

National Topic Award Winners



Biodiversity - Heswall Primary School

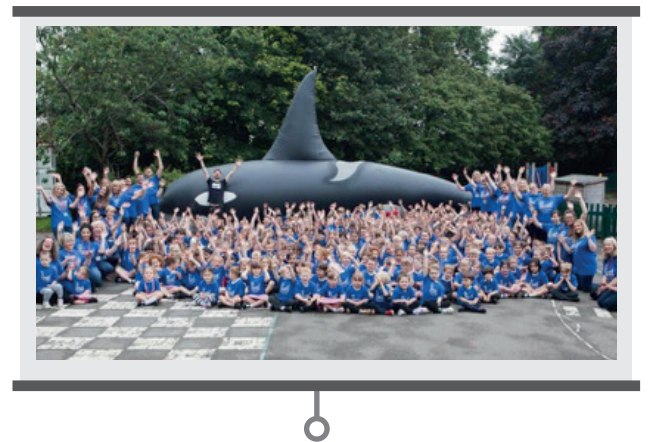
1ST GREEN FLAG 2010 



For the past three years Heswall Primary School, Wirral have been busy raising awareness about the importance of animal conservation locally and globally, they have done this through film, events and partnership with schools around the world.

Heswall have developed strong links with Kisoro Demo Primary school in Uganda. Both schools have worked together to learn about endangered animals through exchanging letters and collaborative conservation project work. Heswall have also raised funds for their twin school, which were used to plant cabbages that could be sold to fund conservation trips into the Bwindi Rainforest. Their fundraising proved so successful that 4 more neighbouring Wirral schools decided to help, together raising enough income to build 53 water harvesting systems and plant many trees for their twin school to create new habitats for gorillas.

“Extinction is Forever”



Annually, Heswall organise and host the 'Wirral Science Under the Stars' event attracting over 1200 attendees including families, students, environmental professionals and over 50 businesses from around the North West. Each year the highlight of the event is a collaborative film shown on a giant, cinema screen. Written and created by Heswall Primary (in collaboration with 5 other Wirral schools), this year's film 'Extinction is Forever,' raised awareness of global conservation issues. Alongside the film screening, pupils also participated in a series of lessons designed to raise awareness of endangered species, hosted a DinoShores sleepover focusing on extinct species and even came to school dressed as an endangered animal of their choice.

After filming and showing *Extinction is Forever*, their conservation efforts continued. The pupils of Heswall decided to develop a marine-based conservation initiative 'Ocean Blue' to raise awareness of the effects of ocean plastic on marine life. They learnt about ocean conservation through inviting experts to their school before making a whole school plastic pledge and hosting a Plastic Pledge Market with plastic-free stalls, plastic-free information points and a plastic-free pledge tree. For the summer holidays, each pupil was given a #HeswallOceanBlue t-shirt to help inspire others around the world. During their summer holidays Heswall's pupils conducted their own beach cleans and even spoke to hotels and restaurants about reducing their single-use plastics. #HeswallOceanBlue T-shirts were even sent to their twin school, in Uganda, who have been inspired to begin their own single-use plastic campaign.

Heswall Primary's mission is to create opportunities for their children to become conservation agents of change and they are proud to have given their children the chance to have an impact locally and globally.

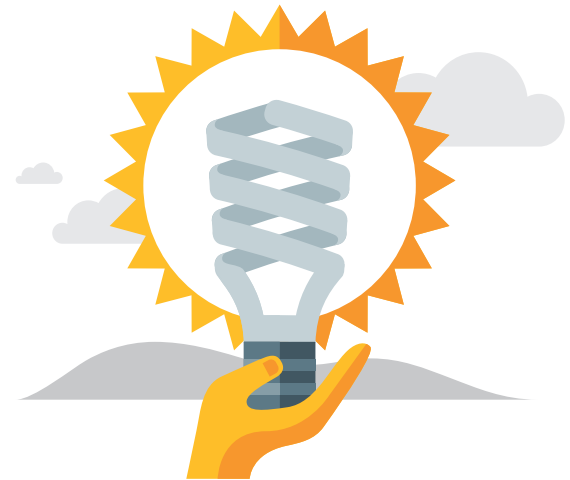


National Topic Award Winners



Energy – St Cuthbert's Roman Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School

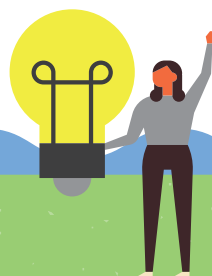
SILVER AWARD



Having recently joined the Eco-Schools family, St Cuthbert's discovered through their Environmental Review that the school's energy use and energy bills were increasing.

This had to be one of the first issues their Eco-Committee decided to tackle! After discussing how to raise awareness of energy use, children on the Eco-Committee decided to go big: they wanted a full school day without electricity. An Action Plan was put into place and a date arranged.

The whole school and its local community were involved. A letter was sent to parents recommending warm clothing and layers be worn as the electric heating would not be in use. The school canteen staff were advised they would not be able to use electrical equipment on the day. Finally, the press were informed with Look North, Tyne Tees News, Made in Tyne & Wear and the Sunderland Echo all covering the story. Even the local mayor asked to attend to find out more.

