

Eco Schools

This year we are hoping to obtain our Eco Schools green flag.

Eco-Schools is an International Award that recognises when schools are making considerable achievements in being an eco-friendly environment which prepares children to live their future lives with consideration for global issues.

**Action Plan
Eco Committee
Eco Code**

Action Plan

PLEASE SEE SEPARATE DOCUMENT

ECO COMMITTEE

CHILDREN

Charlotte and Christopher – Year 1, Kiera and Lilah – Year 2, Konrad and Jessica – Year 3

Chloe and Samuel – Year 4, Ilah and Morgan – Year 5, Serena and Dylan – Year 6

Chairperson – Morgan, Minutes – Chloe

STAFF

Mrs Legg, Mrs Batorska, Miss Jarvis, Mrs Hayter,

GOVERNORS

Mrs Briton, Mrs Shepherd



ECO CODE

Think of St. Mary's school

The three R's are our rules!

We put rubbish in the bin,

Don't leave a single pin.

We switch off out taps and lights!

When we switch off we hit the heights!

We build ponds and attract wildlife

The children will protect the animals' life

The three R's are our rules!

The Eco School is really cool, Yeah!

By Ilah and Timothy

The Eco Schools Programme is divided into 9 topics

Litter
Waste
Biodiversity
Transport
Healthy Living
Global Perspectives
School Grounds
Water
Energy

Litter

- The school continues to ensure that the playground is litter free by having several bins located in different areas.
- The Eco Committee has purchased Litter Pickers and we have regular patrols to ensure our grounds remain litter free.

Healthy Living

At St. Mary's we are lucky to have a real school kitchen and two brilliant cooks, Amanda Downes and Mel Hayter. They have been sourcing school lunches from the organic garden in the school grounds, and other local suppliers. The children are able to assist Tia Perrella, the part-time gardener to provide fresh produce for the school kitchen. They have learnt about growing their own food and where food comes from. This has encouraged children to eat and try new foods.

Amanda and Mel run regular cooking workshops for parents and children.

School Grounds

- KS1 spent a day clearing and tidying the KS1 area to make it safe and accessible for all.
- Miss Legg is Forest School trained and runs Forest School sessions for different year groups. We have made minibeast hotels and taken surveys of the types of insects and animals we have found in the school grounds.

Transport

- We promote walking or cycling to school to increase children's fitness and to have a positive impact on the environment. We have Walk to School Week twice a year in October and May and complete our Hands-Up travel survey every April.
- Children in Year 5 complete Levels 1 and 2 'Bike Ability Training'. They learn techniques such as signalling and stopping quickly as well as road safety and bike maintenance.

Waste

We aim to produce minimal waste at St. Mary's.

- **We use recycled products where possible**
- **We have paper recycling bins in each classroom, the office and staffroom. Y5 monitors are responsible for emptying these each week.**
- **The school kitchen has a food waste bin.**
- **We have compost bins in each KS1 classroom and in the KS2 playground that are emptied into the main school composter. The compost produced is then used in the school garden.**



Biodiversity

- The Eco Committee wanted to develop the school pond. With grants and support from the school PTA we have developed this area. The children visit the pond regularly and monitor and record new species.
- The school garden club grow plants to encourage biodiversity within the school. We also have hedgehog boxes, log piles and bird boxes to encourage local wildlife.
- We are fortunate to be located close to Bridport Community Orchard and like to visit whenever we can. We have taken part in a Marvellous Meadows workshop where they did an audit of wild flowers growing in the school ground and learned wild flower names.
- Pupils have been involved in the UK's first Hedgehog Town initiative. They have had members from the **association come and talk to the children.**

Water

- Y3 and Mrs Bennett **monitor the water metres and water bills for the school. They display these on our Water Board and can calculate monthly and yearly differences.**
- **By monitoring this information we can hope to decrease our water consumption.**
- **We used World Water Day in March 2015 to focus the whole school on how crucial water is in our lives. Each class took one of the UN themes about water e.g. Water is health, water is urbanisation, water is nature, water is industry and water is energy etc. During the Friday assembly they fed back to the rest of the school all they had learned and a display was shared in the foyer.**
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Energy

Each class has 2 energy monitors who ensure lights and electrical equipment are switched off when the class leaves the room. They check that external doors and windows are closed.

- Y4 and Mrs Bennett monitor the gas and electricity readings for the school and display them on Eco Status display board. By monitoring this information we can hope to further decrease our energy consumption.
- We run regular electricity saving initiatives such as Switch off Fortnight to raise children's awareness of the need to save energy.

