



Eco-Action Newsletter

Summer 2014

The Eco-Schools Summit

The Eco-Schools Summit was held at the Centre of Refurbishment Excellence (CoRE) at the end of January. It was well attended by schools from around the city. The students attended various workshops, while staff took part in the conference. Stoke Minster Primary, Kemball Special School and Alexandra Junior Schools showcased what they'd been doing to inspire other schools to do something eco-friendly too. The Lord Mayor presented Silver Eco-Schools awards to: Blurton Primary School and Carmountside Primary Academy and Eco-Schools Green Flags to: Kemball, Sandon BE&A College and Stoke Minster CE Primary School.



Sandon Business, Enterprise and Arts College

Sandon Business, Enterprise and Arts College is very proud to hold seven Eco-School Green Flags. They feel that it is vital to give all pupils the opportunity to express their own creativity and help them to discover how they can apply this to Eco issues they might face in the 'real world'.

When faced with falling numbers in the Eco Club, their business specialism encouraged them to rebrand and become a new eco-minded group called 'E:Business'. This group allows pupils to use their knowledge gained in lessons and entwine this with creative methods to produce eco-friendly products. The rebranded Eco-Club has high aspirations and we have seen the number of pupils interested in joining and beginning to create business plans grow greatly. They are enjoying the challenge of having to create a business using the Eco-School topics and have enjoyed sharing their ideas in their geography lessons. We wish to applaud their creative and entrepreneurial spirit in relation to their own business ideas and production.

Sandon hosted the Eco-School Network Meeting on Tuesday 3 June to share ideas and resources with other schools. Kimberley Hearson, Eco Co-ordinator said: "It's well worth attending! It helped us to advertise our newly rebranded Eco-Club (E:Business) to a selection of primary schools who also have the same passion for the environment as us. We hope that many of the pupils getting ready to attend our school who are already part of Eco-Clubs at their primary schools will join us and use their own creative flare to invent new, desirable items that do not damage the environment."

If you would like to find out more, please contact Kimberley Hearson at khearson@sandonmail.com

Eco-Schools Network Meeting: The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 5 November 3.45-5.15pm** at **Alexandra Junior School**. The network meeting is for school staff to attend and is free of charge. Come along to share best practice, gain advice and ideas.

Our Local Eco-Schools Ambassador

Congratulations to Alexandra Junior School on being chosen to be one of only twelve schools in the country to be Eco-School Ambassadors for 2014-2016, with a specialism of pupil involvement in Eco-Schools events.

If you would like to find out more, contact Julie Rowe (Deputy Head) or Wendy Lambert (SEN Welfare Practitioner)
Tel: 01782 235377 or email: alexjun@sgfl.org.uk

Green Flag Schools in the City	First Awarded
Weston Coyney Junior School	1997
Sandon Business, Enterprise and Arts College	1998
Kemball Special School	2002
Alexandra Infants School	2003
Alexandra Junior School	2007
Haywood Academy	2011
Stoke Minster CE Primary School	2013

Eco-Schools Support

Eco-Schools Support is offered through traded services by Tracy Brennan, Sustainable Schools Officer.

Support could include:

- an introduction to the Eco-Schools programme,
- help setting up a new Eco-action Team and getting started;
- an expert pair of hands to help organise a whole school project or an eco-day;
- help to prepare and apply for an Eco-Schools Green Flag, from a trained Eco-Schools Assessor.

To discuss this please ring

Tel: 01782 236937

email: tracy.brennan@stoke.gov.uk

National Awareness Days, Campaigns, Resources and More . . .



Recycle Week 16-23 June.

For more information click [here](#)

Each class at Stoke Minster CE Primary School read The Tin Forest and had spin off activities. There are even two videos of this story online that you can view by clicking [here](#) or [here](#).