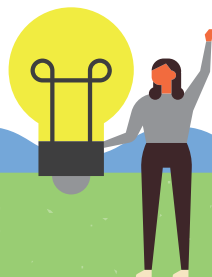


“The Children have pledged to continue their mission.”

A whole school assembly kicked off their no electricity day, explaining climate change, technological changes and giving pupils questions to think about. How did children entertain themselves before electricity? How did people see at night without electrical lighting? How was food stored before fridges?

Pupils and staff then moved on to electricity-free lessons and planned workshops for all year groups including churning apples to make tasty apple juice and roasting marshmallows over a fire pit. Even the lunch time staff rose to the occasion providing sandwiches, salads and fruit for the hungry troops. Throughout the day, six pupils monitored energy use in the school, calculating that their day of action had saved the school £40!

Since the event, the whole school has been more mindful about wasting energy, turning off electrical devices left on unnecessarily and becoming more reliable global citizens. The Eco-Committee have pledged to continue their eco-mission and are now thinking about the next environmental issue they want to address on their journey to their first Eco-Schools Green Flag.



National Topic Award Winners



Global Citizenship - St John's Church of England Primary School

1ST GREEN FLAG 2019



Pupils at St John's were becoming increasingly concerned about our world's rainforests being cut down for palm oil, so they resolved to do something about it! The Eco-Committee decided the best way to guard our rainforests was to fundraise for the World Land Trust, an international conservation charity that protects the world's most threatened habitats by acquiring and protecting land.

A two week project was planned: the whole school would learn about the rainforest and participate in fundraising activities for the World Land Trust. Before beginning their event, they decided to invite Sir David Attenborough - unfortunately he was not able to attend, however he sent them a handwritten response praising their determination and work. The children also received a good luck message from Cbeebies presenter Andy Day.

During the project, all year groups enjoyed learning about rainforests. In the first week, the school was visited by professional naturalist and published author Andrew Smith. Pupils loved meeting the rainforest animals Andrew brought along including: snakes, terrapins and even a tarantula! Year 6 pupils decided to practice their formal letter writing skills, writing a letter of complaint to the government hoping to enact change. The first week of activities culminated in a rainforest themed own clothes day, with all children encouraged to dress up as animals or plants found in the rainforest.



"Run for the Rainforest."



Full school participation continued into week two of the project:

- Reception class created their own parrot masks
- Year 1 voted for their favourite rainforest animal
- In year 2 pupils created e-books about the cutest and deadliest animals in the rainforest
- Year 3's made rainforest cookies, learning about sugar and palm oil alternatives
- Year 4 created persuasive news reports to convince people to protect the rainforest
- Year 5 wrote letters to the four major supermarkets asking them to only stock products with no or responsibly sourced palm oil
- Finally Year 6 produced some amazing rainforest-inspired pieces of art and poetry.

St John's two weeks of rainforest inspired action ended in a sponsored 'Run for the Rainforest,' with head teacher Mr Smith joining in the fun by completing the run dressed as a gorilla! St John's managed to raise £3260 over the two week period, which was then used to purchase and protect 31 acres of natural habitat in Mexico. Feedback from parents, staff children and even the local MP was immensely positive stating how memorable the two weeks had been. Currently, the school's catering supplier is now working hard to source products that do not contain palm oil.

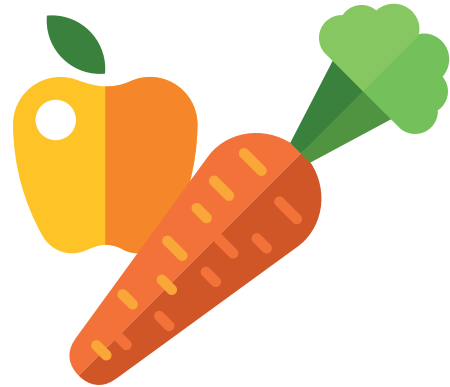


National Topic Award Winners



Healthy Living – Cradle Hill Community Primary School

1ST GREEN FLAG 2019



Since registering on the Eco-Schools programme in 2017, things have changed at Cradle Hill Community Primary School: items are recycled, vegetables and flowers grown, litter is picked, energy monitored and links made with schools from around the world.

Cradle Hill's work on the Eco-Schools Healthy Living topic has been especially impressive – they are a school where pupil and staff well-being is a priority. Behaviour in Cradle Hill is addressed using a Thrive and Zones of Regulation approach, supporting young people's social and emotional development with pupils being encouraged to use exercise to regulate their zones. Part of their regulation is running a mile every single day. Focus on mental health extends to staff, with the school forming a Well-Being Committee, who are currently developing ways of promoting mental health awareness. Outdoor learning is also a priority at the school.

“We all loved meditating.”



Annually, they host an Outdoor Learning Week with every lesson being held in their wildlife area or on the school's expansive lawn – the school even completed a Shakespeare in the Park production of A Midsummer Night's Dream.

In June 2019, Cradle Hill piloted our Eco-Schools Mindfulness Minutes campaign, over the course of a week accumulating an amazing 22,500 minutes of mindfulness practice. They tackled the campaign in three zones focusing on mind, the body and the world.



