



Leicester news

April/May 2017

What is Eco-Schools Leicester?

Leicester City Council has a dedicated Environmental Education Coordinator based in the Environment Team who works with schools to help them become more sustainable in all that they do.

As well as one to one support, schools are able to engage through termly #EcoTeachmeets, staff training, resource planning & workshops, assemblies, Eco-Schools conferences & celebration events and can keep up to date through a dedicated Twitter account, monthly eBulletins and termly newsletters.

The Eco-Schools programme provides exciting opportunities for students in curriculum time as well as outside the classroom. Learning outside of the classroom (LOTC) has been identified as 'memorable activities leading to memorable learning and positively contributing to pupil safety'. LOTC provides positive benefits to all groups of young people and supports a rich, relevant, broad and balanced curriculum.

Welcome to the late April/May Leicester Eco-Schools newsletter. For those of you that had the full Easter break I hope you had a restful time and ready for a busy term ahead, even if you didn't have the whole break, hopefully a few days of relaxation. This is always a busy term with SATS GCSEs and A Level exams as well as many of our schools are also looking toward achieving their Bronze, Silver and Green Flag Eco-Schools awards.

We have our first Global Goals celebration evening on the 18 May and our annual awards day which is being hosted with Food for Life at City Hall on Wednesday 28 June. Both events will showcase the fantastic work taking place day in, day out. As always, it's great to see many school groups at both events. Take a look at the flyers in this newsletter or contact me for more information. **As always get in touch if you need any support, Lee.**



How to find out more

Lee Jowett

Environmental Education Coordinator

Phoenix House, King Street, Leicester LE1 6RN

✉ Lee.jowett@leicester.gov.uk

🌐 schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools

🐦 [@EcoSchoolsLCC](https://twitter.com/EcoSchoolsLCC)

☎ 0116 454 2271



Outdoor Classroom Day is a day to celebrate and inspire outdoor learning and play. On Thursday 18 May 2017, thousands of schools around the world will take lessons outside and prioritise playtime.

Why? Outdoor learning improves children's health, engages them with learning and leads to a greater connection with nature. Play not only teaches critical life skills such as resilience, teamwork and creativity, but is central to children's enjoyment of childhood.

Sign up now by going to outdoorclassroomday.org.uk

Finished reading? Pass on to a colleague

Eco-School Awards

Schools can register for Eco-Schools for free at www.eco-schools.org.uk/register

There are 3 levels of award: Bronze, Silver and Green Flag.

At **Bronze** level your school has set up a committee, carried out a review, created an action plan and indicated where environmental issues are covered in the curriculum and informed the whole school.

At **Silver** level your school has done the above plus involved the whole school and wider community, carried out monitoring and evaluation, created an eco-code and completed one in-depth piece of work from the nine topics.

At **Green Flag Award** status, your school has done all the above plus carried out project work in-depth for three of the nine topics.

Bronze and Silver are self-certified online. For **Green Flag**, schools submit evidence online and are visited by an external assessor.

Schools can also be awarded an instant **Energy Award** based on their energy usage.



Newsletter

Our Eco-Schools newsletters are published 4 times per year. If you would like to submit an article for the next newsletter, the deadline is 28 June 2017. We ask for around 200 words, at least 1 photo and contact details e.g. name and email address to: eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk

Since January 2017

Recently registered or re-engaged

*ALP Leicester
Ash Field Academy
Caldecote Community Primary School
Green Lane Infant School
Imperial Avenue Infant School
King Richard Infant and Nursery School
Slater Primary School
The Lancaster School
Uplands Infant School*

Bronze Award

*Christ the King Catholic Primary School
Folville Junior School
Inglehurst Junior School
Kestrels' Field Primary School
St Pauls Catholic School
Sir Jonathan North Community College
Woodstock Primary Academy*

Silver Award

*Linden Primary School
Mellor Primary School
St Pauls Catholic School
Sir Jonathan North Community College*

Green Flag

Marriott Primary School

Eco-Schools Award changes

- The Energy topic is no longer compulsory and can be addressed at any point
- From your first Green Flag renewal you will only need to cover 5 topics, and for each subsequent renewal – 2 of these topics will need to change every two years
- Green procurement is no longer needed



