



Education, Children and Families Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 9 October 2018

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

Education, Children and Families Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Councillor Ian Perry</p>  <p>Vice Convener: Councillor Alison Dickie</p> 	<p>Councillor Eleanor Bird Councillor Mary Campbell Councillor Joan Griffiths Councillor Gavin Corbett Councillor Callum Laidlaw Councillor Derek Howie Councillor Jason Rust Councillor Stephanie Smith Councillor Louise Young</p> <p>Added Members for Education Matters</p> <p>Religious Representatives Rev Dr Rita Welsh Rabbi David Rose Vacancy</p> <p>Parent Representative Alexander Ramage</p>	<p>Lesley Birrell Committee Services 0131 529 4240</p> <p>Laura Millar Service and Policy Adviser to the Convener and Vice-Convener Tel: 0131 529 4319</p>

Rowanfield School

Merlin's Magic Wand teamed up with Edinburgh Dungeon to transform an unloved classroom into a magical new castle inspired soft play area, for pupils at Rowanfield School which was launched on the 5 September. Rowanfield School is situated in the North of Edinburgh and is a city wide, multi-agency school for primary aged children with severe and complex social, emotional and behavioral needs.

Merlin's Magic Wand is a Children's Charity that supports children facing challenges of serious illness, disability or adversity, by supplying tickets and travel grants to enable them to visit attractions.

Rosy Hume – Acting Head teacher at Rowanfield School said -“The Magic Space at Rowanfield School was created through our close collaboration with The Edinburgh Dungeon, finally opening its doors to pupils in August after four months. Our Pupil Council and staff were heavily involved in providing ideas to help the designers. Their first reactions were mainly stunned silence; they were totally overwhelmed - a couple of the older students screamed with delight! To find out more please visit www.merlinsmagicwand.org



Zoo Partnership

Pupils from Corstorphine Primary School dressed up in their favourite animal onesies and joined Edinburgh Zoo mascots Ruby and Zed to celebrate a new educational partnership between the zoo and school.

As part of their week of activities the school had education staff from the zoo carrying out workshops with pupils, sessions with the night zoo keeper for writing projects and a special zoo-themed dress down day.

The focus for the partnership is on Developing the Young Workforce, developing skills in the STEAM subjects and to develop interesting contexts for learning.

Many more exciting events are planned over the coming year.



Leith Schools Raise STEM Aspirations

Science and technology community roadshow at Leith Academy

A day of free family friendly activities took place in Leith on Saturday 22 September as part of a programme focused on igniting interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM).

The Raising Aspirations in Science Education (RaiSE) programme aims to encourage young people into STEM careers, through inspiring STEM learning for pupils, teachers and families.

The Leith Family Fun Day is collaboration between RaiSE, The City of Edinburgh Council and the University of Edinburgh with involvement from other commercial and educational science partners.

Outdoor Learning Challenge

Thousands of school pupils turned Edinburgh's iconic Holyrood Park into the country's largest outdoor classroom on 20 September. The Outdoor Learning Challenge is the first event of its kind to be staged in Scotland. It has proved so popular that organisers from the City of Edinburgh Council's Sports and Outdoor Learning Unit had to put on an extra day to accommodate all the schools wanting to take part. It's been organised with partners Historic Environment Scotland and Dynamic Earth.

Over the day there was a wide variety of outdoor challenges for the 2,343 pupils to tackle in three themed zones – Explore, Discover and Create.



The three zones - Explore (red), Discover (blue) and Create (yellow)

Cllr Ian Perry, Convener for Education, Children and families at the City of Edinburgh Council, said: "As well as providing an exciting and challenging day for pupils, the events aim was to provide school staff with ideas and stimulus to take their regular teaching into the outdoors, and to showcase the many providers who operate across the city to support and provide Outdoor Learning experiences.

The outdoor learning challenge is a fantastic opportunity to bring together young people from across the city and showcase just how amazing our planet really is alongside discovering many other exciting ways you can learn and play in the outdoors.

Anna Danby, Learning Manager for Dynamic Earth, said: "We're really excited to be supporting Edinburgh's first ever Outdoor Learning Challenge. Our mission is to inspire people to learn all about how our Earth works and we believe that hands on outdoor learning is an essential part of achieving this. In Edinburgh we are so lucky to have the amazing landscape of Holyrood Park at the heart of our city.

"Experiencing first-hand how landscapes form, walking on ancient lava flows, discovering fossilised tropical beaches and getting up close with a whole manner of unique wildlife are just some of the learning potential the park offers. Our learning team enjoyed the outdoor time travelling to uncover the explosive past of Arthur's seat.

Southfest

Southfest' brought a new community event that focused on highlighting the vast amount of opportunities there are in the South of Edinburgh. They invited everybody in the local community to Liberton High School on 22 September, to sample and find out about some of these opportunities.

It was attended by local sports clubs, community initiatives, local businesses, parent council, school departments, etc. Throughout the day, there was plenty to see and do, from free sports sessions, dance performances, a market place, music acts, raffle draw, a café and much much more!



West/South West Working Group

A verbal update on the progress of the first meeting (due 3 November) will be available for the Committee when it meets on the 9 October.

Holiday Activity Grant Programme

The City of Edinburgh Council has been funding a holiday playscheme for children and young people with disabilities through a contractual arrangement. There has been a waiting list for this provision and to help meet demand the Council identified some additional funding over and above the Playscheme provision. In consultation with convenors Alistair Gaw, Executive Director of Communities and Families approved funding of £600k through delegated powers to enable further social, play and leisure opportunities to run from October 2018 through to March 2020. These clubs and groups will run during Edinburgh School holidays and term time and are delivered by a range of voluntary organisations to meet the varying needs of children and young people with disabilities. See Report item 7.13 for further information.