Centring on the mind, each day the whole school meditated for 10 minutes concentrating on their breathing, allowing their thoughts to pass them by and taking time to recognise what 'zone' they were in (low, silly, happy, angry, normal). Tackling physical development, they completed daily exercise and walked barefoot on the school grounds thinking about the different textures they could feel. Finally, they helped our planet through litter picking, planting and simply taking time out of their day to appreciate nature. All these activities helped Cradle Hill pupils and staff calm their bodies and minds leading to a much more productive learning environment. Following on from the pilot project, many of these activities have been incorporated into their regular daily routine, massively benefitting the school.

"Our class, Orcas, meditated for 10 minutes every day after lunch. We all loved meditating; the meditation made us feel so calm and relaxed. What also made us feel calm and relaxed was doing the mile run barefoot. It was great feeling the different textures of the grass on our feet. We also did a mindfulness test. We took the test on Monday and repeated it on Friday. Amazingly, nearly everyone improved their scores... I hope it will be part of the curriculum to have 10 minutes of mindfulness every day."

Emily

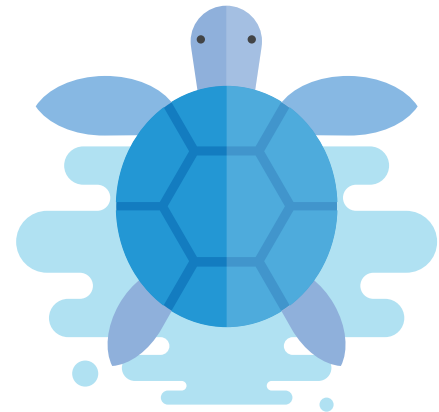


National Topic Award Winners



Marine - Sutton High School

REGISTERED SCHOOL



New to the Eco-Schools programme, Sutton High School in Surrey have been working on a variety of projects to use as evidence towards their first Green Flag Award. One project in particular captured the imagination of the whole school community.

Working on the Eco-Schools Marine topic, a DIT (Do It Together) project was created to highlight the impact of single-use plastics (particularly plastic bags) on the marine environment. Every pupil in the school was asked to donate a used plastic bag and, over the period of a week, hundreds of students and staff worked together to create a huge, whale art installation on a fence surrounding the school's netball court. Appropriately, they named him Baggy and he looked fantastic! Next it was their prep school's turn to DIT, they used the plastic bags they collected to create a second piece of art in the form of a whale calf called Baguette.

"A whale size statement on plastic waste."



Both art installations have been immensely successful in highlighting the impact of single-use plastics on marine environments and making people consider the throw-away culture we live in. Each installation has been in place for nearly half a year and they are used as a visual teaching resource to show that even 'biodegradable' plastics remain largely unchanged despite being left out in the elements.

Now, Sutton High School have begun working with other local schools to create further plastic bag art installations spreading their message further. They say,

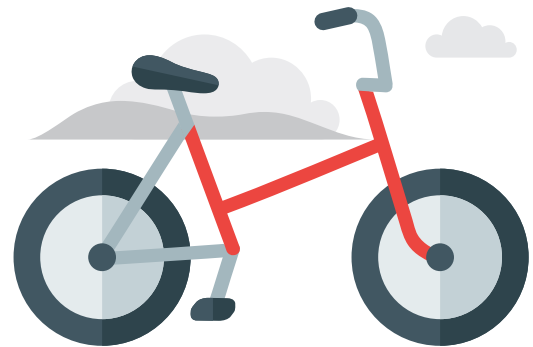
"One step at a time, the message is being spread across our local community about the climate change emergency we are living in. Seeing the success of this DIT message we will not stop here; we wish to involve more and more local schools."

National Topic Award Winners



Transport – Avenue Primary School

1ST GREEN FLAG 2014



Avenue Primary School in Leicester have been a Green Flag award winning school for many years. During this time they have actioned nearly all Eco-Schools topics, but have particularly excelled in the Transport topic, with their work even featuring on local radio and in newspapers!

Avenue Primary school's work on the Eco-Schools Transport topic has encompassed a variety of actions focused on encouraging walking and cycling to school as well as raising awareness of issues surrounding air pollution.

To encourage everyone to travel sustainably to school selected pupils at Avenue have been appointed 'Walk to School Champions' and tasked with the responsibility of monitoring how their classmates travel to school.

“If we reduce pollution around our school it will be easier for children and wildlife to breathe.”



The Walk to School Champions then provide recognition to those who have walked or cycled to school by awarding badges and class trophies in their monthly assemblies. In addition to their ongoing work, on 21st May 2019 the whole school participated in Happy Shoes Day, which included a whole school walk (or bike) to school.

On the day they found that in 8 of their classes none of the children had travelled to school by car – in fact, 92% of children in the whole school had walked, biked, scooted or parked and strode. A count on the day found a huge 193 bikes within the school grounds!



There were also plenty of transport related activities throughout the day such as scooter workshops, bicycle washing and obstacle courses. Parents were invited to join in with many attending a coffee afternoon and bicycle maintenance workshop. The day did not just focus on Avenue's pupils, they also wore fancy footwear raising nearly £300 for charity and collected shoes to donate to children less fortunate than themselves.