Jane Goodall Roots and Shoots Awards

Congratulations to Mayflower Primary, Humberstone Junior Academy and Sir Jonathan North Community College who attended the Jane Goodall Roots and Shoots Awards in London in March. The event was a fantastic opportunity for schools to showcase the great work they have been doing. **Why not submit your own project work for an opportunity to meet Dr Jane next year!**



How to find out more

Roots and Shoots

✉ info@rootsnshoots.org.uk

🌐 www.rootsnshoots.org.uk



Supports many of the Eco-Schools topics

Eco-visit Opportunity to Cape Town



FACEAFRICA
Ethical & Original African Journeys

A **once in a life-time** opportunity has been put together to visit Cape Town as part of a Leicester Eco-visit in October 2017. The expedition is aimed at school staff in Leicester schools looking to develop global learning opportunities. The visit will be an opportunity to visit Robben Island and local Townships. There will then be an extended time to work with the Ubuntu Football Project based in Cape Town! Please contact **Lee Jowett** for further details.



For more information [download the information pack](#)



THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development

Leicester Schools' Global Goals Showcase evening 17 May 2017

In September 2015, 193 world leaders agreed 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development. If these Goals are completed, it would mean an end to extreme poverty, inequality and climate change by 2030! Our governments have a plan to save our planet...it's our job to make sure they stick to it.

In Leicester we want to raise the profile of the Global Goals so that **every student** knows what they are and how they can contribute! Here's where you come in...

On **Wednesday 17 May 2017** we will be holding a schools' Global Goals celebration at City Hall, Leicester. We want as many schools as possible to participate in the exhibition by providing their interpretation of one of the Global Goals. The best examples of each Global Goals will appear in a pop-up shop in the **Highcross Shopping Centre** throughout **May half-term**.



Evening agenda

- Setting up displays from 3pm
- Opportunity for invited guests (including parents and school staff) to visit school stalls - 4.00pm-5.30pm
- Speeches and presentations - 5.30pm-6.15pm

There are still opportunities to attend
Book your display now by emailing Lee Jowett



1. There is no maximum or minimum number of students who can participate. We actively encourage involvement with your whole school community and partnerships with other organisations.
2. Your submission can be submitted in any format e.g. video, photos, campaign write up, journal, sculpture, artwork, lyrics, display. Your submission needs to be delivered to City Hall, Leicester by Tuesday 16 May 2017.
3. We encourage all schools that enter a submission to attend the celebration event, however this isn't compulsory.

Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration 2017

Deadline for
school entry
7 June 2017

Wednesday 28 June 2017 • City Hall, Leicester

Celebrate the work that your school has completed this year by attending the now annual Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration. Bring along up to 5 students to display your Eco-Schools and/or your Food for Life project. Receive your Food for Life Bronze award.



Schools can display 2 Eco-Schools topics, 1 of which can include your Food for Life project. As a reminder, the Eco-Schools topics are:

- Biodiversity
- Energy
- Litter
- Waste
- Transport
- Water
- School Grounds
- Healthy Living
- Global Citizenship

Entries for the Eco-School Awards will be categorised by the school's level of Eco-School award rather than by topic like in previous years.

Food for Life awards will be judged separately and will be a demonstration of work completed so far on the Food for Life journey.

All schools will also be entered into the:

- Judge's Special Award
- Eco-factor Award (voted by students)

The event will run from 9.30am - 2pm.

The Real Junk Food Café will be serving lunch.

Schools will be asked to provide brief information about their display before the day.

For more information and to book your school place contact:

Lee Jowett, Leicester City Council

lee.jowett@leicester.gov.uk 0116 454 2271

Lisa Didier, Soil Association Food for Life

ldidier@soilassociation.org 07718 570945



Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration 2017

Wednesday 28 June 2017 • City Hall, Leicester

Additional Food for Life Information

You are invited to attend this event to demonstrate the work you have completed so far on your Food for Life Journey.



You can work towards your Bronze award which will be presented at this event or you can show a way you have improved an area of the following in school:

- How you used Food for Life to raise attainment
- How Food for Life has integrated across the school in a whole school approach
- Increased school meal take up
- The good work of your SNAG and pupil voice
- Show the ethos of healthy eating across the school
- Show the improvement in cooking in the curriculum
- Food growing in school
- Demonstrate how you improved the dining room environment

If you would like to achieve Bronze by the time this event takes place please contact Lisa Didier. If you would like to display your work from the above categories, then a Certificate will be presented for your work and you will also be achieving criteria B4.2 for their bronze award “we share Food for Life learning with local schools, the wider community and other partners”.

