



highlife
highland
na gàidhealtachd

Youth Work in the Farr area

October 2016 – March 2017

THE BIG HEADLINES



Youth Work is educational and it's fun

It's an empowering process where young people

- Learn new things about themselves and others
- Improve their confidence and self-belief
- Can express themselves without judgement
- Become more open and accepting of those who are different to them
- Are encouraged and supported to try and make differences to things that matter to all young people

Key numbers for the period

The Farr youth team has had 1503 meaningful contacts with young people

In total there were 2,058 hours of engagement

All this was delivered on 64 separate occasions.

And took place in Melvich, Alness, Bettyhill, Lairg, Dingwall and Inverness.

Thirty four pupils have gained Saltire Awards and three have achieved High Life Highland Young Leader Awards for 25 hours volunteering in a leadership capacity.

STORIES: DIFFERENCES: and THE FUTURE

Projects:

Our pupils have been involved in Sutherland Youth Forum and Highland Youth Forum which are great opportunities for our young people to have their voices heard. Sutherland Youth Forum meets in the Lairg Highland Hotel where young people from Ullapool, Kinlochbervie, Lochinver, Dornoch, Golspie and Farr elect their own committee and run their own meetings (top left). These can cover issues such as mental health, PSE, Leader grants and the youth bank. All pupils gain Saltire Award points so that their volunteering time is recognised and celebrated. Sutherland held a mini Youth Parliament in the Ferrycroft Centre in Lairg in February which was attended by two Farr pupils (bottom left). The transferable skills, self-confidence and experience that the young people gain from participating in the forum and youth parliament will enhance their future job, college and university applications.

Rock Challenge 2017 has been an amazing achievement for the 32 Farr pupils who travelled to Eden Court in April to participate in the National dance competition (top right & bottom right). Thanks to SSE and Highland Council Discretionary Ward funding. The performers rehearsed for seven months and pupils themselves helped with the choreography, lighting, sound editing and costumes. Students and tutors from North Highland College in Thurso College travelled to Eden Court to do pupils' hair and make-up for the WWII theme and used this as their theme for their course. The team were placed second after Thurso High School, and were up against Nairn Academy, Inverness High School, Kinlochleven High and Inverness Royal Academy. This goes to show that we may be small but up to the challenge!

Quotes

"I am so proud of all of them– what an amazing achievement!" – parent who watched Rock Challenge



"We had a great time and met loads of really nice people" – pupil who went on Dodgeball Leader course.

WHAT'S COMING UP

In the coming months local young people

- Will represent their area at the summer Highland Youth Parliament conference which this year will be held at the UHI campus in Inverness.
- Will be asked to engage with the Sutherland Community Partnership. This is the group of senior representatives from Education (Care and Learning), Health, the Third Sector, Enterprise and the Emergency Services who are all committed to involving communities to help improve local services
- Will take part in a Highland wide survey of youth work delivered by High Life Highland
- Will be able to participate in summer holiday activities including FUSION events
- Will continue to have opportunities to develop personal and social skills and be actively recognised for any achievements
- Will have the opportunity to get involved in Rock Challenge 2017/18 and perform at Belladrum in August

CONTACT INFORMATION

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