

# Youth Work in the Farr area

October 2015 – March 2016

## The BIG headlines



### Youth work is an educational practice

It is an **empowering** process which is about

- Building self-esteem and self-confidence
- Developing the ability to manage personal and social relationships
- Creating opportunities for learning
- Building the capacity of young people to consider risk, make reasoned decisions and take control
- Having a targeted approach within a range of services for everyone
- Having FUN

### Key facts and stats

The Farr youth team has worked with over 60 youngsters aged between 11 and 21 amounting to 535 meaningful contacts

Around 279 hours in this period were spent engaging with young people.

These were delivered on over 94 separate occasions

And took place in Melvich, Bettyhill, Melness, Aviemore, Golspie, Dornoch and Eden Court in Inverness!

# THE STORIES: THE DIFFERENCES: THE FUTURE

## Melvich Megacaff

Melvich youngsters come together twice a week at the Megacaff for a variety of games, activities and learning opportunities. They have monthly trips out to the North Coast Leisure Centre where they get to meet up with other young people from Bettyhill, Tongue and Melness as well as enjoy a swim in the pool and a shot in the zorbs.

## Strathnaver Museum Youth Project

Four S1/S2 pupils have been involved in future planning for our local museum working alongside Museum Manager Fiona MacKenzie in developing a tourist App which maps local areas and sights of interest. Funding has been secured to run a young volunteers project.

## Rock Challenge

Eighteen pupils from P7 to S5 took part in the Be Your Best Rock Challenge event at Eden Court in April. This is a dance competition which gives young people the opportunity not only to learn dance and team work, but also sound editing, filming, lighting, costumes and props. It was the first ever entry from Farr. It increased self-confidence and shown youngsters that they can still achieve regardless of living remotely and coming from a small school.

- **Quote from a youngster**  
"I didn't know what Rock Challenge was going to be like, but it was totally amazing"
- **Quote from a partner**  
"Working together with Youth Services is giving our young people new learning experiences"
- **Quote from a parent**  
"My son really hated going to school and now is buzzing with ideas and smiling since his experience at Eden Court and being part of a team"

## HOW'S THE FUTURE LOOKING?

- **Getting On** – achievements through learning

Further promotion of wider achievement awards such as Saltire and Youth Achievement Awards.

Building on the success of Rock Challenge in bringing the communities together to support pupils to participate in this event in 2017. Delivery of Dance Leader training to those who want to develop their skills further and teach fellow pupils.

- **Getting Heard** – confident voices, influencing decisions

Developing a stronger area youth forum and promoting what they do. Linking in with Sutherland Youth Forum and Highland Youth Parliament

- **Getting Involved** – youth work: it's educational

Continue the strong links with the wider community to get youth work recognised as a valuable resource in the personal, social and educational development of young people.

Youngsters will be taking over the museum for a day to help celebrate the Festival of Museums in May

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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