Lisa Didier, Soil Association Food for Life
ldidier@soilassociation.org 07718 570945



A unique and exciting training day for outdoor learning in English, maths and science. Delivered at the University of Leicester Botanical Gardens by colleagues from the Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust, Earthwatch Institute and STEM Polar Explorers. You are encouraged to attend the whole day but can select just morning, afternoon or twilight to attend. Book now via [Eventbrite](#), details below.

Using Outdoor Learning in Primary English, Maths and Science

25 May 2017

Morning session - Wild about Learning

Introducing **Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust's new teachers' pack!** Get inspired to take your **lessons outdoors** with our numeracy and literacy lesson plans for each KS1 and KS2 year group - plus links to other packs and resources.



Join us in helping to make nature part of growing up for all children. During the sessions, you will sample many of the activities in the pack, covering key areas of study.

Lesson plans have been designed to:

- Link to the national curriculum
- Work in any school grounds
- Use commonly found natural materials
- Need minimum preparation time



Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust

Supported by players of



Part of the www.wildforestschoo.org.uk project, supported by players of People's Postcode Lottery

8:45am - 12 noon (refreshments from 8:30am)



Afternoon session – Discovery day



This initiative is targeted at Key Stage 2 classes but can be adapted for STEM teaching across all levels at primary schools. The workshop is run by Earthwatch facilitators.

The workshop will include an introduction to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Hands-on experience of running citizen science projects that allow your students to provide scientifically robust data for international monitoring projects on climate change and pollution.

Skill-sharing and peer-learning, exploring methods of outdoor learning. Citizen Science projects that an Earthwatch facilitator can bring to the school include, but are not limited to:



- [Earthworm Watch](#)
- [FreshWater Watch](#)
- [The Tea Bag Index](#)

12.30 - 4.00pm (refreshments from 12 noon)



Twilight session – Polar Explorers Programme

In 2014 the Government announced a £200 million investment for a new polar research ship. The RRS Sir David Attenborough will enable world-leading research in Antarctica and the Arctic for the next 25 years.

With funding from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) STEM have created the Polar Explorer programme. Working with BEIS, NERC, British Antarctic Survey (BAS) and others we will use this historic occasion to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers

Find out all about the programme & exciting educational resources from a Polar Ambassador.

4.15pm-5.30pm (refreshments from 4.00pm)

Further details of the day

Date: Thursday 25 May 2017

Time: Morning: 8.45-12 noon, afternoon 12.30-4.00pm, twilight 4.15-5.30pm

Venue: University of Leicester Botanical Gardens, Glebe Road, Leicester LE1 2LD (sat nav address)

Morning: Literacy and numeracy sessions (KS1 & KS2) - Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust

Afternoon: Citizen Science Discovery day (KS2 but can be adapted for KS1) - Earthwatch Institute

Twilight: Polar Explorers & STEM Learning (KS2) – Polar Explorers Programme

Cost: Free to all schools

Refreshments will be provided throughout the day. Lunch will be provided for colleagues attending both the morning and afternoon sessions

Book your place now via Eventbrite outdoorlearning.eventbrite.co.uk

If you have any questions, please contact:

- ❖ Lee Jowett, Leicester City Council lee.jowett@leicester.gov.uk 0116 454 2271
- ❖ Martha Rose, Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust mrose@lrwt.org.uk 0116 248 7356
- ❖ Sarah Staunton Lamb, Earthwatch Institute sstauntonlamb@earthwatch.org.uk
- ❖ Sarah Eames, Sandfield Close seames@sandfieldclose.leicester.sch.uk

A joint training day delivered by Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust, Earthwatch Institute & STEM Polar Explorers. Facilitated by Sandfield Close Primary School & Environmental Education at Leicester City Council



Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust
Leicester City Council

Fruit To Suit

fruit to suit the healthy tuck shop company. **fruit to suit** is a multi-award winning social enterprise company delivering bespoke, quality assured business and enterprise programmes to primary and secondary schools nationwide. Our programmes develop and encourage entrepreneurial skills and a greater understanding of business planning which can then be consolidated by establishing and operating a long term, sustainable healthy tuck shop business.

