





Green Schools Newsletter

Spring 2015

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Celebrating Peterborough's Successes

Two Schools have renewed their Green Flags since the last Newsletter.

Braybrook Primary School and Nene Valley Primary School

Congratulations to both schools.

Peterborough Eco Framework

Schools in Peterborough now have their own local framework which links their Eco work with the aspirations of the city, as laid out in the Environment Capital Action plan. The outline of the Peterborough Eco Framework, with the objectives for each theme, has been written in consultation with local teachers and has been sent to all Eco Coordinators. If you are receiving this newsletter by post, a copy will have been included. There is also an environmental review tailored to the framework and local initiatives. We value your feedback on the new framework.

Additional support documents will follow as they are completed and we'll ask some local schools to give us their feedback on certain elements.

We are working towards implementing the Award aspect of the scheme and the consensus from teachers consulted so far is to offers awards for individual themes, we have drawn up proposals for how this will work and we'll asking a group of schools who have been through the awards process for other schemes to share their experiences and support us in making sure that the Peterborough Eco Framework will work effectively for local schools.

We are really excited that we now have the local framework and we are in a position for schools to start using it. We hope you find it useful and it will ensure that Peterborough retains its position as one of the top Local Education Authorities for Eco Education in England.

City Wide Eco Education Survey

As part of the roll out of the Peterborough Eco Framework we have been asking all schools to complete a short online survey, a massive thank you to the 30 schools that have already done so. Please can we ask the rest of you to do so ASAP. Please use this link http://goo.gl/forms/Nsn4zCl3Th

The information collected will allow us to identify, gaps in provision, schools who need additional support and allow us to tailor some support towards groups of schools all working on the same theme this year.

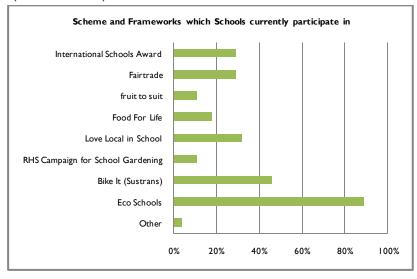
It has been a number of years since we carried out such a comprehensive survey and we will be nagging you slightly to ensure that everyone complete its. The results will be collated and, where appropriate, shared.

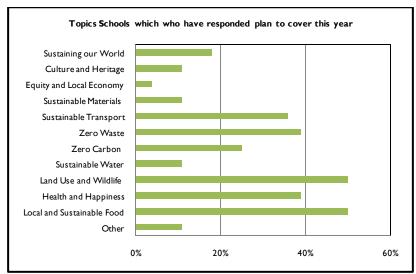
A sneak peak at some of the results so far is overleaf.

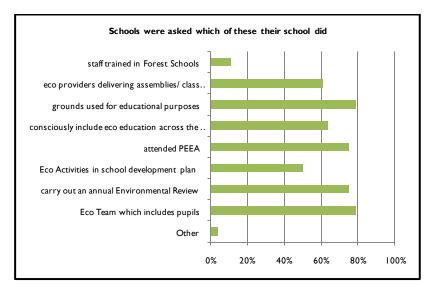




Each chart shows the percentage of schools who have currently responded, they could choose more than one option for each question.







We will share more details from the survey once the majority of schools have completed it.





Spring Term Twilights

All the twilights below are free but <u>you need to book a place</u>. There needs to be a minimum of 5 people booked on for the twilights to run. Refreshments are provided at all events.

