

Newsletter January 2009- Stonehaven

African dancing now on curriculum

Pupils at Dunnottar & Lairhillock schools enjoy African dancing as part of their PE curriculum lessons. It is hoped that a 'satellite centre' will be set up at Mackie Academy as part of an Active schools programme. Active schools is traditionally associated with sports but dance is an important part of the programme and the African dancing taster sessions and classes serve to promote this element.



The satellite dance centre will be established at Mackie Academy in February, allowing children to access all types of dancing on a Saturday morning from hip-hop, cheerleading, and African dancing and of course ballet. Further details to follow.

Active schools volunteer scoops Dyson award



Mackie academy pupil, Jarod Shuttleworth who has been helping with the Active schools swimming programme at the Mackie Academy, has recently been awarded the Hannah Dyson Award for commitment in the community.



The keen swimmer volunteered helping young primary school children swim for fitness and to build their confidence. The Hannah Dyson Award is run by the Stonehaven community council after a popular teenager from Netherely who died in 2005 after a long battle with cystic fibrosis. Swimming lessons re-commence at the Mackie Academy in February 2009, there are still a few places remaining.

Active schools gets involved with Scottish Rugby Internationals



Scotland rugby players Scott Gray & Allan Jacobsen were overwhelmed by the enthusiasm shown by Stonehaven youngsters since their arrival at Mill O Forest School. Schoolchildren from Mill O Forest, Arduthie and Dunnottar primary schools were going Scotland mad as their heroes took on Canada ahead of the city's first competitive Scotland Rugby Union fixture. Organised by Active schools & Scottish rugby development officer Pete Young, over 300 pupils from the Stonehaven network were given a chance to welcome members of the Scotland squad. After a quick introduction both players were involved in officiating a 'tag' rugby tournament followed by a question and answer session in the school hall. Mackie Academy senior pupils also helped to officiate the 'tag rugby' event, enhancing their leadership skills and fulfilling their lifetime ambition of rubbing shoulders with their heroes.