On top of their ongoing work promoting sustainable transport, and annoyed with drivers causing pollution near their school, pupils also participated in a whole school campaign to improve air quality. To achieve their goal, they decided to target the drivers who left their engines running whilst waiting outside the school.

Pupils took to the streets outside school wearing hi-vis jackets and monitoring the numbers of drivers sitting with their engines running. They also put up signs around the school calling for parents to switch off their engines. In school, they worked with Leicester City Council's Air Quality Officer for a total of three terms holding assemblies and writing articles about air pollution for the school newsletter. The whole of Year 5 even got involved in their English lessons, writing persuasive letters to be sent home to encourage families to work with the school to help reduce air pollution.

Year 4 pupil Uthman said: "If we reduce pollution around our school it will be easier for children and wildlife to breathe."



National Topic Award Winners



Waste - Dean Trust Ardwick

SILVER AWARD



Dean Trust Ardwick established their Eco-Committee in September 2018 and are now a Silver Award Eco-School. One of the Eco-Committee's, first actions was to take a lead on Waste Week.

They introduced the school to looking after their local environment through litter picking. Litter picking has now been embedded into school life with each class being included in a yearly, litter-picking schedule.

Following on from the successful Waste Week they had organised, the Eco-Committee wanted to do more and decided to tackle single-use plastics in Dean Trust Ardwick. They wrote and delivered a whole-school assembly on single-use plastics, before creating informational posters and hosting a competition. The competition involved each form group collecting as many plastic bottles as possible.

“It was fantastic to see how passionate the pupils and staff were.”



The school, as a whole, collected nearly 50 bin bags of bottles. The committee then contacted Manchester City Council who sent Wendy the Waste Eater to begin the recycling process.



As well as encouraging recycling, the Eco-Committee thought it was important to tackle the problem at the source. They found reusable plastic bottles, which are now sold at school, and have placed a ban on selling bottled water in the canteen. To further help this issue they have also introduced water fountains throughout the school and have created an advertising campaign for their reusable plastic bottles.

Since beginning their Eco-Schools journey, the vast majority of staff at Dean Trust Ardwick agree that plastic waste has been reduced. They have also received positive endorsement from Manchester City Council's Waste Services. Now, their next steps are to begin tackling paper waste and recycling, and of course achieving their first Eco-Schools Green Flag award!



National Topic Award Winners



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Water – The Park Primary School

1ST GREEN FLAG AWARD 2018



“Turn off the tap when teeth brushing.”

Since achieving their first Eco-Schools Green Flag in 2018, the Eco-Committee at The Park Primary School have been focusing on the Water Eco-Schools topic. The school have undertaken a serious amount of water-based actions, inspired by the Water Explorers programme from Eco-Schools friends, Global Action Plan (a series of challenges that put young people at the forefront of preserving our precious water supplies).

The Park Primary School began their Water topic with investigative work before deciding on what actions they would undertake. Year 6 children visited a tributary of the River Avon to assess how clean it was, discovering that key invertebrates were present meaning it was clean, but not clean enough to be used for drinking water. Nearly all Key Stage 2 pupils thought about the various devices they use at home and which of them use the most water. They even began looking at the food eaten in the school canteen and what types of food use the most water during the production. Finally, years 5 and 6 audited their school building to identify where water was being wasted and where they could potentially make water savings.



When the investigative work was complete, it was time for the pupils to take action! They began by informing their school's site manager that two toilets in the school had a leak (which was promptly fixed). Pupils also decided to make their own hippo bricks by filling plastic bottles with sand and placing them in the cistern of every toilet in school. Now, every toilet in the school uses 500ml less water each time it is flushed. After some intense discussion, the children decided that removing burgers from their school menu was a price worth paying to reduce 'indirect' water usage. They even began growing their own vegetables for the school canteen to use. Finally, all pupils made a pledge to save water, which they took home to display on their fridges as a reminder.



It was not just their own water consumption that The Park wanted to consider – they found it massively unjust that some in our world do not have access to clean water. Pupils decided to invite local charity Frank Water to deliver a whole-school assembly, focusing on the work they do to provide clean, safe water to villages in India. Following this assembly, the children at The Park decided to raise money for Frank Water at their Summer Fair by selling bug hotels and potted plants accompanied by information about Frank Water's work.



All of The Park Primary School's amazing eco-action was recognised at National Level when the school was invited to Canary Wharf to present about their work. Always considering their water use, children from The Park attended the Canary Wharf event in upcycled tie dyed t-shirts (dyed with blackberries from their school grounds) to highlight the amount of water use during the manufacture of clothing.

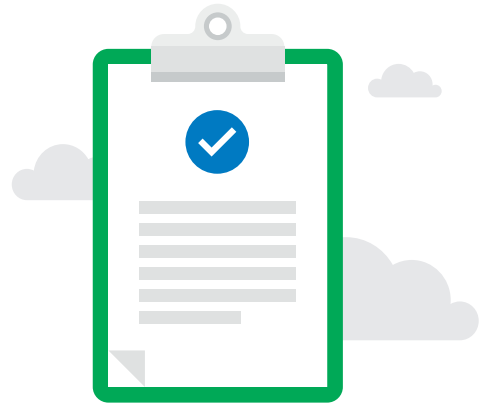


Assessor of the Year



Volunteer Green Flag Assessor of the Year – Sandra Mcleod

1ST GREEN FLAG ASSESSMENT 2017
SIXTY SIX ASSESSMENTS AND COUNTING



The Eco-Schools team is proud to have Sandra as one of our Green Flag Assessors and delighted to recognise her contribution to the Eco-Schools programme.

