

# **West Lothian Council**

*News release*

## **Poster competition on the money**

School pupils across West Lothian have been drawing inspiration from saving money.

Over 800 children from 15 local schools designed posters on the theme of 'Credit Unions: Planning for the Future' for West Lothian Credit Union Forum's annual poster competition.

This year's theme was designed to tie in with Better Off: West Lothian Money Week, which takes place from 21 to 26 November, and has over 50 free events and activities taking place to get people thinking and talking about how they might save cash.

Jakub Szydowski from Blackburn Primary won the first prize for his eye-catching design, with second prize awarded to Sophia Macrae from Falla Hill Primary, Fauldhouse, and third prize won by Gayatri Vijapurkar of Harrysmuir Primary, Livingston.

Janet Mundy from the West Lothian Credit Union Forum said: "Congratulations to Jakub and the other winners, and well done to everyone who took part. We received a number of excellent entries, and the judges had a difficult job picking the winners.

"We hope this competition will encourage children in West Lothian to think more about saving money, which will stand them in good stead for the rest of their life."

Council Leader Peter Johnston went to Blackburn Primary for a special assembly recently, to present Jakub with his prize of a £25 voucher to pay into a credit union account. He was joined at the school by representatives from Blackburn, Seafield & District Credit Union, one of three local credit unions running regular collections at 19 schools across West Lothian.

Councillor Johnston said: "I was delighted to present Jakub with his prize in recognition of his excellent poster design. Credit Unions have an important role to play in helping people manage their money better, and this competition will increase awareness of the importance of saving money among primary pupils.

"I'm sure the vast majority of us could benefit from taking a more active role in managing our money, and Better Off or West Lothian Money Week aims to get us all looking at what we can do to make the most out of our income."

A full programme of events for Better Off is available from the council's website at [www.westlothian.gov.uk](http://www.westlothian.gov.uk), or can be picked up from council offices around West Lothian.

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