There are lots of other books on waste (and other Eco-School topics). You could arrange a visit to your local library by contacting:

Amy Shutler - Tel: 01782 237919 - amy.shutler@stoke.gov.uk

Another free opportunity is a visit to the waste to energy plant (in Hanford) and tour of control room. To arrange please contact:

Donna - donna.barnett@mesenvironmental.co.uk - Tel: 01782 412131

There is a list of numerous waste disposal companies - I can't recommend any particular one but I can share the list with you, if you contact me by email:

tracy.brennan@stoke.gov.uk

Litter pickers can be loaned from Alexandra Junior School -

Tel: 01782 235377 or email: alexjun@sgfl.org.uk



Collect the most and win with Fairtrade



Fairtrade products include:

Tea, coffee, juice and soft drinks, fresh and dried fruits, nuts, herbs and spices, cereal bars, cakes, biscuits, sweets, sugar and, of course, chocolate as well as cotton, flowers and even gold!

The winning school will get:

- Two Fairtrade footballs, presented by the Lord Mayor; plus
- The opportunity to learn more about Fairtrade with a Fairtrade assembly and a taste test.

Register your school by calling **01782 236937** or emailing ourcity@stoke.gov.uk

Collect as many Fairtrade product wrappings and containers as possible by Friday 11 July 2014. Send a photograph and a total of the number of Fairtrade products you have collected to ourcity@stoke.gov.uk



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for change

city of
stoke
on trent

Grow Your Own Salad:

Free kits are now available to schools across the country in 2014 to inspire children to understand first-hand where their food comes from. The kits consist of seeds, pots and KS2 curriculum based education resources, they are allocated on a first come, first serve basis, so [register now!](#)

Grow Salad and Win:

The British Leafy Salads Association has teamed up with The Sun newspaper to run a competition where schools can win up to £1,000 worth of gardening vouchers by sending in a photo of their growing crop and/or submitting their favourite salad recipe. Entries close 25 July 2014. Visit [the site](#) for more information

Sign up for New Potato Resources:

Educators can now keep up to date with new resources from Potato Council's Cook Your Own Potatoes by [signing up](#) for their termly newsletter. Each issue contains a new mini-project, new recipes and a schools competition.

Free Trees from the Woodland Trust are available this autumn for planting by schools and community groups. You need [to register](#) by 2 September, and the trees will be delivered in November.



Walk to School is WoWing Stoke-on-Trent: Living Streets, the national charity that stands up for pedestrians, has been in partnership with Stoke-on-Trent City Council for the last 2 years encouraging children to walk to school. Working with schools, we aim to create safe, attractive, enjoyable streets where it's great to walk and 70% of schools in Stoke-on-Trent have now taken up the walk to school challenge. Primary schools have a monthly reward scheme; 'WoW' (Walk once a Week) where they can collect attractive badges (made of recycled yoghurt pots) through the year. For Secondary schools there's 'Free your Feet' and the opportunity for them to create their own walk to school campaign.

There are many fantastic reasons to walk to school, but here are just a few:

- Walking to school helps to reduce congestion on the roads;
- Walking to school helps to improve safety outside schools, with less cars trying to park;
- Walking to school can help develop independence as children learn road safety skills;
- Walking to school improves children's social development in future years;
- Walking to school instead of driving saves, on average, £400 per year;
- Walking to school contributes to the 60 minutes of physical activity children need every day;
- Walking to and from school is an ideal time for families to be active together;
- Walking instead of driving reduces your carbon footprint.

Schools are using the walk to school schemes to support Eco-Schools work on the topic of transport. To find out more about WoW or Free your Feet, please contact: sarah.atkinson@livingstreets.org.uk

Are you receiving the **Eco-Schools Newsletter** from Keep Britain Tidy?

This is emailed to the contact/s of each school, so it's important that your information is up-to-date on the Eco-Schools website. You can update the information yourself, if you know the email address and password that were used. If your log-in information is not known to you, the details can be re-set for you by contacting the Eco-Schools team on T: 01942 612614 or E: eco-schools@keepbritaintidy.org with your school name and postcode.

Would you like to win Fairtrade Footballs for your school? See the poster overleaf for more details

[Find out more about becoming a Fairtrade school.](#) Global citizenship is an Eco-Schools topic, so activities and learning around Fairtrade will help you to achieve an [Eco-Schools award](#)