For events organised by PECT Please use the school booking system to book your place; or email the contact listed below for more information. From now on all twilights will be listed on the school booking system by term. See pxx for more information on the Schools Event Booking System

Topic	Date, Time, Venue	Summary	Contact to book
Project Rock	27/01/2015	Project Earth is a brand new	Bethany Howells
Earth	4pm	engaging resource, find out more on	bethany.howells@hampto
	Hampton Vale Primary	p4	nvale.peterborough.sch.uk
Eco	Monday 9th February	Twilight for Eco coordinators.	Use school booking
Coordinators	4-5pm	Sharing ideas for links to	system or email
Twilight	Venue TBC	sustainability in the new curriculum	schools@pect.org.uk
Eco	Thursday 12th February	Twilight for Eco coordinators.	Use school booking
Coordinators	4-5pm	Sharing ideas for links to	system or email
Twilight	Venue TBC	sustainability in the new curriculum	schools@pect.org.uk

Upcoming City Wide Events

23 - 31 May

The Green Festival

www.pect.org.uk
For more information email
april.sotomayor@pect.org.uk

23rd - 30th May Peterborough Wildlife Festival www.neneparktrust.org.uk

Upcoming Events Outside of Peterborough

The National Sustainable Schools Conference

2nd July 2015, Bristol

Useful Websites

Sustainable Schools Alliance (SSA)

http://sustainable-schools-alliance.org.uk/

Sustainability and Environmental Education http://se-ed.co.uk/edu/

Greener Schools Website

www.greenerschools.co.uk

Peterborough Schools Network

www.peterborougheducationnetwork.co.uk

PECT Environmental Education Team

PECT has been providing Environmental Education support to Peterborough Schools for just over 6 years now. Our role is to assist schools in increasing the amount of Sustainable Development Education going on in them, both through additional activities and within the curriculum. We provide this support to all Peterborough School irrespective of which framework they follow. We provide both support and events to celebrate success, including;

- After school twilights
- Peterborough Eco Education Awards
- Advice on carrying out an environmental audit
- Information about local organisations that can provide specialist advice and support.
- Practical advice about incorporating
 Sustainable Development into the curriculum.
- Help with looking for suitable grant funding for projects.
- Help when looking for volunteers to assist with bigger projects in your grounds.

Contacting Us

lill Foster

Environmental Education Coordinator
e. jill.foster@pect.org.uk OR schools@pect.org.uk
t. 01733 866 443

www.pect.org.uk/working-with-us/education





What's going on in Peterborough?

Project Earth Rock Twilight

Come and learn about Project Earth Rock, a new resource to teach about sustainability and climate change in the primary school classroom through songs and animation. Morgan Phillips, Education Manager at Eco Schools England said; "There are various ways that schools can go about educating their pupils about sustainability, the Project Earth Rock way, using songs and animation is probably the most enjoyable. Schools working towards Eco-Schools awards will find Project Earth Rock an invaluable support with engaging pupils on issues that are sometimes distant and hard for them to get to grips with"

Jess Gold, the creator of the project will be delivering a free twilight session at

Hampton Vale Primary School Tuesday 27th January at 4pm.

Project Earth Rock is a set of engaging crosscurricular lesson plans that are supported by song videos and animation and can be carried out by non-specialist classroom teachers with very little preparation. As well as being a comprehensive resource for schools working towards Eco Schools awards, Project Earth Rock will help improve classroom singing.

Visit www.projectearthrock.com for a preview.

To book a place on the twilight

Contact the school on 01733 247000

or email Bethany Howells for more information

bethany.howells@hamptonvale.peterborough.

sch.uk

CEES Eco Councillors' Convention

CEES are holding a two day residential for KS2 Eco councillors or Schools Councillors based at Stibbington Eco Centre, including a Sustainable Sleepover. 2 – 3 February 2015

 A team building and personal development opportunity for Eco/School Councillors.

- Between 3 and 6 schools involved in total, comprising a minimum of 4 children to a maximum of 10 from each school, with one or 2 accompanying adults from each.
- A programme of activities using the Eco Schools themes, led by CEES specialist teachers, and designed to inspire children and equip them with Eco Schools ideas to take back to school.
- Activities based around the Centre and its inspirational grounds and at the beautiful Stibbington Lakes Nature Reserve nearby.
- Arrival at around 9.30 on day one, departure at around 4.00 on day two.
- A chance for children to share their Eco Schools activities with others.
- A charge of £70 per child for the two-day experience, including tuition, accommodation, equipment and materials, plus all meals from lunch on day one through to lunch on day two. No charge for accompanying adults.

