

Outstanding Achievements - People Committee: 25 January 2018



Ardnamurchan High School

Ardnamurchan High school became the first Highland School to win The Scottish Mathematical Council - Enterprising Mathematics Scottish Final. A team of four pupils – Bethan White, Dugald MacIntyre, Alistair Tait and Ben Gregg - competed against 70 other schools, solving puzzles and mathematical conundrums.

Head Teacher Christopher Millar-Craig said: “This is a huge achievement for such a small school and congratulations go to Bethan, Dugald, Alistair and Ben who were able to perform so well under pressure. We are all really proud of them.”

CoSLA Silver Award

A toolkit and guidance to support children attending school with life-limiting conditions, is now being adopted across Scotland. The Cosla Silver Award winning partners (Highland Council, NHS Highland, CHAS and Crocus) were recently presented with their award by the Depute Leader of the Council, Alasdair Christie.

Councillor Christie said: “This is deserving, not just because they have recognised and filled a support gap, but because of the real and actual differences that they are making to young people, their families and professionals who have to face and deal with extremely traumatic events across the country.

Kirstie-Ann Duncan

A looked after child from Lochaber, Kirstie-Ann has been selected by Who Cares? Scotland as one of two students to attend Harvard University’s 2018 Summer School. The charity has provided these scholarships over the past seven years, to help encourage the educational aspirations of young people with care experience. This is great recognition for Kirstie-Ann, as well as her long term foster carers, Karen and Robert Grant.



Junior World Childcare Centre

The CALA managed Junior World Childcare Centre in Nairn featured on the BBC and in national press recently, because of their programme of regular visits to Whinnieknowe Care Home. Studies have shown the benefits of intergenerational schemes, which are more common in the US, can often drastically improve older peoples' quality of life.

Commenting on the initial visits, Lynda Wilson, manager at Whinnieknowe, said: “The response has been fantastic to see. The interaction between the ages, the communication and the joy expressed, was what we hoped for, and more.”

Sheltered Housing Service Inspection

Our sheltered housing service across Inverness, Nairn and Badenoch & Strathspey is currently regulated by the Care Inspectorate. On 4 December 2017, the Care Inspectorate carried out an unannounced inspection of the service.

The inspection looked at the quality of care and support being provided as well as the quality of staffing. Tenants were also asked to complete a care standards questionnaire.

We received the results of the inspection in January 2018 and are performing well. All areas of the service that were inspected have been graded by the Care Inspectorate as good.

The inspection report also details that 96% of tenants who responded to the care standards questionnaire indicated that they were happy overall with the quality of care and support the service gave them.

The full inspection report is available on the Members bulletin and can also be found on the Care Inspectorate’s website.

Skye Respite Service

The Skye Respite Service in Portree has been awarded very good grades in all categories in its recent Care Inspectorate inspection – Care & Support; Staffing; Environment; Management & Leadership.

Ullapool Primary School



Pupils at Ullapool Primary School have placed a major role in a national campaign to cease the use of plastic straws in Scotland, also contributing to the town becoming the first plastic straw-free community in the UK.

The school joined forces with Glasgow’s Sunnyside Primary School to lobby businesses as part of the #NaeStrawAtAw campaign. Their project was supported by the Scottish Wildlife Trust, which said the campaign was "wholly down

to pupil power". Environment and climate change Minister Roseanna Cunningham and Kate Forbes MSP have also congratulated the children on their achievement.