The aims of the company are to:

- Inspire young entrepreneurs
- Combat obesity and promote healthier lifestyles
- Tackle factors affecting health
- Develop opportunities for self help

fruit to suit supplies the healthy tuck shops with an extensive range of healthy snacks and drinks meeting the School Food Trust criteria to be sold in schools. The pupils promote the health benefits to their peers, families and local communities with the consequent benefits to the diet and quality of life within these areas.



Supports the Eco-Schools
healthy living topic



How to find out more

Claire Rawisinki

Leicestershire & Warwickshire

✉ Claire@fruittosuit.co.uk

☎ 07825 684 355

🌐 www.fruittosuit.co.uk

Woodland Trust



Supports the Eco-Schools school
grounds and biodiversity topics



DEFRA is working in partnership with the Woodland Trust to offer free trees to state-funded primary schools in England.

Trees create inspiring learning spaces as well as natural, sustainable, and dynamic outdoor classrooms. They give children the chance to connect with nature and create something beautiful for future generations.

You can receive **FREE** packs of tree saplings to plant at your school or on nearby land in autumn 2017. Packs come in varying sizes: a small pack containing 30 tree saplings, a medium pack with 105 trees and a large pack with 420 saplings. To apply for free trees visit woodlandtrust.org.uk/freetrees

How to find out more

Nicola Craven – Schools Project Officer

🌐 woodlandtrust.org.uk/freetrees

✉ nicolacraven@woodlandtrust.org.uk

☎ 0343 770 5614



WOODLAND
TRUST



Is your school or college on the lookout for an exciting education centre to visit but your budget needs a boost? We are excited to announce the launch of our brand new colleges and schools bursary at the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT).

This bursary provides schools and colleges, who would otherwise miss out, the opportunity to apply for a bursary of between £50 and £300 to use against entry, teaching and even accommodation at CAT. The bursary is open to all schools and colleges across the UK and internationally and is subject to the completion of a simple application form.

CAT has over 40 years of experience in sustainable practice and is a renowned centre for environmental education. Our dedicated education department offers inclusive and interactive tuition sessions, workshops, guided tours and residential visits that focus on STEM, geography and ESD, all of which can be adapted to suit your school or college.

With over 7 acres of hands-on displays, bunk style accommodation and a delicious vegetarian café CAT welcomes day and residential group visits year round.

Please contact education@cat.org.uk for further information about the bursary, application form, tuition and booking. Or click on this link for the application form <http://learning.cat.org.uk/cat-bursary-form>



Centre for Alternative Technology
Canolfan y Dechnoleg Amgen

Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT)

How to find out more Centre for Alternative Technology

learning.cat.org.uk

01654 705983

Education Department,
Machynlleth, SY20 9AZ



University of Leicester Environment Action Group

A big thank you to the University of Leicester Environment Action Group who recently helped rebuild the raised growing beds at Folville Junior School.



Supports the Eco-Schools school grounds topic

Join in with Happy Shoesday

Happy Shoesday is Living Streets' one-day fundraising event and walk to school celebration for primary schools.

On the Tuesday of Walk to School Week (16th May), or a date of your choice, pupils, parents and teachers across the country raise money to support Living Streets' walking projects, by wearing their happy shoes and donating £1.



How it Works:

1. **Sign up** for a free fundraising pack and we'll send you everything you need to make running the day as easy and fun as possible.
www.livingstreets.org.uk/happypoeshoesday
2. **Get thinking** about what happy shoes to wear – a favourite pair or ones that have been decorated. You could use our shoe cape template to turn shoes into shoe-per heroes!
3. **Have a super Happy Shoesday!**
Encourage families to walk, scoot, cycle or park and stride to school, wear their happy shoes, and make a £1 donation for Living Streets, the UK Charity for everyday walking.

Why Join In?

Walking to school is proven to help make children healthier and feel happier as well as refreshed and ready to learn. Walking also helps reduce congestion and air pollution.

Your Happy Shoesday donations will go to help Living Streets work with schools, disability groups and local communities, helping us to create a walking nation, free from congested roads and pollution and reducing the risk of preventable illnesses and social isolation.

Sign up at www.livingstreets.org.uk/happypoeshoesday and contact Katie on katie.france@livingstreets.org.uk if you have any questions.

Why not link Happy Shoesday to Africa's Gift Happy Feet Day?
Donations for wearing happy shoes to school could then take the form of either a pair of unwanted shoes or £1.

The money raised from the shoe donations can then either come back to the school or be given to Living Streets along side the £1 donations.

