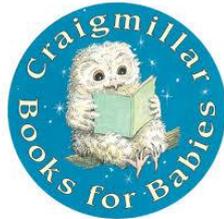


Craigmillar Literacy Trust Annual Report 2016- 2017

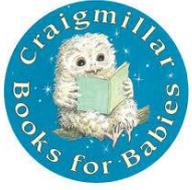


Highlights of the Year

It has been another very successful and busy year for Craigmillar Literacy Trust as we continue to work within the local community to deliver our outcomes around literacy.

The Craigmillar Books for Babies Community Consultation Report was published in January showing that the project is highly valued and is regarded as a “key and unique project supporting families in the local community”. It has also been a period of change with staff and Board members moving on, funding streams coming to an end and new ones starting up. One of our highlights has been securing continued funding for the Books for Babies project which will sustain the project for the next 3-4 years. We are delighted that the project has been successful in obtaining substantial funding from BBC Children in Need and the Big Lottery Fund, together with a grant from The Peoples Health Trust, continuation funding from City of Edinburgh Council and the Cattanach Trust as well as some other smaller funds. In the second year of the Creating and Learning Together project we delivered a vibrant and exciting book festival with an increased audience of young people and families. Evaluation of individual events and a consultation afterwards have shown how successful the festival has been in creating high quality literary experiences which encourage children and young people to read more widely and create their own stories and illustrations.

We continue to develop our links in the community and are involved in a working party, led by Castlebrae Community High School, to look at literacy in the community, which has arisen out of the attainment challenge and associated funding from the Scottish Government. This partnership working will be key to how we develop our projects for the future with the Craigmillar community.



Craigmillar Books for Babies Project

During the past year 253 families joined the Craigmillar Books for Babies project. There are currently 906 children registered with the project and each receives a newsletter from the project each quarter.

We continued to deliver the Family Support at Home programme working in close partnership with the Speech and Language Therapist, Health Visitors and Early Years Centres. 50% of referrals to Family Support at Home come from Health Visitors. Over the past year 18 families took part in this programme receiving regular support in the home.

Outcomes of engagement with Family Support at Home have included:

- Positive speech and language development - increases in vocabulary, recognition of words and sounds.
- Increased engagement with songs and rhymes in the home -- singing all the words to a variety of rhymes, doing actions to rhymes, selecting rhymes to sing.
- Improved concentration skills -- sitting and looking at books, engagement with lots of eye contact, sustained concentration for duration of visit.
- Development of imagination - extending books to everyday life, choosing books and showing curiosity about them.
- Increased confidence with books -- selecting and choosing books to be read, requesting stories, demonstrating confidence outside the home e.g. in early years settings.
- Improved emotional well-being -- engagement, identifying feelings, demonstrating enjoyment, having fun.



The weekly Baby & Toddler Rhymetime continued to be a first port of call for many families who are new to the area. Over 30% of families in the project have a home language other than English. We provide books and resources in different community languages and we monitor languages to ensure we can meet the need of families who do not speak English as a first language.

We continued to deliver our monthly Polish Rhymetime group at Craigmillar Library and a Storytelling Residency with Storyteller Eric Brennan for families with children under the age of 4. We delivered 4 Now You Are 2 events in throughout the year. 33 parents/carers accessed early learning and nursery provision as a result of attending Now You Are 2 events.

Parents/carers continued to play an active part in developing and delivering the project. In the past year 4 parents have been actively involved in delivering the project either as volunteers or sessional staff. We set up a Parents' Forum which has been meeting once a month with between 2-4 parents attending each month. The Myra Robertson Baby Book of the Year engaged 130 local parents/carers in selecting resources for our 1 year Book Bag.



We delivered 2 Rhymetimes at the Edinburgh International Book Festival in August supporting 9 local families to attend these. 13 parents/carers took part in 2 Raising Children with Confidence courses delivered throughout the year.

The project Outreach Volunteer engaged directly with 202 parents/carers attending the baby clinic for the 8 week developmental checks and 13 month immunisations. This represents a 60% increase on the previous year.