Since becoming an Eco-Schools Green Flag Assessor in 2017 Sandra has completed an astonishing 66 Green Flag Assessments covering nearly every borough in London single-handedly (using public transport of course) and even travelling further afield if she knows a school is very keen to achieve their Green Flag award. Sandra is always available if a school in London needs an assessment visit ASAP! After every Green Flag assessment, schools consistently call and email the Eco-Schools team to tell us how much the pupils and staff enjoyed her visit.

“Sandra was a delight to have in our school. She was friendly, caring and very interested in what the children had been up to. She asked lots of questions and engaged with all of the children and staff. She made the whole process a celebration, rather than an assessment, which was wonderful.”

Rhyl Primary School

“Children, teachers and the Eco-Schools team all love her.”



“Sandra was a lovely lady very knowledgeable about all things eco and she also spent time listening to everything the children had to say, she offered us some great tips on how we could progress and recognised the efforts that the children had put in.”

St Luke’s Primary School

“Sandra, our assessor for our Green Flag Award was very thorough, and very enthusiastic – eating in our vegetarian canteen and climbing onto the roof to check out our solar panels! She asked our Eco Committee some very searching questions and really knew her stuff.”

Halcyon School London



Sandra's attitude matches the ethos of the Eco-Schools programme, she is passionate about environmental education and determined to reward the achievements of young Eco-Committee members, encouraging them to carry on their fantastic work. She is always willing to engage with our Eco-Schools – even happy to help plant trees.

Throughout every Green Flag assessment visit, Sandra listens and takes an interest in what children have to say; giving them a voice and celebrating their achievements. Sandra is equally as fantastic supporting new and old Eco-Coordinator she meets, reassuring them,

putting them at ease and emphasising that they are doing more than enough to have achieved Green Flag. As well as her compassion, Sandra's knowledge on environmental matters shines through during her visits, she is always offering schools suggestions and ideas for the next stages of their Eco-Schools journey.

The Eco-Schools team are thrilled to formally recognise Sandra's contribution.

"We love working with you and hope to continue to work with you for many more years to come. Thank you Sandra."

Lee, Francis, Karyn & Shona



Eco-School of the Year Award Winners



Early Years - Everton Nursery School and Family Centre

1ST GREEN FLAG 2005 



Since beginning their Eco-Schools journey in 2003, Everton Nursery School and Family Centre have been at the forefront of environmental education in early years settings.

Situated in one of the most deprived areas in England, Everton Nursery School's holistic approach to learning is centered on environmental education allowing their children to make sense of the world around them and their role within it. Everton Nursery School's eco-credentials are so impressive that an assessment visit to their school inspired and shaped the new Eco-Schools Early Years pathway launched in September 2019.

Every one of the 40 staff members working at Everton Nursery School take responsibility for educating young minds on sustainability using the nurseries' self-created environmental curriculum. Alongside this curriculum, Everton have even created their own Eco-File, a document (closely linked to the Eco-Schools programme) which contains environmental lesson plans, activities and ideas. At the heart of their eco-curriculum is real-life experience, with activities including measuring rain fall, counting wind turbines at a local wind farm and litter picking within their school grounds. This hands on approach shapes their children's values, perspective and gives them an understanding of the vital



role they play in protecting the natural world. Teachers at Everton Nursery have over many years consistently demonstrated their passion and belief in environmental education and take responsibility for inspiring children to connect with nature and become environmentally aware adults.

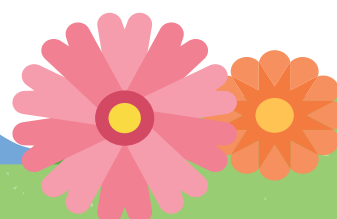


The environmental action staff at Everton are most proud of is their work on the Eco-Schools Waste topic, which focuses on the 5R's. They have refused to drink from milk cartons with plastic straws, directly talking to their milk provider to arrange alternatives. Energy reduction happens each year by appointing electricity monitors, who the Eco-Schools team can confirm are extremely vigilant. Heuristic play encourages children to reuse natural objects as toys, meaning less plastic toys are being used in the nursery. All children participate in woodwork lessons, learning to repair broken things (they have repaired table legs, coat pegs and even shelves in their nursery). Finally, recycling is taught explicitly in the Nursery, with children visiting the local recycling centre and discovering what can or can't be recycled in Liverpool – knowledge which they can take home to their parents.

For many years Everton Nursery's Eco-Schools Green Flag has been proudly raised high above

their school. Their work has allowed parents to participate in numerous ways, from donating recycled materials for reuse in school to attending sustainable and healthy cooking classes organised by the nursery. Their Eco-Board is a focus point of the nursery, regularly updating parents on their work and their newsletters let their community know about their environmental actions. As a teaching school, Everton have been able to inform other educators throughout Liverpool about the benefits and implementation of their Environmental Curriculum and their Eco-File has been widely distributed. Recently, their message has been spread further afield by sharing best practice on their ever-growing Twitter platform with even local councillors and MPs lining up to visit to witness their environmental curriculum in action.

