

1. Initial artists-in-residence project funded by **City Centre Neighbourhood Partnership Community Grant** with total of £5,000 awarded to Parent Council enabled six artists-in-residence projects. All projects finished. Dedicated website now accessible through the front page of school's new website! Illie supported by Linda, Chris and Eduarda still to submit the end-of-project report to the funder by 31 March 2015.
2. A letter was sent to all P4 and P5 pupils and their families to visit the VAS exhibition at Royal Academy of Scotland on the Mound by 28 February 2015. **Martine Foltier Pugh (one of our artist-in-residence)** exhibited a version of her project *Smart APPs (Smart Abbeyhill Primary Poets)*. Amelia, P1/2 and Illie went and met Martine there. Update and photos to follow on the website, soon.
3. In recognition of our success with the artists-in-residence, **City Centre Neighbourhood Partnership** invited Illie to do a public presentation of our artists-in-residence project to Councillors and interested parties on 26 March 2015.
4. A walk to **Ingleby Gallery for P4 and P5 to learn about Ian Hamilton Finlay** in relation to Martine's visual poetry residency. Illie to arrange this with Martine in Spring/Summer 2015.
5. A visit to **Little Sparta** by P5 to see Ian Hamilton Finlay's garden, i.e. his largest and most spectacular artwork. Illie to arrange this with Mrs Bidoni and Martine in Spring/Summer 2015
6. Visual Poetry educational project for P4 and P5 in development with **Scottish Poetry Library** and Martine (optional as the Library is closing for refurbishment)
7. **Denis Mallon (another of our artists-in-residence)** is working briefly with the P5 pupils and Mrs Bidoni to improve the 5 video films produced last year. The new film will be submitted by Illie and Denis for the famous **Edinburgh Schools Films Competition** by 24 April 2015. If selected to be screened during the Edinburgh International Film Festival in June 2015 we may even scoop some of these awards for Primary Schools: Best Animation; Best Original Narrative; The Creativity Award; The Group Effort Award; Best Documentary (Animation or Live Action); Best Film
8. On behalf of the Parent Council Illie submitted a grant application to **Creative Scotland's Youth Music Initiative Access to Music Making Programme** on 26 November 2014 for £10,000 towards **5 RSNO musicians-in-residence in partnership with RSNO Engage Programme (Royal Scottish National Orchestra)**. On 18 February 2015 we were invited to re-work and re-submit the application for £15,000 but extend it to the cluster schools. Illie and Ms Barker to explore this opportunity further.
9. On behalf of the Parent Council Illie submitted another grant application to **OneCity Trust Main Grants Programme 2014/15** on 30 January 2015 for another £10,000 towards **5 Polish artists and curators-in-residence in partnership with Polish Contemporary Art Organisation and Polish Consulate**. On 12 March 2015 we got some useful feedback and an invitation to re-apply next year. In the meantime, Illie will keep an eye for other funding sources which our Polski project may fit in.
10. On behalf of the **Collective Gallery, Edinburgh** Illie submitted yet another grant application to **Prince's Foundation for Children and the Arts Start Programme** for up to £40,500 on 30 January 2015 towards 3 year contemporary art project with the Collective Gallery and the cluster schools: Abbeyhill and Leith Walk Primary Schools. In the first year all children will experience how the Calton Hill Observatory area is being re-developed by 2 architects and 2 artists into a new home for the Collective Gallery. On 5 March 2015 we were informed that our application was shortlisted and we are invited to apply for the Stage 2 by 17 April 2015. Illie and Mrs Barker are working with the cluster schools and the Collective to meet this deadline.
11. Illie and Ms Barker have started developing a relationship with Talbot Rice Gallery to benefit all pupils and staff at Abbeyhill Primary School. Talbot Rice Gallery Director Pat Fisher and Education Officer Clare MacAlister will do an initial presentation at Assembly on Friday, 20 March. Then P4 will walk to the gallery on 23 March, 2-3pm and P3 on 30 March, 2-3pm for hand-on experience of Glasgow artist Ross Birrell's solo exhibition. The intention is to sustain this relationship between the school and the gallery for at least 2 years and beyond as the activities are funded by Talbot Rice Gallery. Accompanying parents needed to join Illie on 23 and 30 March 2015.

12. Illie and Ms Barker are exploring the opportunity for MSc Students in Dance Education from the University of Edinburgh to be dance-artists-in-residence at the Cluster Schools including Abbeyhill Primary. These 3 x 6 weeks block placements are funded by the University of Edinburgh, validated by the General Teaching Council of Scotland and to be facilitated by the cluster schools.
13. Illie is to deliver a brief presentation to the **Cluster School's Head Teachers' Meeting** on 19 March 2015 the cluster school projects which we have initiated, especially 8, 10 and 12 above.
14. On behalf of the 10th Colony of Artists (Illie was invited to join the voluntary management committee of the Colony of Artists) Illie extended an open invitation to all class teachers and pupils to be inspired by this year's theme while creating their artwork for the Assembly Hall. The theme is celebrating the local history and heritage of the Abbeyhill area and the school. **The 10th Colony of Artists has been confirmed for 12-13 September 2015.**
15. Illie is exploring funding for a new artist-in-residency opportunity for local **Abbeyhill artist Catherine Payton** as she would like to re-create the documentary *Singing Street* (1951) featuring pupils from the nearby Norton Park Primary School (now a business centre) skipping and singing their way across town. Inspired by the film, the nursery rhymes and playground games of yester year, the artist will work with Abbeyhill Primary School pupils, our Choir, the Rhubaba Gallery Choir and our own Mrs Pender as the costume designer to organise a Sunday parade along the streets of Abbeyhill Colonies on 13 September 2015.
16. Illie and Mrs Barker are exploring introducing **JASS** <http://www.jassschools.org.uk/> - an award for recognition of wider achievements for P5 to P7 and recent alumni of Abbeyhill Primary School in S1 and S2. The ongoing programme of artists-in-residence will benefit from the formal recognition of pupils, staff and parents 'volunteering' under this scheme.
17. Illie is exploring **Fairtrade products and support from Scotmid's Community Department** towards our Eco Group.
18. While looking forward to converting our school buildings and playgrounds into a gallery for the weekend of 12 and 13 September 2015 as part of the 10th Colony of Artists here is the checklist of the confirmed and yet to be confirmed new artworks to be exhibited or performed:

Confirmed:

- *Smart APPs* by Martine Foltier Pugh and P4 and P5 pupils
- Newly reworked film by Denis Mallon and P5

Yet to be confirmed:

- Themed Artworks at the Assembly Hall by Class teachers with all pupils from nursery to P7
- Artworks by Charlotte Intihar and Black Sheep Works Club members
- Concert/Event by Oliver Ridgewell and Happy Ears Ukelele and Guitar Players
- Artworks by Kate Burwell and Lorna Brown and Awesome Folk Art Club members
- Catherine Payton and Abbeyhill Primary School pupils, School and Rhubaba Gallery Choir and Mrs Pender
- Ross Birrell (c/o Talbot Rice Gallery) with P3 and P4
- Jessica James and Ginger Twist Crochet Club members
- Nadia Ellingham and Contemporary Art using Chocolate
- Dance artists-in-residence performance with pupils