

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 65 youngsters aged between 11 and 24 amounting to 4615 meaningful contacts

Around 384 hours in this period were spent engaging with young people.

These were delivered on over 71 separate occasions

And took place in Melvich, Bettyhill, Melness, Lairg and Skye.

THE STORIES: THE DIFFERENCES: THE FUTURE

Melvich Megacaf

The Megacaf at Melvich is open every Monday and Wednesday from 6:30-9pm for young people aged 11-24 years. Our friendly Youth Workers Kyla and Heather are always there to welcome regulars and new-comers. The Megacaf is undergoing a mini face-lift with new flooring, shelving and a newly landscaped outside area.

Strathnaver Museum Youth Project

In June pupils took part in Creative Writing and Film Making workshops at the school which were on offer as part of 'Activities Week' – thank you to Fiona MacKenzie the Development Manager at the museum for arranging the workshops. We also have two S6 pupils volunteering at the museum one morning per week, during which they have been helping with various projects including updating the museum database and creating children's activities. The pupils are also working towards their Saltire Awards.

Rock Challenge

After the success of the Farr School first ever Rock Challenge performance in April this year, momentum has grown and this year we have more pupils taking part in all aspects of this activity. Choreographer Jill Kingdon is putting our dancers through their paces every second Thursday after school from 3.30-5pm. We have the Durness Bus Company taking pupils home. The Farr School Team will perform their dance at Eden Court on Monday 3rd April 2017.

Sutherland Youth Forum

Young people from our pupil council have been attending the Sutherland Youth Forum meetings, with four pupils from S1-S6 attending the most recent meeting in Lairg Highland Hotel on 20th September.

Highland Youth Parliament

Two senior pupils attended the Highland Youth Parliament Conference which was held in Skye from 8th-10th June. Key issues raised were fed back to the school pupil council and discussed further during the subsequent Sutherland Youth Forum at a more local level.

- **Quote from a youngster:**

"It was really good fun meeting up with the other school pupils and finding out what they do"

- **Quote from a Parent:**

"My daughter absolutely loves Rock Challenge and I think it's a fantastic opportunity"

- **Quote from a Partner:**

"Working in partnership with our Youth Development Officer has opened up new learning experiences for our young people"

HOW'S THE FUTURE LOOKING?

- **Getting On – achievements through learning**
We have around 20 pupils currently working towards Saltire Awards and plans to encourage all new S1 pupils to register online through PD classes with Rhoda.
- **Getting Heard – confident voices, influencing decisions**
Our pupil council/youth forum will continue to meet every fortnight and work on pupils' priorities. Elections for Highland Youth Parliament Reps will take place in school on 27th October.
- **Getting Involved – youth work: it's educational**
Halloween Dress Up on Friday 28th October to raise money towards the Rock Challenge coach to Eden Court next April.
A Bike Maintenance workshop is coming soon and a presentation on road safety from PC Katie Hunter.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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