Everton Nursery School and Family Centre is truly at the forefront of early years environmental education in England.



Eco-School of the Year Award Winners



Primary – Damers First School

1ST GREEN FLAG 2016



Eco-Schools is at the very heart of Damers First School: every pupil is taught about environmental issues and how they can make a difference to the world they live in. The school has become a leading force on environmental issues across Dorset and the rest of the UK.

A variety of people have visited or spoken to the school to learn about their environmental work including: other schools, national news broadcasters, charitable organisations, leading conservationists, MPs and even royalty.

Children at Damers have participated in numerous amazing Eco-Schools actions. They are active in encouraging their local community to recycle a variety of items including ink cartridges, pens, biscuit wrappers, crisp packets, soap dispensers and baby pouches – raising £1500 towards the school's own bird hide and wildlife area.

“The children are making a real difference, but are never complacent and always looking for the next eco-opportunity.”



The Eco-Crew launched the Poundbury Refill Campaign (with an amazing rap) encouraging 20 businesses to allow free water bottle refills, in order to reduce reliance on single-use plastics. Their Refill Campaign was so successful it appeared on CBBC Newsround! The school contacted their suppliers to request fruit and milk be supplied in sustainable packaging and encouraged other local head teachers to do the same. Damers worked with their local community, informing everyone how they could reduce their use of plastics.

Pupils even put pressure on local businesses to do the same – leading to one local butchers becoming a zero waste shop. So far, 84 businesses have signed a pledge to remove 3 types of single-use plastic from their organisation. Pupils have also won four awards at the Enterprise Fiver Challenge with their Waxtastic No Plastic beeswax alternative to clingfilm. They went on to sell this product locally to raise a further £4000 to fund eco-projects at school.

At Damers all of their eco-work has had a huge reach locally and nationally. The school works with volunteers from the local community to grow and harvest fruit and vegetables. They have also contacted other local schools to devise a county-wide litter policy. Pupils from Damers have been invited to be a part of Dorset Council's Climate Change Panel, separately, setting up their own steering group to help make

Dorchester as green as possible. Nationally, they met with Michael Gove in Westminster to discuss the introduction of a deposit return scheme for single-use plastics. All of their hard work has had royal recognition from Prince Charles who visited Damers to learn about their sustainability work.

At Damers environmental issues are integrated across the curriculum. Each class makes a termly pledge to help animals, people or the environment meaning every pupil has a voice to speak passionately about what they believe in. English lessons have focused on writing letters to businesses, MPs and other schools. Art lessons creating eco-poster and science lessons on reducing waste. Ask any pupil from Damer's about their eco-work and they will talk passionately, knowledgeably and excitedly about all they have achieved and what they still wish to achieve.



National Topic Award Winners



Litter - Catherine Junior School

1ST GREEN FLAG 2018



Catherine Junior School is a large inner city school in Leicester who have been a Green Flag Eco-School for just over a year. In that time, they have gone above and beyond to fully embrace the Eco-Schools ethos.

In 2018-2019 Catherine Junior School participated, for the first time, in the international Wrigley Litter Less campaign. A campaign, involving 3 million young people from Eco-Schools across the globe, aimed at highlighting the environmental impacts of litter and changing future behaviours. Catherine Junior School were also chosen to be a hub school for the Litter Less Day of Action in March 2019- giving them the perfect opportunity to learn from more experienced schools and meet new Eco-Friends. Children and staff at Catherine Junior School fully embraced this role inviting schools to eat lunch in their newly built Peace Garden before marching to Abbey Park in Leicester City, chanting all the way and even bringing traffic to a stand-still with their Litter Less message.



On the day, Catherine Junior school welcomed a number of VIPs, including a Daily Mail journalist and photographer, members of Leicester City Council, a representative from Mars Wrigley UK and of course, Eco-Schools England Manager Lee Wray-Davies. With so many important people in attendance, pupils and staff at Catherine Junior School decided it was a perfect opportunity to showcase all the hard work they had put in to earn their first Eco-Schools Green Flag award.

“Litter Less Leicester.”



Eco-School of the Year Award Winners



Secondary - Cardinal Allen High School

1ST GREEN FLAG 2004



For over 15 years, Cardinal Allen High School has held an Eco-Schools Green Flag award. During this time, Cardinal Allen has worked on each of the ten Eco-Schools topics and this has had a huge impact on their school!

After years of hard work, Cardinal Allen's school grounds are now amongst the most biodiverse areas in Fleetwood. This year alone the Eco-Committee planted a hedgerow, seeded a 1 acre wildflower meadow and secured £3300 of funding to introduce bees into the school. The same bees are now busy at work producing Cardinal Allen's latest product 'Cardy Honey'. All of their hard work this year has enhanced what they already had: an environmental corridor, woodland, orchard, allotment, bug hotels, hedgehog nests and bird/bat boxes.

“Our school would be a very different place without the Eco-Schools programme being fully embedded in everything we do.”



After several years of Energy topic campaigns, Cardinal Allen is now far more energy efficient and the Eco-Club are using their knowledge to support local primary schools, so they too can benefit from increased energy efficiency.