Africa's Gift has arranged for the next Leicester collection day to be on Friday 19th May to tie in with any local Happy Shoesday events (***below on the electronic version***).



Africa's Gift Shoes for Africa Money for you!

Solve the perennial headache of non-uniform days, raise funds for your school and help support a charity by holding a...

Happy Feet Day

a non-uniform day for your feet!

Students attend school in their choice of footwear, whilst handing over a pair of unwanted shoes that can be used again in rural Africa.

We pay **40p per kilogram** for reusable shoes, and then transport them to Africa, where they are introduced into the communities sensitively*

We collect the shoes from school on the **Happy Feet Day**, so there are no storage problems. We weigh them and make swift payment.

All we ask is that the shoes are **clean, paired, tied and together...**

Book a date to make your feet happy!

***our focus is on empowering community members rather than perpetuating a dependency culture and we work with key personnel to make this happen.**

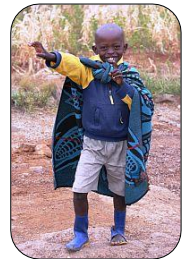
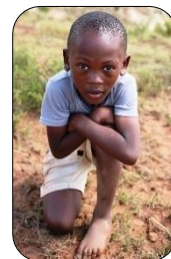
Find out more at www.africagift.org

AfricasGift
@AfricasGift



info@africagift.org

01709 717111



Why not link to the Happy Shoesday with Living Streets?
The next Leicester date is **Friday 19 May 2017**
Email or phone today to book your collection

LET THE EARTH



BE YOUR CLASSROOM!

If you want an inspiring way to connect your students to nature, we can help.

Earthwatch are experts in engaging the next generation in research and sustainability issues. Our two exciting programmes for teachers and students use the UN's global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a framework.

What we offer

Programmes currently targeted at Key Stage 2 classes (adaptable for STEM teaching across all levels). They:

- enable participants to connect to nature using hands-on science activities and outdoor learning activities
- provide an opportunity for professional development for teachers
- are built around the concept of 'citizen science' where people of all ages are empowered to collect scientific data in their local area. Our programmes include:
 - Earthworm Watch (earthwormwatch.org)
 - FreshWater Watch (freshwaterwatch.thewaterhub.org)
 - The Tea Bag Index (teatime4science.org)



Teach Earth: Become a leader in teaching outdoors, through participating in a teacher-training weekend with environmental experts from the Earthwatch Institute. Join an Earthwatch teacher-training weekend for just £25. The training programme supports teachers to connect children with nature and explore how to integrate the Global Sustainable Development Goals within the curriculum. During the weekend you will have a chance to try at least three "citizen science" outdoor experiments and will be given materials and free kits to take back to your schools. The weekends run from 3pm on Friday until 4pm on Sunday and include all food and accommodation. Learning sessions and workshops will fit around active outdoor learning sessions in Wytham Woods. We hope you will leave refreshed, inspired, motivated and well equipped to take learning outside, empower your students to reconnect with nature and take action to protect it. This training is open to teachers, trainee teachers and educators of all ages and subjects.

Dates: 19-21 May, 9-11 June or 7-9 July 2017

Teach Earth

A teacher-training weekend to learn about “citizen science” outdoor experiments for yourself, including **free take-away materials and kits** and lesson plans on science projects and the SDGs, that fit into the national curriculum.

The cost is just **£25** is per teacher for all training, materials, food and accommodation. Some free places are available for those working in disadvantaged communities.

Discover Earth*

A range of ‘on-site’ activities in your school, delivered by Earthwatch facilitators, including:

- a Citizen Science **Roadshow** offering a school assembly, outdoor classes and exploring the SDGs
- a **Discovery Day** that brings together teachers from your local area to network and learn collectively about citizen science and bringing SDGs alive.

What are the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals?

The SDGs support global collective action to protect the planet. They address poverty, hunger and the environmental crisis and are to be met by 2030.