With funding from Edinburgh City Council and the Cattanach Trust we commissioned the community Speech and Language Therapy department to appoint a Speech and Language Therapist and Therapy Assistant for 1 day a week to work with us on a joint programme called Talking Together. 33 families received Early Communication Support through the Talking Together programme last year. In addition, the programme delivered Early Talking Time to the Early Years Centres which included training early years staff.

Health Visitors continue to introduce the project to families at the statutory 10 day notification visit. We worked in close partnership with Speech and Language Therapists, Early Years Practitioners, Additional Support for Learning, Craigmillar Library and community and voluntary groups to ensure the project reaches everyone who could benefit from it and to ensure the project develops responsively.

We concluded a consultation with 141 parents/carers and 64 representatives from local agencies. There is a high level of need to provide ongoing, consistent and nurturing support to parents/carers, families with additional language needs and children, particularly children with additional support needs, in the first few years of life.

We set up a multi-agency Transitions Working Group whose work will in the first instance focus on the Transition within the early years. Part of this work includes a consultation with parents/carers.

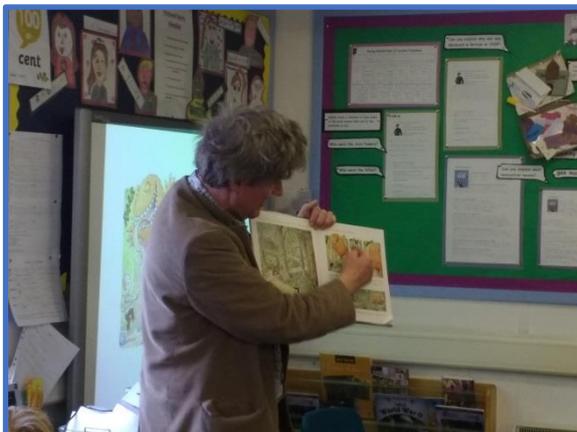


Creating and Learning Together Project



This project, aimed at providing literacy activities for age 4 upwards and families, moved into Year 3 of its funding cycle in July this year. It has been established with generous funding from The Robertson Trust, The Dr David Summers Charitable Trust, The Christina Mary Hendrie Trust, The Ernest Cook Trust and The St James's Place Foundation. The work is led by the Literacy Programme Co-ordinator, supported by Board members and volunteers and includes the annual book festival, creative residencies and a book gifting scheme. Xana Marwick took over the co-ordinator role from Sophy Dale in July 2016 and has been building on the work of Year 1 to develop the festival and creative residencies, working closely with the client group, and also building partnerships within the community.

Our festival held in October/ November 2016 attracted 920 children and young people as well as 213 adults and exceeded the target that we had set for our audiences. 24 school and nursery sessions took place across five local schools and in the local library, creating a lively central hub for the festival. There were five special public events, all of which took place in Craigmillar Library. These events included a meet Chae Strathie, Alison Murray, Barry Hutchison, Kirkland Ciccone and the energetic Macastory. We received some brilliant feedback from participants and two of our contributors, Alex Nye and Claire Askew, were invited back into the schools because the schools had enjoyed them so much.



'It was a brilliant experience for the children and inspired a lot of them.' (Teacher)
'Not only did we learn how to write a book, we also got to draw.' (Child P5/6)
'Many of them seem inspired to do some writing themselves.' (Teacher)
'I liked it because it was challenging.' (Child p5/6)

We also know from our book gifting programme that several children have actively requested books from at least one of the authors they met at the book festival.

For 2017 we have established a new Book Festival Steering Group which includes local young people, parents, teachers, library staff and members of the Craigmillar Literacy Trust board and staff team. We hope that this will enable us to better reflect the needs and desires of our local community. There are already a number of exciting new ideas, such as a writing competition and an interview panel (with an author) made up of young people

We have also changed the shape of the festival to take place over ten days from 16th – 25th November 2017 and have booked out the whole library to do this! We believe that having several schools and groups in the building at once, with various events happening will really enliven the festival as a whole and add to the celebratory 'feel-good' experience.