Contact CEES for further details www.cees.org.uk email:

cees.stibbington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Weather Stations

Starting this month, weather stations will be installed at 17 schools across the city. The initiative derives from the DISTANCE programme which currently involves eight schools across the UK including The King's School, in Peterborough. This programme connects data from local weather stations into the Internet of (School) Things, an initiative to integrate digital content into school teaching methods.

Peterborough DNA, a programme encouraging growth, innovation and sustainability across the city, recognised the benefits derived from the weather station at The King's School in terms of teaching opportunities, and is delivering the roll-out of weather stations to local schools. The data sourced from these installations can be used at all levels of education and across subjects, from science and technology to social behaviour studies.

The information will also be invaluable for monitoring meteorological and climate activity.





There are still opportunities to apply for a weather station at local schools.



If you are interested in participating in the project, please contact **Helena.hansen- fure@opportunitypeterborough.co.uk**



The Wildlife Trust Countryside Centre in Good Company.

Representatives of the Great Fen Education and Community team based at the Wildlife Trust Countryside Centre, Ramsey Heights accepted an invitation from the Heritage Education Trust to be presented with a Sandford Award in recognition of their outstanding contribution to heritage education and learning within the historic environment.



Louise Rackham, Great Fen Education and Community Manager, Volunteer Helen Barber and Education Officer Alistair Rose were proud to receive this prestigious award from noted historian and broadcaster Dr Lucy Worsley at a presentation ceremony at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich.

This award has only been granted to 350 sites since the scheme began in 1978 and this year the Wildlife Trust Countryside Centre were winners alongside such establishments as Buckingham Palace, The Cutty Sark and Windsor Castle. As one of the judges commented this reflects the quality of the education programmes delivered by the Great Fen Education Team and their much valued volunteers.

The judging criteria for a Sandford Award is thorough and covers all aspects of visits from booking procedures, resources, content and delivery of the programmes, health, safety and security during the visit, relevance to the National Curriculum, links to the website and many more factors are taken into account before granting an award. On their inspection during a local school visit the judges were impressed by the teaching, learning and quality of the 'Fen Time Travellers' programme that was being followed on that day.

As lead judge Christopher Green stated: "The Wildlife Trust Centre at Ramsey Heights has a fantastic story to tell relating to the heritage of this part of the Fens. The classroom, having once been a Victorian brickworks, is in the most magical setting where learners can explore, investigate and interpret how people in this area used to live. Heritage abounds in this unique setting, rich in both culture and habitats."

The team look forward to building on this success and continue to provide educational opportunities that are relevant, exciting and inspirational thanks to the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund and BGL group.

Details of our programmes and a wealth of other information can be found on our website www.greatfen.org.uk







Resources to Support Sustainable Water

Anglian Water is proud to support Water Aids Big History Project.

Your guide to uncovering the story of toilets and taps in your local area. Join WaterAid's Big History Project and you can help us piece together the history of our taps and toilets across the UK. www.wateraid.org/UK/BigHistoryProject

We're so used to having taps and toilets in the UK; it's easy to take them for granted. But do you ever wonder how they came about – or what life would be like without them?

"By uncovering the story of how and when your town or village first got running water and proper sewers, you'll see your own tap and toilet in a whole new light!" Sir Tony Robinson.

Why not investigate your local environment, as it is now and discover where your water comes from and where it is recycled, and how it is returned to the environment.

Anglian Water will send you at no charge a plan and stickers to help you display your knowledge of your local water system.

Contact education@anglianwater.co.uk



Resources to support Sustainable Transport

Travelchoice

Travelchoice is a council body that heads the citywide push for sustainable transport; we want to make schools a part of this and engage future generations with our vision. Moreover; we recognise the importance of the sustainable development maximising the environmental, social and economic benefits of its operations and different transport modes.

