

Lasswade pupils get feel of gumboot rhythm

LASSWADE Primary School pupils enjoyed an unusual visit from Gumboot dancers last Monday.

Gumboot groovers Sheona Anderson and Douglas Kay have taken their hugely successful workshops to schools spanning Scotland and have also performed at the Edinburgh Festival.

They visited the pupils from P4 to 7, working with the classes to teach them about African history and the meaning of apartheid.

Gumboot dancing was developed as a means of communication by African miners who wore wellies to protect their feet from the damp conditions.

Bells and bottle tops were added to provide percussion and rhythm and the dance has evolved into a high energy performance.

Jack Baptie of P7 was enthusiastic about the experience. He said: "I loved the dancing, it was brilliant fun and really good exercise."

