

## News from Charleston

We have successfully applied for, and been awarded, a grant for almost £10000 from the Big Lottery Fund, to replace the worn trail which has been removed from the back of the school. As we said in the last Chronicle Blackhalls, who are building on the site just beyond the school, kindly removed the old one for us over the Christmas holiday. This saved us £3500 – the price quoted to have it removed by another company - which would have had to have come out of the £10000 otherwise. Thanks again to Blackhalls.

In a separate, but similar plan, we are currently negotiating to obtain enough recycled astro turf to cover the very muddy area at the back of the school. Goals, on Great Southern Road, have been very helpful and we look forward to getting our muddy patch at the back of the school and at the side of the slide resurfaced soon.

One of our main curriculum focusses again this year has been Numeracy. While pupils engage in a variety of different activities in both numeracy and topical maths, they often fail to recognise the relevance of what they are doing to their future lives.

With this in mind, we have organised a Maths Week during the week beginning the 21st of March. We are putting together a programme of events and challenges to engage



pupils. Local businesses and people from industry are supporting this, and we are grateful for their help and input. This will culminate in a Maths open afternoon on Thursday 24th March, to which all are welcome.

Parents will also be involved in classes across the week. We have been contacting parents who are willing to come in and talk to a class about how they use numeracy and maths in their everyday lives – at home or through work – so that children can see how important it is to be able to multiply, divide, measure etc. and that maths is a life skill.

Since the February holiday weekend Primary 7 pupils have attended Kincorth Academy on a Monday morning, as part of the P7/S1 transition programme. The pupils have enjoyed the experiences offered in Art, Drama and Music at the school.

The final week of this term sees our P7 class attending a residential trip to Cromdale Outdoor Centre, Adventure Aberdeen's residential base on Speyside, converted from a Victorian village school and schoolhouse, situated in the heart of the Cairngorms National Park. It is ideally located within easy reach of some of the most spectacular water and land based

activity sites in Scotland.

Most of our Primary 7 class are attending and looking forward to the challenges and team building opportunities this type of trip brings. I'm sure they'll return happy but exhausted and ready for their Easter holidays.

Before the 2014 Commonwealth Games Charleston School took part in the Commonwealth tapestry initiative. A tapestry was made representing the life in this area during the month of March (each school taking part was allocated a month of the year). All the tapestries went on show at the Scottish Parliament before being returned. Once back in the city the

tapestries went on view at Queen's Cross Church, before coming being returned to their respective schools.



In order to preserve the tapestry for all to see we have had it framed and it is now proudly displayed in the school foyer.