- Our schemes offer a host of benefits by:
- Promoting healthier modes of travel for staff and students
- Provide exciting curricula activities
- Develop pupil's biking proficiency to improve road safety

 Reduce pressure on school sites by reducing traffic volumes and developing sustainable infrastructure

Our work includes school travel planning and a co-ordinated forum of local schools, offering free Bikeability cycle training to all pupils, installation of cycle parking, having a Bike-It Officer in a number of schools who provides training, storage, travel plans and parental involvement.

Other success stories include the setting up successful park and stride sites throughout the city and walking buses. In addition to this we also consider road safety of great importance and our road safety team works with all schools in the city. Success stories include Hampton Hargate, the first school to take part in Sustrans Big Street Survey (BSS). BSS is a fun, inspiring curriculum resource where pupils investigate their local area and produce their own manifestos for change.

We provide a portfolio of different schemes across the Key Stages. Furthermore, we also assist site development and can tailor infrastructural development to individual school's needs. Please visit our webpage at www.travelchoice.org.uk



Sustrans Bike It Schools in Action across the City

Bike Ride to Stillwells Nature Reserve Hampton Hargates Bike It Crew had an exciting bike ride to Stillwells Nature Reserve. The children had a fun time exploring the Nature Reserve, making woodland crowns as well as minibeast hunting and even found some Newts! The School Champions are hoping to run their own bike rides to the Nature Reserve in the future. If would like further information about running bike







rides please get in touch with Gemma your schools Bike It officer.

gemma.murphy@sustrans.org.uk



Sustrans Big Street Survey (BSS)

As mentioned in the Travelchoice article Hampton Hargate Primary were the first school to take part in the BSS. The school and Bike It Crew highlighted a need to reduce congestion around the schools entrance. Gemma the schools Bike It officer organised 3 afternoons with 90 children taking part in the survey and each class agreed upon a manifesto, this can be found at http://bigstreetsurvey.sustrans.org.uk/.



Each class also designed their own revised street maps, the children came up with some amazing suggestions!

Sustrans Volunteer shares experiences of 3 Year Cycle Ride

Sacred Heart, Welbourne and Woodston Primary School had a special visit from James a Sustrans Volunteer and his partner Sarah, who have returned from an exciting 3 year cycle ride across North and South America. They showed the

children a presentation of their adventures and also talked about some of the equipment that they took with them.



Both James and Sarah were very impressed with everyone's questions and enthusiasm for biking, scooting and walking in Peterborough!



Recycling Assemblies

The 'Love Peterborough; go green, keep it clean' campaign launched by the city council and Amey, encourages Peterborough residents to dispose of their waste in the correct way and recycle as much as possible in order to protect the environment and to save the city money.

Processing recycled items and food waste is much cheaper than throwing waste into landfill! As a city we recycle about half of our waste but we want it to be much higher. With that in mind Amey, who collect the city's waste on behalf of the council, is offering school recycling assemblies to educate our future generations. This will allow them to become recycling champions in their own home by teaching their family what can be recycled and how to dispose of household items in the correct way.

Recycling Rita and Hungry Harry will be visiting schools across Peterborough, teaching pupils about the new items you can now put in your green bin, how you can recycle your food waste and sharing some exciting facts about what happens to your rubbish.





Ongoing educational support and resources are available including an exciting new game which teaches youngsters which bin you should use for your household waste and recycling. There is no cost to any of these activities or assemblies.

If you would like to organise an assembly for your school or to discuss Amey's services please contact Glen Vincent Tel. 01733 425349

Email: glen.vincent@amey.co.uk

For more information about our Love Peterborough; go green, keep it clean campaign please visit:

www.peterborough.gov.uk/lovepeterboroug



Resources to support



Local and Sustainable Food and Health and Happiness

Farming, Farm Visits, Food and Nutrition

All things food are back in the curriculum, and as spring approaches now is the time to plan projects and farm visits. Farm visits provide plenty of material for cross curricular learning both outside and inside the classroom. There are several farms within easy reach of Peterborough that welcome visits by school groups (ask me for a list)

Would you be interested in a short staff CPD session about the learning opportunities on farms and growing areas, resources and ideas, planning and organising visits including health and safety? Perhaps your school would be willing to host a session attended by staff from other schools? I have dates available this term so please contact me to discuss further.