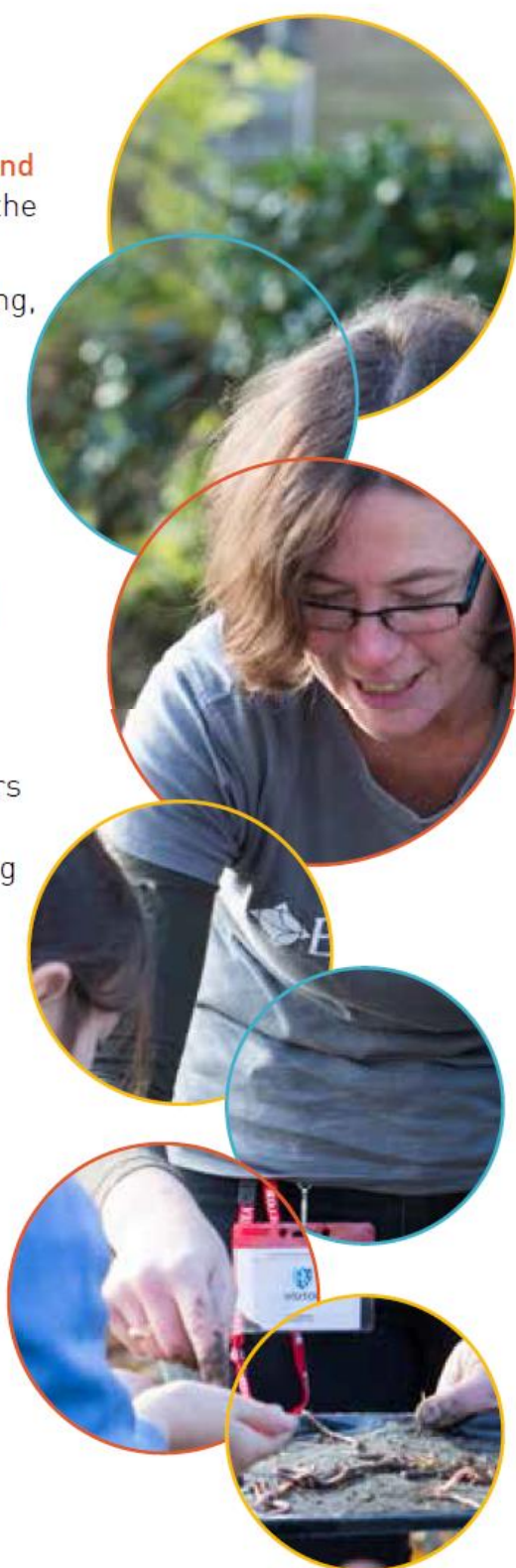
Find out more

Find out more from the Education team at:

Email: education@earthwatch.org.uk

Web: eu.earthwatch.org

Tel: 01865 318809



*This programme is free at the point of access for schools and is supported by Aramco

Earthwatch Europe, Mayfield House, 256 Banbury Road, Oxford, OX2 7DE, UK Registered charity: 1094467

National Smile Month with Healthy Teeth, Happy Smiles!



National Smile Month is beginning on 15 May and running until 15 June 2017. This is set to be an exciting month, with oral health professionals and dentists visiting toddler groups across the city to give expert advice and tips, as well as goody bags!

For the launch, on 15 May, we are asking all schools, nurseries, and children's centres to pick up their toothbrushes and toothpaste at 11am and take part in synchronised tooth brushing! You can even get free resources to take part by emailing the address below.

We hope your setting will jump on board, help promote oral health, and have fun while gaining awareness of the importance of brushing teeth. Take a picture of your tooth brushing session and send it to healthyteethhappysmiles@leicester.gov.uk for a chance to be featured on Leicester City Council's social media.




*Supports the Eco-Schools
healthy living topic*

How to find out more

Michelle Hall, Oral Health Promoter

Healthy Teeth, Happy Smile, Leicester City Council

 www.leicester.gov.uk/healthyteethhappysmiles

 0116 454 2047

 michelle.hall@leicester.gov.uk

Outdoor Classroom Day 2017



Outdoor Classroom Day is a day to celebrate and inspire outdoor learning and play. On Thursday 18 May 2017, thousands of schools around the world will take lessons outside and prioritise playtime. Why? Outdoor learning improves children's health, engages them with learning and leads to a greater connection with nature. Play not only teaches critical life skills such as resilience, teamwork and creativity, but is central to children's enjoyment of childhood. It's easy to get involved and there is something everyone can do! Go to outdoorclassroomday.org.uk to find out more.

