

ECO Newsletter

December 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

Over the last 2 years the Eco team have done lots of eco-friendly activities, and this newsletter is to tell you about everything we have done and some of the things we are planning to do.

This year, we were awarded a Green Flag from Eco Schools for the work that we have done. Next year, we are aiming to receive a trophy.

Energy:

We have student energy monitors who check if the lights are off when not in use. Also, we have created posters around school to tell people to turn the lights off. Throughout this year, we will have another energy awareness day where we will reduce our energy use for the whole school day.

Global Citizenship:

Global Citizenship is extremely important to our school therefore we will be getting in touch with local animal welfare charities, and we will plan a fundraising event to support them. Our school teaches us about significant events around the world like Black History Month, Eid, Hanukkah and Christmas. We also learn about global environmental issues through LYFTA and we learn about important things in the news through Picture News.

Litter:

At our school, we have the perfect litter picking equipment hence why we do lots of litter picking. We participated in Keep Britain Tidy's Great Big School Clean during the last academic year.

Biodiversity:

At our school, we have a beautiful bug hotel created by a member of The ECO Team.

This year we will also create some more bird houses and bird feeders. We have a nature garden where wildflowers grow freely. Next year, we want to put barcodes near to flowers we have planted to identify what species of flowers they are.

Healthy Living:

We are a very healthy school, and we teach pupils how to grow fruit, vegetables and herbs. At our school we also use plants grown on site as ingredients for soup, and we have plant-based options on the menu every day. Next year, we would like to reduce one use plastic in pack up boxes. We have been successful in doing that this year. Now we make sure the school kitchen only uses washable dishes for desserts.



Marine:

We are a very marine-friendly school, because there are many items of our school uniform made from cotton and other natural fabrics. We also have created a beautiful piece of art representing the wonders of the sea.

School grounds:

Our school grounds are full of trees, plants, and gorgeous flowers. Our school has an outdoor nature area where every year group can go and look at insects. Next year, we would like to spend some of our fund-raising money on buying a nature tent where we can sit and watch birds and insects in their habitat. Also, each year group has a planter where they plant different vegetables. In the Spring, we will plant some more. At the top of the field, we have an area where we never cut the grass so bees and insects can live there.



Transport:

Next year, we would like to encourage more children to come to school in an environmentally friendly way. We have a safe, dry space to store bicycles and scooters. We also use locally produced food in our school lunches, so we don't have to use vehicles that use fuel.

Water:

At our school we have a water-butts to save water. We have many posters around school to tell people to turn the taps off when not in use. We have held an assembly to tell the children to use a maximum of 2 paper towels when you dry their hands. Next year, we are looking into having hand-dryers installed which will be more environmentally friendly. In school we also encourage children to bring reuseable water bottles and not one-use plastic bottles.



We hope that gives you an idea of the work we are doing in the Eco Team.

Kind regards,

Ernie Carter

A member of the ECO Team