Have you linked your school to Farmhouse Breakfast Week 25th - 31st January? www.shakeupyourwakeup.com. Free resources. and ideas on the website. This is a brilliant opportunity to encourage everyone in school to have a healthy start to the day, perhaps promote a breakfast club, do some cooking, or find out where breakfast foods come from.

Bread Making In The New Curriculum is the title of a workshop especially for teachers being held on Saturday 31st January in Norwich. Cost is £35.00 /person, there are still a few places available on the course. Some people are coming from the Peterborough area so lifts might be arranged. Please e-mail me for further details and how to book.

Moya Myerscough **FACE** (Farming and Countryside **Education) Regional Co-ordinator** moya@face-online.org.uk

Food for Life Partnership Launches

On 10 December, Councillors and other local guests enjoyed a visit to Abbotsmede Primary School, a Silver Awarded Food for Life Partnership School, to experience first-hand the positive impact the Food for Life Partnership (FFLP) is having on pupils, staff and local community. Guests were greeted by pupils who took their lunch orders, including home grown vegetables. The FFLP national award scheme adopts a whole school approach to food so that consistent messages are given out across the school community; making lunchtimes a positive feature of the day, setting up visits to local working farms, teaching practical cooking skills and learning to grow food as part of the curriculum. Peterborough City Public Health has commissioned support and training for local school communities and caterers which will complement the department's other healthy schools initiatives.

Councillor John Holdich, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University, said: "It is important children and families in Peterborough understand the importance of a nutritious diet and the need to eat healthily. We are supporting this pilot to give our children the skills and understanding they need to support them in later life."





Catherine Langham, Business Manager at Abbotsmede, commented, "Over the last three years, our school has evolved, embracing growing, cooking and getting to know our community. Lunchtimes are now an extended learning environment and in terms of behaviour, they are calmer and less rushed."



If you would like to find out more, please contact Local Programme Manager,
Liz Davies,

Email: Idavies@soilassociation.org

Email: Idavies@soilassociation.org, Tel. 07809 156144.

Enrolment is free.



Taddies in the Classroom

Getting bored of the same old lesson plan each year? And looking for a new way to teach science? Froglife have just the answer. We are currently taking bookings for Taddies in the Classroom for Spring 2015. This series of workshops offers children a close up view of the lifecycle of a frog.



Froglife provide all the equipment and guidance you need for keeping tadpoles in your classroom and will deliver weekly sessions to your class to teach them about lifecycles, metamorphosis, habitats, biodiversity, ecosystems and much more. The sessions start with going out to collect frogspawn from a local pond (ideally with the children) and bringing it back to the classroom. At the end of this process we release the froglets back to where we found them (again with the children if possible).

Pupils that have taken part in the sessions said: "I liked watching the tadpoles turn into frogs", "I liked going to the marsh and letting them go" Teachers said "This project is everything the curriculum of excellence envisages, I made further links with reading and literacy lessons in class but it is endless what could be completed if this was a term class focus"

If you are interested in finding out more about this opportunity and other Leapfrog School activities please visit www.froglife.org/leapfrog-schools To book a place contact Jenny Leon, Learning Co-ordinator, on Tel. 01733602102

Email: jenny.leon@froglife.org

Kids Country Education Centre

It was all hands on deck recently when the Kids Country team at the East of England Agricultural Society planted 1,000 saplings at their burgeoning Education Centre. In time, the saplings will form a beautiful conservation hedge which will sit alongside the existing bee observatory, willow maze, pond and planned wildflower meadow.







The thatched barn, which is well on the way to becoming an established venue for school children's rural events, will be fully functional by spring 2015. Anyone interested in hearing more information on forthcoming events should contact

Jo Baker at Kids Country / East of England Agricultural Society

Email: jbaker@eastofengland.org.uk .

Bee Observatory

In partnership with Central England Co-op and Peterborough and District Bee-keepers Association children can learn all about bees. The 'season' for school visits runs from mid-May until the school year ends in July, although there is 'activity' in the hives until the weather cools in September/October.