School Run Action Plan

Supports the Eco-Schools
transport topic



Children at Hope Hamilton CE (Aided) Primary School are hoping that new pencil-shaped bollards will help draw a line under dangerous pavement parking outside their school. The city council has installed the 22 new bollards outside the school to improve pedestrian safety and to tackle problem parking. Made of polymer resin around a steel core and measuring 1 metre high, the pencil bollards will help ensure that the pavement on Thornborough Way remains clear for children, pushchairs and wheelchairs – and that the road remains clear for fire engines and other emergency vehicles.

A full assessment of the physical measures and behavioural changes required at Hope Hamilton will be carried out as part of the city council's school run action plan. The action plan will produce a programme of works for every city school over the next three years to address issues around road safety, speeding, congestion and parking. Work to tackle problems associated with the school run is part of the city council's £2.2million Parking Improvement Action Plan.



How to find out more

Amita Miles – Leicester City Council

schools.leicester.gov.uk/parkingprogramme

0116 454 4139

Amita.Miles@leicester.gov.uk

Stop the Spread – New Resource

Pupils research infectious diseases then design and build a model of a hand washing device for a school in Kenya

Infectious diseases are a global problem and cause millions of deaths each year.

Stop the spread is a STEM challenge which enables pupils to research the problem then use their STEM and communication skills to design a hand washing device and education materials for a primary school in Kenya.

The design challenge: Working as a team pupils design, build and test a model of a hand washing device that can capture and dispense water for hand washing.

The research and communication challenge. Pupils find innovative ways to communicate the problems cause by the spread of disease and the importance of hand washing to primary school pupils in Kenya.

The challenge is perfect for **STEM clubs**, integrating into your **D&T and science lessons** or running as an **off-timetable** day. Download this fantastic resource from practicalaction.org/stop-the-spread



How to find out more

Practical Action

www.practicalaction.org/schools

www.facebook.com/practicalaction

www.twitter.com/practicalaction



Supports the Eco-Schools
global dimension topic

Local School Nature Grants Scheme



What do Birdboxes, bee hotels and nature experts all have in common? They are all available free to schools as part of LTL's new Local School Nature Grants Programme, supported by players of People's Postcode Lottery.

The grants provide an assortment of nature equipment and training up to the value of £1000 and packages are customisable, enabling schools to choose from a menu of items which best suit their learners and their setting. All schools in England, Scotland and Wales are welcome to apply, with training being most suitable for those who work with Reception to Key Stage 3.

The aim of the project is to make it easy to get young people in touch with nature, and so the application process is quick and straight forward. The next deadlines are the 12 May and 9 June 2017.

Find the details at www.ltl.org.uk/naturegrants/guidance.php



Supports the Eco-Schools biodiversity and school grounds topics

The Big Pedal



In Leicester children have been getting on board with The Big Pedal, encouraging healthier travel and changing lives forever. On a beautifully crisp morning, 138 children from Dovelands Primary School in Leicester cycled and scooted to school - and Assistant Mayor, Councillor Adam Clarke, dropped in to present them with lots of cycling goodies. The cycle and scoot to school day was arranged as part of The Big Pedal 2017, which ran from Monday 20 to Friday 31 March. During the ten days, participating primary and secondary schools competed with one another to make the most journeys by bike or scooter



Supports the Eco-Schools transport topic



Eco-Schools Roadshow 2017



Avenue Primary School
 Braunstone Frith Primary School
 Belgrave St Peters C of E Primary
 Bridge Junior School
 Christ the King Primary School
 Falcons Primary School
 Forest Lodge Community Primary
 Folville Junior School
 Highfields Primary School
 Inglehurst Junior School
 Linden Primary School
 Marriott Primary School
 Moat Community College
 Overdale Infants School
 Parks Primary School
 Rushey Mead Primary School
 Rushey Mead Academy
 Sandfield Close Primary School
 Sir Jonathan North Community College
 Sparkenhoe Community Primary School
 Stokes Wood Primary School
 Uplands Junior L.E.A.D. Academy

This year our annual Eco-Schools conferences were replaced with an Eco-Schools roadshow. We hosted 4 events at 3 secondary schools and Forest Lodge Education Centre during March and April 2017. Watch out for next year's events which we are currently planning.



Supports many of the Eco-Schools topics and awards



Eco-Schools Roadshow 2017



In March 2017, Sir Jonathan North Community College were honoured to host an Eco Event to Overdale Infants, Inglehurst Juniors, Marriott, Avenue and Braunstone Frith Primary School. Below is their write-up and photos of the event.

