won the South Lanarkshire Junior Sports Personality of the Year Award.

Andrew has been playing Volleyball at Carluke since starting the school and very quickly realised that he had a lot of potential in this game and wanted to progress further.

Half way through second year Andrew joined Su Ragazzi Volleyball Club and was playing second division Volleyball almost immediately. It wasn't long before Andrew received international recognition when he competed for Scotland U-17's at the UK Schools Games at the age of 14. The following year Andrew was back and played a pivotal role in Scotland winning the competition. This was quickly followed by Under 19 caps at the 2008 Christmas Internationals held in the Kelvin Hall. 2009 was to be an excellent year for Andrew as he was named Scotland Captain for the UK Schools Games in Cardiff. He led the team to the final of the competition again but narrowly lost to England in the Final. Andrew was voted as the top player in the competition. On top of this Andrew was promoted to the Su Ragazzi 1st Team at the age of 16 and has played a crucial role in the club's season to date. This was then followed by more under 19 caps and two 3-0 victories over England at the Kelvin Hall in December.

In addition to his own training and playing high level volleyball, Andrew actively supports the junior players at Carluke High and is an excellent role model.

Six Nations Trophy visits Carluke

Scotland may not be doing that well in this year's Six Nations Rugby tournament but Carluke High pupils certainly enjoyed getting their hands on the trophy!

Prior to the start of this year's tournament, PE teacher Andy Hill organised for the RBS 6 Nations Trophy to visit the school. The purpose of the visit was to promote rugby in the area and give pupils a chance to get their photo taken with the trophy.

A fun time was had by all and it will certainly be the closest a Scot will get to lifting the trophy this season!

School Crossing Patrollers

We have been asked by South Lanarkshire Council to issue all parents with the letter at the back of this newsletter. This concerns changes to the current provision of school crossing patrollers within our catchment area.

Dates For Your Diary:

Wednesday 17 March –
Fashion Show 7.00 – 9.00 pm
Tuesday 23 March –
Next Monitoring & Tracking report issued to all pupils except S5/6
Tues 23 & Wed 24 March –
Standard Grade Drama Showcase from 7.00 pm
Monday 29 March –
Spring Music Concert 7.00pm
Wednesday 31 March –
Crazy Hair Day in support of CHAS
Thursday 1 April –
School closes at 2.30 pm for Easter holidays
Monday 19 April –
School Reopens
Wednesday 28 April –
Start of S4 SQA exams
Friday 30 April –
Pupil holiday, staff in service
Monday 3 May –
School holiday