Our residency programmes have proven to be extremely impactful. Vivian French led a hugely successful 6-week residency with P6 at Castleview Primary and we know that the children who took part were surprised by just how much they managed to achieve, an indicator of a gain in confidence as well as interest in writing. Two of the children had the confidence and pride to present some of their work to 100 high school students and guests at our festival. The children also gave great feedback about how to make residencies even better in the future – a sign of their enthusiasm for such projects.



Our Read Write Count residency programme was much loved by both children and teachers, but had a particular impact where parents / carers were present. Some parents commented that they had learned new skills they could carry out at home.

Another exciting collaboration this year was with our new partners at Edinburgh Art Festival and Napier University School of Computing, Centre for Interaction Design, working with poet Georgi Gill and P5 at Niddrie Mill Primary School to create an interactive, personal story-telling, psycho-geographic map of Craigmillar. The participants will also enjoy a visit to Edinburgh Art Festival and ongoing relationships with all the organisations involved.



Board, Staff and Volunteers

Craigmillar Literacy Trust continues to grow and change and we are continuing with our retiral by rotation of Board members. Kate Frame and Lyn Tarlton stood down last year at the AGM, whilst Maggie Corr stood down as Chair. Maggie then became an Appointed Director for 2017, in order to pass on skills and expertise to newer members and subsequently left the Board in September. We are hugely indebted to all our former Board members for their contribution to the work of the Trust over the years and wish them all the very best for the future.

Simon Radcliffe, who joined the Board last year, has taken on the role of Company Secretary, from Sylvia Gorman. The role of Company Secretary now encompasses the duties of Membership Secretary as well. With further retirement by rotation again for the coming year, a recruitment exercise was held in the summer for new board members with the range of skills and experience we require for the Trust's development into the future. We are delighted to welcome Remo Lanni and Susan Elsley as Appointed Directors.

This year we also said farewell to Anna Ryan, Admin Assistant for Craigmillar Books for Babies, who has been with us for 15 years. We would like to thank her for her huge contribution to the service over many years. Having successfully continued the development of the Creating and Learning Project over the last year, Xana Marwick is moving on and we are sorry to be losing her. We wish both staff the very best for the future. In Xana's place we welcomed Ågot Bugge as the new Literacy Programme Co-ordinator. She is working on the current book festival and programmes for the project.

Training and Development

In January 2017, a Board and staff Away Day gave us the time to reflect on our aims and objectives and a key theme that came out of this was developing our infrastructure for the future and the administration needs of the organisation as a whole. This and an administrative vacancy in the Books for Babies team has allowed us to start a review of the administrative needs of the organisation to improve our efficiency and effectiveness and also to look at our operational structure for the future. With this in mind we decided to recruit a temporary post for 6 months for the Creating and Learning Project, which can be extended if necessary.

Staff and board members have attended training in several areas this year including Child Poverty Awareness Training, First Aid, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), Attachment, Signalong, social media and bespoke training around the grant from BBC (CiN).

The sub groups continue to work on developing best practice in areas of financial management and a number of policies have been reviewed and updated this year.

Funding

Our income for 2016-17 was £118,216 and our expenditure was £116,162. Our reserves continue to grow, currently at £30,957, to plan for our future sustainability. We are continuing to develop a diversified funding strategy and as mentioned above in our highlights have secured funding for the Books for Babies project for the next 3-4 years, putting us on a secure financial footing. Thanks to Stuart McCallum who continues to provide us with advice and support in our fundraising. Our fund raising work will continue in the coming year to support our administrative needs and continuing programmes. We were hugely grateful to LettersLive and the Edinburgh International Festival for nominating us as a charity for their festival performance this year and donating £5,000 to the Trust.



Thank you

Finally, and most importantly there are a wide range of people and organisations to thank for their support and generosity. None of the important work that we do would happen without the huge commitment from our staff, Board and members, volunteers and Steering Group members. We are so grateful too to have Patrick Benson, Alan Bissett and Kirstin Innes as our Books for Babies patrons and Janis Mackay as our new Book Festival patron.

