



WORKING TOGETHER/LEARNING TOGETHER

How we develop skills for life, learning and work at Cargenbridge PS?

It is our responsibility to support our pupils in learning skills for life, learning and work. These skills can best be delivered through **Partnership Working**. **We currently have a very successful partnership with Dupont Teijin Films** and together we plan and deliver learning and other experiences which meets the needs of our pupils. This partnership helps the pupils and parents to see the link between the skills they develop across the curriculum and the world of work. The Cargenbridge DuPont Partnership is an example of good practice within Dumfries and Galloway and we are one of the few primary schools so far who have a sustainable partnership with industry. This was highlighted when we were shortlisted for a Scottish Education Award two years ago

The skills which are developed through this partnership are

Thinking Skills (remembering, understanding, applying, creating, evaluating and analysing) Leadership Skills, Problem Solving, Communication, Literacy and Numeracy, Teamwork, Working with others, Digital Technology, Using your initiative, Negotiation, Decision Making, Organisational skills, Creativity, Innovation, Design

These skills are essential to thrive in today's society and in the workplace

How do we work with and learn with Dupont Teijin Films? We support **World Quality Day (Nov each year)**, which highlights the need for quality work in the school and in industry. This happens annually and each year we jointly set **all** children from **P1-7** a challenge which results in children focussing on producing quality work using the above skills. The focus for the challenge is different each year. The children normally work in mixed age groups for this challenge. Beforehand every child has the opportunity to visit the plant at DuPont to see first-hand the very different working environment of a factory and to gain inspiration and motivation for the challenge. Supported by the staff from DuPont Teijin, the children use the "plan, do, review" strategy when working on their challenge. This ensures the children are constantly reflecting on their learning and adapting their work in order to create next steps to ensure quality work is produced. This challenge also gives the children the opportunity to transfer and apply previous learning to a new and unfamiliar context. Each year the children present their work to the staff from DuPont and share their learning with them. This is a chance for the children to practice and develop their presentation and communication skills, giving them the opportunity to explain their choices and processes to arrive at the product they chose. This real life situation is an important part of the learning associated with this challenge as the children have to reflect on how they worked in their team, what their contribution was and what skills they think they have developed by taking part. A winner is chosen from each class or from each aspect of the task.

Later in the year around **Easter**, **our P7 children** participate in a **Career Programme**. The purpose of this is to give the P7 pupils an insight into typical careers that they may be interested in. The Company identify some key roles within DuPont Teijin Films. Some of the

employees working in those areas come to the school to give a presentation on their chosen career followed by a chance for pupils to ask questions. On completion of the presentations the children pick 2 careers that really interest them and they are given the opportunity to go to the site to shadow these people. The children are given some "real" tasks to perform.

To develop the world of work for our **Nursery children**, last year we set up our role play area as an area of the plant e.g science lab and office. The staff from Dupont, who work in these areas came along and spent the day playing with the children in these areas to show them first hand what they do in their jobs. This was very successful. This takes place in term 3.

How else are we working with local businesses in our local Community?

We are in the early stages of starting to work with Kilnford. They are very keen to work with us to provide us with a range of opportunities for our children to develop their skills for life, learning and work and to link in with other aspects of our curriculum. They are willing to help us in the following areas - food education, local land use, farm to form and careers education. We are keen to develop this new partnership and more information will be shared with you in the future.

It has also been suggested that we should be tapping into the local resource of the **Cargen Towers Business Park** which is on our doorstep. Links with them will therefore be explored. If any parents have any other links with other local businesses then please let us know.

World Of Work

Last year we held a very successful world of work week where parents and community members came into the school to talk to the children about their jobs and what skills they needed in their work. This will be continued again this year, hopefully with a STEM focus. STEM is Science, Technologies, Engineering and Maths. There is a real drive at the moment nationally to encourage our children in these areas of learning. This year, we will therefore ask parents and local community members who have a stem element in their job to come in and talk to our children.

Family Learning Event

We are also planning a STEM family learning event later in the year where parents and their children will be invited into school to find out more about STEM and to participate in their own STEM challenge.

I hope this information is helpful and more information will be issued through our newsletter about this year's focus for our Dupont Challenge. The children will be working on this after the October holidays. World Quality Day this year is taking place on **23rd Thursday November**.