Working on the Global Citizenship topic has ensured Fairtrade products are widely used within the school and this year Cardinal Allen are hosting a Fairtrade Conference for local schools.



In addition, Cardinal Allen works with schools around the world in India, Tanzania and Nepal to share teaching techniques and student experiences through collaborative learning projects. After working on the Water topic all taps in Cardinal Allen are now water saving and many water fountains have been introduced to reduce reliance on bottled water. Cardinal Allen has even become a recycling hub for a variety of items including shoes, pens and batteries. Truly their school would be a very different place without their participation in the Eco-Schools programme.

The curriculum at Cardinal Allen has also been enriched by their Eco-Schools work. The school aims to ensure that all their students are environmentally aware and responsible: from learning about healthy living in food technology classes to water utilisation in science lessons, the Eco-Schools programme can be found throughout

student's learning. Environmental learning has even spread beyond school hours to afterschool activities and clubs including Bee Club (to train budding beekeepers) and participation in the John Muir award (encouraging students to connect with, enjoy and care for wild places).

Cardinal Allen's work has also benefitted their local community: they have helped Fleetwood council achieve In Bloom awards and are custodians of an area of their local beach hosting regular litter picks and highlighting the issue of beach litter. The Eco-Committee's hard work at Cardinal Allen will also be appreciated for generations to come after they secured £42,000 of funding to replace a 50 metre snake sculpture at a local country park. This snake sculpture will be enjoyed by the children of Lancashire for many years teaching them to love being outdoors and subsequently improving their health.



VIPs toured their Wildlife/Peace Garden, visited Brad the Turtle (made from single-use plastic litter) and were amazed by Catherine Junior School's recycled greenhouse made from 2,000 plastic bottles. Pupils on the Eco-Committee even took the opportunity to quiz Louise (from the Daily Mail) on her reporting techniques, so they could better demonstrate their eco-actions in the school newspaper.

Many of the parents from Catherine Junior School attended the litter picking sessions and alongside pupils managed to pick up a shocking 21.89kg of litter over six separate picks. Even more shockingly, a lot of litter was discovered to have been thrown over a fence and into their school grounds. The Eco-Warriors encouraged the Daily Mail photographer and journalist to

document their findings in order to highlight the issue at a national level – helping to launch our Keep Britain Tidy 2019 'Great Big School Clean'.

Now Catherine Junior School have big plans for this year's Litter Less Campaign. Mr T (Eco-Coordinator) has already been involved in training new schools signed up to the campaign and his Eco-Warriors are acting on their findings from last year. At the moment, the Eco-Warriors are organising a meeting with local city councilors to persuade them to allow the school to adopt three public litter bins – they will then have signs especially made for them highlighting litter-related issues in a variety of languages. They also plan to beautify the area by planting flowers in the hope that this will lead to a reduction in litter.

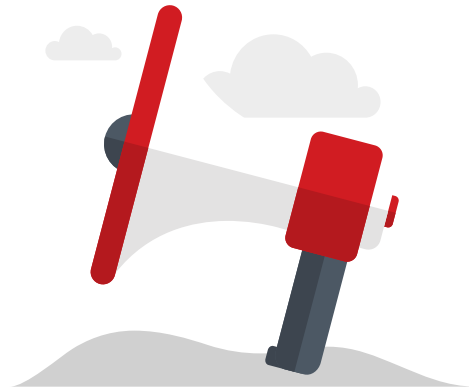


Eco-Coordinator of the Year



Sarah Wilding – St Mary’s School, Colchester

1ST GREEN FLAG 2008



From achieving Eco-Schools Bronze award in February 2007 to their sixth and current Eco-Schools Green Flag award in March 2018, Sarah Wilding has been the driving force behind embedding environmental consciousness into the heart of St Mary’s School in Colchester.

Never sitting back, content with the school’s achievements, Sarah has constantly driven the eco-agenda in St Mary’s with passion and positivity. Sarah’s leadership approach always focuses on what can be done, rather than despairing about current problems – this means that St Mary’s pupils, from kindergarten to year 11, all have the belief that no one is too small to have a positive impact on climate change.

Over the last twelve years, Sarah’s Eco-Schools work has had a noticeable influence on St Mary’s: from lowering the school’s energy and water consumption to reducing canteen food waste. Sarah’s work has also impacted student attitude within the school.

“One in a million.”



Girls at St Mary’s feel empowered to take ownership of the Eco-Schools programme by thinking of their own solutions to the environmental problems they face both in school and beyond.



Across the academic year, Sarah's work constantly reminds both students and staff about the Eco-Schools ethos.

All members of the school community look forward to the next Eco-Event Sarah has planned, be it an Eco-Week or Recycled Halloween Costume competition. Sarah's eco-message shines in her teaching – lessons are infused with recycling ideas and consideration of environmental impacts. Sarah has also worked hard to build significant links with different subject departments to deliver an eco-message that permeates the whole of St Mary's curriculum.

Recently, Sarah's message has spread beyond school, encouraging environmental education

in her local area by working with Colchester Borough Council to support and advise other schools on their own Eco-Schools journeys. She even writes a fortnightly eco-column for a regional newspaper. Sarah has had the opportunity to deliver her message globally as she has begun to work with young people around the world to find solutions for a more sustainable future – this work, excitingly, leading to an international conference in 2019.

