

# Dalmuir Park - STEM Challenge



Dalmuir Park Housing Association has for years prided itself with an extensive wider role program. In 2010 it added the Pupil of The Year Awards to its already coveted program.

A partnership was formed with the Golden Jubilee Conference Hotel and three local schools: Clydemuir Primary, St Stephen's Primary and Our Lady of Loretto Primary to create this flagship event. Whilst successful each year the event was in the need of a freshen up and after some hard work with the three head teachers the Tri School STEM Challenge was formed as a replacement.

The event focused on the three schools 'Building Futures Together' with collaborative working, involving areas of Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths (STEM). It also focused on West Dunbartonshire's Competencies for Learning, Life & Work which included Creativity, Critical Thinking, Character, Citizenship, Collaboration & Communication.

Founder of the Pupil of The Year Awards, and facilitator of the new STEM Challenge, was DPHA's Senior Finance Officer Gary Earl. Gary said "I was approached by the head teachers with a suggestion to freshen up the Pupil of The Year Awards, and when presented with the proposal on paper I was 100% behind the idea. The idea of collaborative working between schools delights the Association and I'm sure this event will go from strength to strength".

Anthony Mayer, head teacher of Clydemuir Primary added, "It was a great day, and the children establish friendships with participants from other school. They worked together, getting water to villages and building spaghetti bridges by using their inventiveness and creative thinking. The support from DPHA, Golden Jubilee Conference Hotel and Caledonian Water has been amazing"

The winning team will be treated to lunch at the Golden Jubilee Conference Hotel prior to the school holidays in what will be a true red-carpet experience.

