



Eco – Committee News!



July 2021

Welcome to the final newsletter of the year. We can't believe it is summer already! We sadly say goodbye and a great big thank you to our Year 6 reps – Leo, Molly, Wren and Tilly. Our other year group reps have also done a fantastic job this year and we hope everyone has enjoyed this important role.

We hope you have a wonderful summer and manage to make it as environmentally friendly as possible!

St Joseph's Eco-Code

We can finally share our new, whole school 'Eco-Code'. This is our mission statement, putting into words our commitments as a school. It is an important element of attaining our Green Flag award and we will share it far and wide, across the school community.

It reminds us of the topics we are working on as a school; water, energy, waste and litter and how we can make a difference. Leo, one of Year 6 reps, rose to the challenge of writing the code for the school. Thank you Leo!

Be green to keep our world clean.

Everyone must act to keep nature intact.

Go and pick up litter or our world will be bitter.

Recycle all your waste, do this with haste.

Energy we must save; use sun, wind and wave.

Encourage others to reduce, their daily water use.

Now we all know, let's see it show!

Update on Waste and Litter topic

Frustratingly we have not been able to join a recycling programme this year, even though we have surveyed our parents and check regularly for possibilities. We will keep trying.

What we have managed to achieve however, is the signing of a **whole school petition** requesting general waste **recycling** across the school. We make so much paper waste on a daily basis, it is essential it gets recycled. We gathered **a signature from every child and teacher** at St Joseph's and presented the petition to our school Governors and the school's Business Manager, along with information about the necessity of recycling and how much it would cost the school. That is nearly **200 people** all agreeing that St Joseph's needs this basic service and it will make economic as well as ecological sense.

So... we await an answer in September! Hopefully we will have recycling as standard in every classroom and we can be assured that our voices are loud and heard. Watch this space!





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Hedgehogs

Nia, our Year 4 rep, has a real love of wildlife; particularly hedgehogs. She has written this fantastic acrostic piece to help you learn how to look after them:

Hedgehog highways through your garden.

Every ill hedgehog can be helped by you.

Design and build cosy hedgehog homes.

Go and rescue hedgehogs in need of help.

Everyone could be taught how to care for hedgehogs by you.

House gardens could grow wild for hedgehogs too.

Only trim or mow after checking for hedgehogs.

Get ready to care for our hedgehog friends.

So what are you waiting for? Let's go and help hedgehogs!



Did you know?

Every year there is a 'football pitch' of Amazon rainforest lost every minute.

The forest is a vital carbon store, keeping carbon out of the atmosphere. It is also the richest home to biodiversity on the planet and home to one million indigenous people.

The single biggest reason for felling the trees is for cattle farming.



Looking after Bees this Summer

by Charlotte, our Year 2 rep, also sharing her love of nature.

"If you want to help the bees this summer, you can make a bee friendly watering hole."

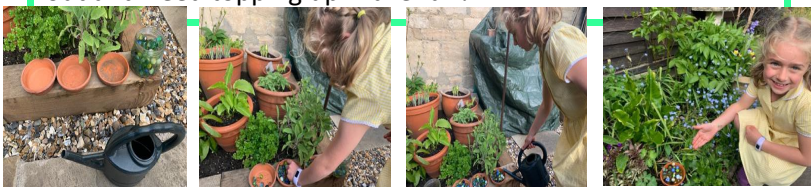
You will need:

Marbles, a watering can, rainwater and a plant pot saucer or a small jar or dish.

How to make the watering hole:

1. First fill your plant saucer or jar with marbles.
2. Then fill up your watering can.
3. Next you fill the saucer or jar with water, but not the whole way so the bees can land on some of the marbles to drink.
4. Finally take it to a place in your garden where it is a bit sunny and has some flowers.

Remember to check it regularly because the water might dry out and need topping up. Have fun!



Eco Reps Moving On

Year 6 rep Wren says "I would like to start an Eco Club at my middle school as I enjoyed doing it here"

We wish you the best of luck with this Wren. Great to know you want to continue making a difference. Let us know how it goes!

Book Recommendation

Fancy a bit of reading over the summer holidays? We highly recommend Earth Heroes by Lily Dyu: 20 Inspiring Stories of People Saving Our World.

Great stories about individuals such as Greta Thunberg and David Attenborough working to make a difference to our planet.