St Mary's students of all ages have been inspired and motivated by Sarah, her eco-influence continuing to have an impact long after they have left the school. In the words of a colleague, "Sarah is one in a million."



Eco-Schools Lifetime Achievement Award



Lifetime Achievement – Canon Burrows Church of England Primary School

1ST GREEN FLAG SCHOOL IN ENGLAND



Canon Burrows achieved their first Green Flag over 20 years ago in 1998 and since then have achieved ten Eco-Schools Green Flags!

Teacher and Eco-Coordinator, Andy Clark started at Canon Burrows in 1987 (years before Eco-Schools was even a twinkle in Keep Britain Tidy's eyes!) In his first weeks, Mr Clark was delighted to find that an established teacher, Mrs Nickson, would take groups of children into an adjoining school field to undertake environmental management work. Mrs Nickson had been doing this since at least 1977! When Mrs Nickson retired, Andy took on her role and expanded it to various environmental projects, for which they won many awards. It was in 1997 that the Eco-Schools team took note of the eco-work going on in Canon Burrows and contacted Mr Clark to see if the school would be interested in applying for an Eco-Schools Green Flag award.

Eco-Schools and Canon Burrows were a natural fit, both understanding that education is the key to creating future citizens, who understand the need to care for the world they live in.

After Canon Burrows signed up to the Eco-Schools programme, the biggest change in their school was the introduction of an Eco-



Committee. The Eco-Committee allowed pupils to have a voice within their school and was a key driver for the realization of the importance of pupil-voice (now an established part of school-life in the UK).

“School children 30 years ago knew of the importance of caring for their world, this has not changed.”

In October 1998, Canon Burrows gained their first Green Flag (the Eco-Schools Bronze and Silver awards did not exist yet) leading to an active period of green activities:

- **1999** Andy Clark was a finalist in Tetra Pak Environmental Teacher of the Year Award.
- **2000** Canon Burrows won the David Bellamy Award and are awarded their second Eco-Schools Green Flag.
- **2001** Canon Burrows started composting and plant 3000 bulbs in a day.
- **2002** Ken Hulme visited Canon Burrows as do teachers from as far away as China. Canon Burrows are awarded their third Eco-Schools Green Flag.
- **2003** Andy Clarke helps launch the Manchester Environmental Education Network and Canon Burrows features in a Times Newspaper article about the Eco-Schools programme.
- **2004** Canon Burrows gain their fourth Eco-Schools Green Flag Award, again featuring in the Times Newspaper. 40 Canon Burrows pupils perform 'War and Peace' at the Manchester Cathedral for Green Fair.
- **2005** Activities included Energy Saving, Walking to School and Bulb Planting weeks.
- **2006** Canon Burrows weekly Eco-Club begins and children perform at Tameside Eco-Conference.
- **2007** Canon Burrows are finalists of Sustainable School of the Year Award.
- **2008** Canon Burrows wins Ashton School Gardens competition and Andy Clarke leads a workshop at Eco-Friendly Schools Conference in London.
- **2009** Solar panels are fitted, and 'Power Perfector' installed, HRH Duchess of Cornwall attends Canon Burrow's Eco-Day and their fifth Eco-Schools Green Flag is awarded.
- **2010** Walk on Wednesday begins and Mr Clark is invited as a guest to a civic dinner with Prince Charles. Staff and pupils are also invited to attend the Royal Garden Party. Twenty Japanese teachers visit the school to see Canon Burrows eco-work.

- **2011** Canon Burrows win an award for the most effective eco-committee, they achieve their sixth Eco-Schools Green Flag and gain Eco-Schools Ambassador status.
- **2013** Canon Burrows gain a seventh Eco-Schools Green Flag award.
- **2014** Year 5 and 6 children present on energy saving in schools at Manchester Cathedral.
- **2015** A woodpecker visits the school gardens, the Eco-Committee present their Walk on Wednesday project to Living Streets in Manchester and Canon Burrows achieve their eighth Eco-Schools Green Flag.
- **2016** Canon Burrows trial their new action Happy Shoesday.
- **2017** They are awarded their ninth Eco-Schools Green Flag.
- **2018** Eco-Committee blogs go online, Canon Burrows attend the Mayors Green Summit.
- **2019** A year 6 Eco-Committee member appears on CBBC, the Eco-Committee attend Manchester Environmental Education Network meeting and their tenth Eco-Schools Green Flag is awarded.

Over the past 25 years, Canon Burrows have completed an incredible amount of Eco-Schools work, but their highlights have been:

- Simple, whole-school activities: litter picking, bulb planting and Green Fairs.
- Listening to children's wonderful ideas throughout many Eco-Committee meetings.
- Welcoming visitors from around the world and teaching them how their schools can be more eco.
- Seeing former pupils maintain their passion for the environment including one former pupil who now holds a senior position at Natural England.

Eco-Coordinator Andy has also noticed some changes: ten years ago his Eco-Committee were passionate about introducing free-range eggs into their schools, now single use plastics are high on the eco-agenda. However, what Andy says has stayed the same, is the passion of young people to protect their environment, this has only grown.

