

**give thanks for...**

- Strategy outcomes
- Sarah's positive contribution to the work
- Full primary coverage
- Ministry received at Deep Impact
- Deeper relationships

**pray for...**

- Sarah travelling to Peru
- Alltnacriche: Colin Carmichael teaching
- New discipleship program
- Young people facing tough times
- Continued health for Duncan Ferguson

 SOME UPCOMING EVENTS (PROPOSED)

18 Jan	Deep Impact Conference, Aviemore
21 Jan	COOL committee meeting
1 Feb	COOL Annual Celebration
6 Feb	SU Staff Days, Lendrick Muir
13 Feb	Alltnacriche team meeting
18 Feb	Sarah leaves for Peru
25 Feb	Full Moon (just out of interest)
22 Mar	Annual youth weekend to Alltnacriche
16 April	S5 and 6 leavers assembly

JANUARY 2013							FEBRUARY 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28		

  

MARCH 2013							APRIL 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				

FABULOUS cakes) with the encouragement of several new first years dropping in and bringing their friends. It is coming up to the time of year when the exams start and, as ever, it is a stressful time for many of the young people. Specifically more for several older individuals as they think about their futures and grades needed for further education. We pray for those who work hard and know the answers but panic under the pressure of the day!

At FN@D&R we have been considering the book of Proverbs and discovering a theme: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom! This term we seek God's guidance as we move on to learning from the early church and what this could mean for us in our church communities and as a small group.

It has been such a privilege to work with COOL every week over the term: what fantastic youth we have! They have encouraged and blessed me more than they know. You will be in my prayers over the next three months when I am away from you.

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COOL is an interdenominational Trust employing a youth and schools worker to share and support young people with the Christian message. COOL is a part of the Scripture Union Scotland Associate Worker Scheme and is a Recognised Scottish Charity (No. SCO31455)



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**In many ways this has been a milestone year for COOL bringing about significant developments in our work with young people across Skye and Lochalsh.**



JANUARY 2013

SCHOOLS' UPDATE

STRATEGY PLANNING

SARAH'S REFLECTIONS



Since September COOL has employed a second worker to accompany Dave on Fridays. The benefits have been since threefold: enhancing the service we are able to provide; through

extra support for Dave in the day to day work; and not least through the development of Sarah, the sessional worker. Sarah finishes with COOL in February as she heads off for three month's voluntary work in Peru before hoping to study Spanish in Edinburgh next year.

We were especially pleased last term to deliver primary assemblies in every one of the schools within our catchment area, which has not always been possible. At the beginning of this term, check again I have thirty three primary assemblies booked in the diary, which equates to every school, once a month. This remains a valuable link with young people before they eventually move to high school, which for the vast majority will mean Plockton.

It was sad to see the rector in Plockton continue to suffer from his broken leg. The original injury took place in October 2011 and he is once again on long term sick leave following



complications, and he remains in our prayers. We continue to offer as much support to the High School as time allows, through religious observance, classroom support, extra curricular activities and also photography at the school Christmas socials.

There were two special events for us, each in their own way, during the last few months. We were privileged through our work in Peru to be invited to a Vine

Trust fund raising dinner in Inverness during September. Duncan's Ferguson and myself represented Plockton High School and met with Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, patron of the Vine Trust. This was off the back of a very exciting week for the west coast, as we welcomed Billy Clark of SU Peru to our



community and school for a couple of days. Billy was then speaking at a Global Citizenship conference in Edinburgh, to which Rab MacAskill, Elfine George and myself took ten students from Plockton.

The second was the strategy day, held in Kinmylies Parish Church, Inverness during November. Huge thanks got to their Youth worker, Anne Gunn, for hosting us and providing a seminar for young people, and also to Thom Raller of the Kings Church, who led our Bible reflections in the morning. His insights encouraging us to follow Jesus so that others might follow us, were both challenging and refreshing. Following that day, the first of its kind we have held in eleven years, we have produced a working document outlining strategies for discipleship and partnership

with churches, youth clubs and the young people for the future. I was concerned we might come away from a day like that with a long list of new ideas and events which we could run, on top of an already over-full program. However, the overriding feedback from church leaders, youth leaders and the young people themselves, was an increased emphasis on personal discipleship and developing deeper relationships, so enabling more opportunities for the Holy Spirit, within the work which we are already doing. Not only did this come as a great relief to everyone who is very busy, but also potentially opens up the door to a very exciting periodic ministry in the coming months. We are reflecting this in how we lead the prayer and Bible engagement times in school, as well as new and purposeful discipleship triplets (or thereabouts) as God leads. More and more there is a sense that God is calling us 'to be' rather than 'to do'. One of our readings in Engage this week was from John 6, where 'Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."' "

Fridays have been one of the busiest days in the week for COOL, with one or two primary assemblies in the morning, Dave's Club in the High School, and FN@D&R in the evening. Over the past term in the primaries we have thought about the various journeys of Paul and Peter in Acts. Dave's Club carries on as normal, (\*with the addition of Sarah's