To book a visit contact Sandra Lauridsen Email: slauridsen@eastofengland.org.uk

Forest School Opens at Ferry Meadows

Nene Park Trust is delighted to be able to announce the opening of a Forest School site at Ferry Meadows.

The philosophy of Forest Schools is to encourage and inspire individuals of any age through an innovative, long term, educational approach to outdoor play and learning in a woodland environment. This new facility will complement the opportunities for educational day visits which are already provided by the Trust.

Schools may take advantage of the Forest School site in two ways;

The Trust can deliver sessions led by our own Forest School trained teacher. Schools will be able to book a series of sessions for their pupils to build skills and confidence in the woodland. Schools may have their own Forest School trained teacher. In this case they will be able to hire the use of the site and equipment in order to lead their own sessions.

If you would like to explore the possibilities offered by our Forest School site then please contact Anna Thompson
Tel. 01733 234193
Email:
anna.thompson@neneparktrust.org.uk



Free Compost Offers

Take up this offer to help kick start your sustainable Garden Project this spring.

Bettaland have a range of reduced and peat free compost which is made from sustainable green projects including the contents of the brown bins in Peterborough.

We are offering 10 schools 5 bags of free compost each to help you rejuvenate your gardens this spring. This could really help to kick start your growing program this year. Please note offer on the first come first served bases and it will need to be collected from our site at Crowland.

More offers will be offered during National Composting Week – 4th May 2015, including the opportunity to have a composting assembly at your school.

Contact Bettaland for more details Tel. 01733 211666 or Email: Di@Organicrecycling.co.uk www.Bettaland.co.uk





Eco Education Frameworks

The table below shows how the new local framework relates to the Sustainable Schools Framework and the Eco Schools scheme

Peterborough Eco Framework	Sustainable Schools Framework (8 Doorways)	Eco Schools (9 Themes)
	Food and Drink	Healthy Living
Local and Sustainable Food		
Sustainable Water	Energy and Water	Water Energy
Zero Carbon		
(A)	Traffic and Travel	Transport
Sustainable Transport		
Zero Waste	Purchasing and Waste	Waste
Equity and Local Economy		
Land use and Wildlife	Buildings and Grounds	Biodiversity School Grounds Litter
Sustainable Materials		
Culture and Heritage	Global Dimensions	Global Perspectives
Culture and rientage	Inclusions and Participation	Overall Program
Health and Happiness	Local Well Being	Overall Program





Schools Event Booking System

From now on all events organised by PECT will be listed on the schools booking system. This will include Twilights, Peterborough Eco Awards, sessions and events run by the Forest for Peterborough Education Team. You can still book onto some events by emailing us, but particularly for events with limited numbers or with a range of options within them, like Powerdown, we are going to ask you to use the Booking system to ensure that events aren't overbooked or double booked.

You can find a link to the system on the Peterborough Education Network site www.peterborougheducationnetwork.co.uk, select Services, then Eco Education Support, then Twilights and other events.

http://tinyurl.com/schoolbookingsystem

If you haven't used the system before you will need to register and then wait for an email telling you that your registration has been approved. This is necessary to stop the system being spammed, so please be patient with it. If you have forgotten your password you can either email us on **schools@pect.org.uk** and we'll sort it out for you, or you can re register.

We have a new simplified user guide available for those who haven't used the system before (if you received this newsletter by email we will have sent it out to you automatically)

Once you login to the system you will see a screen like the first one below. You then need to select the Campaigns you wish to register for. Once you have done that you can click on them and see the events available you that you may wish to take part in. So for example if you are interested in one of the upcoming twilights you would register for the campaign Spring Term 2014 Twilights, then select the individual twilights that you wish to attend. (as shown in the second screen shot below) You will see that some Campaigns aren't open for registration yet and some may indeed be closed because they are full.

If you have any questions or queries about using the booking system please email **schools@pect.org.uk** (NOT climatechange@peterborough.gov.uk as it says on the webpage)