We are hugely appreciative for the continued support we get from Castlebrae High and Nairns Oatcakes in terms of accommodation, meeting space and assistance from the reception Staff at Castlebrae.

We are indebted to our funders and sponsors including the Big Lottery Fund Improving Lives, BBC Children in Need, City of Edinburgh Council, People's Health Trust, Scottish Book Trust, the Robertson Trust, the Christina Mary Hendrie Trust, the Robert Gavron Trust, the Dr David Summers Charitable Trust, St James's Place Foundation, the Rosamunde Pilcher Trust, Baillie Gifford, New Park Educational Trust, Persimmon Homes, the Sir James Miller (Edinburgh) Trust, the Cattanach Trust, the John Watson Trust, Castle Rock Edinvar, Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland, Foundation Scotland, Edinburgh Trades Fund, One City Trust, Porsche Centre, Edinburgh, the Siobhan Dowd Trust, the Cruden Foundation, LettersLive, Waitrose, Edinburgh Speakers Festival and our in kind sponsors.

Thank you to all the authors, illustrators, storytellers and performers who have supported our programmes over the year. Special thanks go to Eric Brennan our Storyteller in Residence and to our own community Storyteller Heather Henderson. Also to the Edinburgh Bookshop for again supporting the book gifting scheme. It has been a great pleasure this year working again with the staff at Craigmillar Library, in particular Rehan Yousuf and Justyna Lorek. We really appreciate all their support for the work that we do.

And of course, thank you to all the parents/carers, families, children and staff who take part in and support our Craigmillar Books for Babies and Creating and Learning Together programmes.

I have really appreciated my time on the Board since early 2016 and being Chair for the last year. I will be stepping down at the AGM and am delighted to be handing over to Susan Elsley who comes to the Trust with a wealth of experience in the charity sector and in the literacy field. I wish Susan and everyone at the Trust all the very best for the future and look forward to seeing the organisation continue to grow and develop.

Alison Hunter – Chair, Craigmillar Literacy Trust

Craigmillar Literacy Trust March 2017

Craigmillar Literacy Trust Board

Alison Hunter Chair
Sylvia Gorman Company Secretary
Peggy Hughes
Ian McDonough
Marion McGlone Treasurer
Miriam McHardy
Martine Robertson
Simon Radcliffe
Maggie Corr

Creating and Learning Together Project

Literacy Programmes Coordinator Xana Marwick
Volunteers – Claire Johnstone, Brenda Rowan

Craigmillar Books for Babies Project

Staff

Kara Whelan Project Manager
Michelle Jones Development Officer
Anna Ryan Admin Assistant

Sessional Staff & Volunteers

Katerina Faulds Sessional Outreach Worker
Gareth Roberts Sessional Outreach Worker
Lyn Tarlton Volunteer Outreach Assistant - Baby Clinic
Shou-Ling Cheung Volunteer Website Assistant
Ania Dembicka Volunteer Outreach Assistant – Polish Rhymetime

Freelance

Eric Brennan Storyteller in Residence

Nicki Forrest Bookkeeper

Craigmillar Books for Babies Steering Group

Simon Radcliffe Board of Directors Representative

Catriona Gill Greengables Nursery School & Family Centre

Catriona Lodge Milton Surgery Health Visiting Team

Sandra Clapperton Speech and Language Therapy

Tilda Hutchison Greendykes Early Years Centre

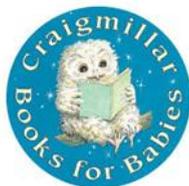
Beverly Holland Moffat Early Years Centre



Craigmillar Literacy Trust
C.C.H.S.
2A Greendykes Road
Edinburgh
EH16 4DP
0131 661 1282

info@craigmillarliteracytrust.org.uk

www.craigmillarliteracytrust.org.uk



0131 621 2621

info@craigmillarbooksforbabies.org.uk

www.craigmillarbooksforbabies.org.uk



0131 661 1282

craigmillarbookfestival@gmail.com

www.craigmillarbookfestival.org.uk

Craigmillar Literacy Trust is a company limited by guarantee with Charitable Status.

Company Number 182226 Scottish Charity Number SC027495