The Fairtrade Group introduced the event and welcomed the different primary schools. They outlined the importance of their school group and the different ways they have raised awareness and funds for the Fairtrade Foundation. The members of the Fairtrade Group then split into groups and helped assist in the different workshops that were run. The aims of the Eco Event were: to gain a greater understanding of the Global Goals for Sustainable Development and Eco-Schools topics to develop new campaigns and identify ways of promoting sustainability in school, the opportunity to network with other schools and learn about their environmental projects, to find out about local and national projects and how to get involved. Keep reading to find out all about the fascinating workshops!

How Bad are Bananas? The Carbon Footprint of Everything

Have you ever wondered what the real impact of a banana is? The Great Carbon Footprint Game introduces the concepts of carbon footprinting and global warming and shows how even the smallest item has different environmental and social impacts (including fairtrade). After an introductory plenary, pupils were able to play the game in groups and leave with a completed form with examples of different footprints.

Soil Secret Agents

Soil Secret Agents is a hands-on workshop for children to discover a hidden world beneath the ground. Scientists who work with plants and soils will help pupils to explore how soil helps plants to grow and how “secret agents”, such as fungi, keep the soil healthy. Students were able to investigate the ways in which farmers can look after their soils to help grow healthy plants and prevent flooding. After a quick introduction, students were given the opportunity to measure the effects of soil compaction on plant growth, compare root systems that are normally hidden below the surface and see the effects of earthworms on soil structure. There were prepared examples to demonstrate materials for students to make to take back to their schools and observe over the following month

Just Fairtrade Workshop

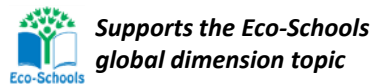
Students learnt about the importance of Fairtrade and the role that it has. Sarah outlined how Just Fairtrade runs an exclusively fairly traded shop in Leicester city centre and helped students to begin to think about the importance of Fairtrade and the impact that it has.



**Supports
many of the
Eco-Schools
topics and
awards**

Fairtrade Leicester Schools Competition

A big thank you to the schools who entered the Fairtrade Schools competition during Fairtrade Fortnight 2017. There were some fantastic entries. Judging will be taking place very soon and the winners will be announced in due course. In the meantime take a look at some of the entries below.



Medway Community Primary School

Sandfield Close Primary School



Sir Jonathan North Community College

Scraptoft Valley Primary School

Prizes kindly donated by



New Eco-Schools Website



You may have noticed that the national Eco-Schools website www.eco-schools.org.uk was completely rebuilt recently. You can still log in to submit evidence for the Bronze, Silver and Green Flag Award. Click on login on the top right corner which will take you to a section of the previous site where you will find all the admin for applying for the awards.

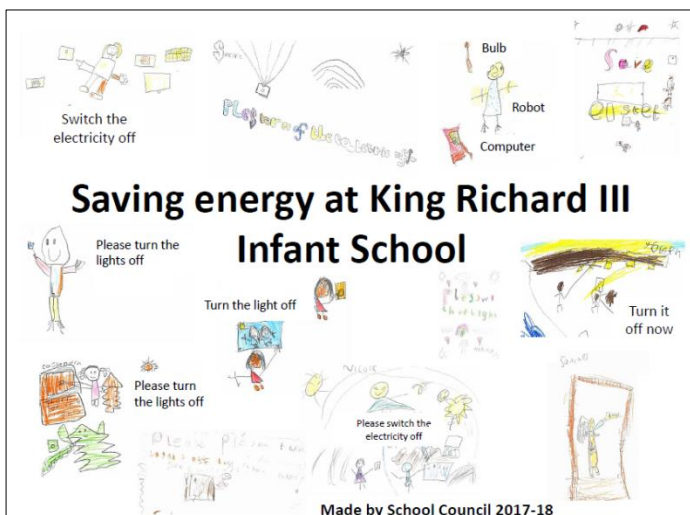
Green Flag Raised for Scraptoft Valley School

Congratulations to Scraptoft Valley Primary School who recently raised their Green Flag. The event was attended by parents, students and governors at the school. Well done!



Energy Saving at King Richard III

Below is the great energy saving poster designed by the school council at King Richard III Infant School. It was recently presented in assembly and displayed around school.



Christ the King School's fantastic Eco-Code was designed by their school council

Supports the Eco-Schools Silver and Green Flag awards



Eco-Code of the term



