

Cupar charity connecting the Commonwealth.

30 pupils from Castlehill Primary School celebrated Commonwealth week with a visit to a Cupar charity who are involved in a virtual race with the Queens Baton.

Character Scotland's project Inspire>Aspire: Global Citizens in the Making began a virtual baton race against the Queens Baton in February. The project team have set a goal to have schools in all 70 of the Commonwealth nations and territories participating in the Inspire>Aspire project before the opening ceremony of the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. The virtual baton began in India, and is following the same journey as the Queens Baton; however it cannot progress until a school is signed up in that particular nation or territory.

The project team had an enthusiastic visit from a class of P5 pupils from Castlehill Primary School, to help celebrate Commonwealth week. The pupils were armed with Inspire>Aspire batons as they learned about the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, the 70 Commonwealth nations and territories and the Inspire>Aspire project. Castlehill Primary School has a partner school in Uganda who will now be participating in Inspire>Aspire, to help with their already growing friendship.

The Queens Baton is currently in St Vincent and the Grenadines with the Inspire>Aspire baton lagging behind in Malaysia. Thankfully, the baton does get to leapfrog quite a few countries which are already engaged in the project; the team however does need some help from the public! They are asking for anybody with any Commonwealth connections, whether it be a family member, or a long lost friend to get in touch to help the project team promote global citizenship, and contribute to the connected legacy outcome for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Inspire>Aspire Operations Executive Alex Gregg said "we have had a fantastic response so far from schools all over the Commonwealth, with posters currently being completed in 29 different nations and territories.

"It is an incredible opportunity to be able to read the insights of young people from so many different cultures and backgrounds.

"We still have a long way to go in order to achieve our goal, but with the added support of the public, we are confident we will be able to connect classrooms in Scotland with classrooms throughout the Commonwealth in time for Glasgow 2014 in July."

To help achieve this, the Inspire>Aspire team have created a 'Commonwealth Shared Space' on their website. Each Commonwealth nation and territory has a designated page where they can upload their completed posters, to help Scottish pupils to gain an insight into their

global peers beliefs, values and goals and vice versa. More information can be found here: www.inspire-aspire.org.uk/international.

*To help Inspire>Aspire's virtual baton catch up with the Queens Baton, please get in touch. You can tweet @InspireAspireCS with the hashtag #BeatTheBaton or email Alex Gregg alex.gregg@inspire-aspire.org.uk.

**Inspire>Aspire: Global Citizens in the Making is a Legacy 2014 Project which allows young people to use a unique poster format to lead them through a structured process of self-reflection and self-discovery that helps to transform their inspiration into aspiration. This activity also supports the educational offering of the British Council's 'Commonwealth Class', Education Scotland's 'Game on Scotland' and the Scottish Government's 'Support a second team' initiatives. For more information visit www.inspire-aspire.org.uk or contact Alex Gregg at 07931-906-920 or alex.gregg@inspire-aspire.org.uk*

Inspire>Aspire is a project of the educational charity Character Education Scotland registered charity no. SC040962.

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