

# Eco-Schools Leicester Monthly Bulletin



Visit the Eco-Schools Leicester website <http://schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools>  
Login details are not required

## April 2019

Dear Sonja,

Welcome to the **April Eco-Schools Leicester eBulletin**. As always, there are lots of things going on, including:

- [City Nature Challenge](#) – find out what wildlife there is in Leicester at home and school - **26-29 April 2019**
- [#EcoTeachMeet](#) – at Mayflower Primary School - **21 May 2019**
- [One World Learning – Wildlife and School Grounds Conference](#) – free conference hosted in Leicester – **13 June 2019**
- [Food for Life and Eco-Schools celebration](#) – save the date and book your school group now – **14 June 2019**
- [LRWT Story Telling competition](#) opportunity for KS2 students to write a story involving British Wildlife

As always, if you need any help or support email or contact me, many thanks, Lee

### [Eco-Schools April Newsletter](#)

The latest newsletter can be [downloaded](#) with all the latest information. It is a bumper backed edition with projects including

- **Litter Less Leicester celebration**
- **Food and Farming Day**
- **Happy Shoe Day – 21 May 2019**
- **Tree Aid**
- **The Big Dig**
- **Leicester Schools Linking Project**
- **Air Quality Education**



update

- **Healthy Schools Network**
- **City Nature Challenge 2019**
- **LRWT KS2 writing competition**
- **Food growing support**

**Eco-School Awards**  
Schools can register for Eco-Schools for free at [www.eco-schools.org.uk/register](http://www.eco-schools.org.uk/register)

There are 3 levels of award: Bronze, Silver and Green Flag which were updated in September 2018.

At Bronze level your school has set up an Eco-committee, carried out a survey, created an action plan for three topics and shared this with the whole school.

At Silver level your school has done the above plus involved the whole school and wider community and carried out monitoring and evaluation for three in-depth project work on three of the ten topics. You have also identified where environmental issues are covered in the curriculum.

At Green Flag Award status, your school has done all of the above plus carried out in-depth project work for three of the ten topics and developed an Eco-code which reflects the topics you have worked on.

Bronze and Silver are self-certified online. For Green Flag, schools submit evidence online and are visited by an external assessor at a mutually agreed time.

Since January 2019  
**Recently registered or re-engaged**  
Spinesey Hill Primary School  
Uplands Infant School

**Bronze**  
Barley Croft Primary School  
Braunstone Primary School  
Elkesmere College  
Mowmacre Hill Primary School  
Nether Hall School  
St Barnabas C of E Primary School  
Woodstock Primary Academy

**Silver**  
West Gate School

Correct as of 06/04/2019

**Newsletter**  
Our Eco-Schools newsletters are published 4 times per year. If you would like to submit an article for the next newsletter, the deadline is Friday 28 June 2019. We ask for around 200 words, at least 1 photo and contact details e.g. name and email address to: [eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk)

These fantastic photos are from Nether Hall Special School that recently constructed their raised bed from Eco-bricks. It will now be used to grow herbs and vegetables in.

## [Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration – De Montfort University, 14 June 2019](#)

Celebrate the work that your school has completed this year by attending the 5th annual Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration.

Bring along up to 5 students to display your Eco-Schools and/or your Food for Life project. Receive your Food for Life award as well as the Healthier Air for Schools Award.

Further information can be downloaded from the flyer opposite.

To book your school group place please email [Lee Jowett](mailto:Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk).

**Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration 2019**

**Friday 14 June 2019 • Students' Union, De Montfort University, Leicester**

**Deadline for school entry 31 May 2019**

Celebrate the work that your school has completed this year by attending the now annual Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration. Bring along up to 5 students to display your Eco-Schools and/or your Food for Life project. Receive your Food for Life award as well as the Healthier Air for Schools Award.

Schools can display 2 Eco-Schools topics, 1 of which can include your Food for Life project. As a reminder, the Eco-Schools topics are:

- Biodiversity
- Energy
- Litter
- Transport
- Water
- School Grounds
- Healthy Living
- Global Citizenship
- Marine

Entries for the Eco-School Awards will be categorised by the school's level of Eco-School award rather than by topic.

Food for Life awards will be judged separately and will be a demonstration of work completed so far on the Food for Life journey.

All schools will also be entered into the:

- Judge's Special Award
- Eco-Factor Award (voted by students)

The event will run from 9.30am - 2pm.

Schools are asked to bring packed lunches with them.

Schools will be asked to provide brief information about their display before the day.

For more information and to book your school place contact:

Lee Jowett, Leicester City Council  
[lee.jowett@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:lee.jowett@leicester.gov.uk) 0116 454 2271

Lisa Didier, Soil Association Food for Life  
[lisa@soilassociation.org](mailto:lisa@soilassociation.org) 07712 370943

Awards kindly supported by

**Eco-Schools and Food for Life  
Celebration 2019**

Friday 14 June 2019 • Students' Union, De Montfort University, Leicester

**Additional Food for Life Information**  
You are invited to attend this event to demonstrate the work you have completed so far on your Food for Life Journey.



You can showcase work towards your Bronze or Silver award or you can show a way you have improved an area of the following in school:

- How you used Food for Life to raise attainment
- How Food for Life has been integrated across the school in a whole school approach
- Increased school meal take up
- The good work of your SNAG and pupil voice
- Show the ethos of healthy eating across the school
- Show the improvement in cooking in the curriculum
- Food growing in school
- Demonstrate how you improved the dining room environment

If you would like to achieve Bronze or Silver by the time this event takes place please contact Lisa Dillie. If you would like to display your work from the above categories, then a Certificate will be presented for your work and you will also be achieving criteria B&Z for their bronze award. We share Food for Life learning with local schools, the wider community and other partners.

Lisa Dillie, Soil Association Food for Life  
l.dillie@soilassociation.org 07718 57945

Awards kindly supported by



## #EcoTeachMeet

Our third and final EcoTeachMeet of the year will take place at Mayflower Primary School on **Tuesday 21 May 2019** between 4.00-5.30pm (refreshments from 3.30pm), previously advertised to take place at Graceworks.

Come along to share ideas and visit the award winning school gardens of Mayflower Primary School.

Book to attend via [EventBrite](#).

**#EcoTeachMeet Leicester**  
**Tuesday 21 May 2019**

  
Leicester  
City Council



  
**Mayflower Primary School,**  
**Leicester, LE5 5PH**  
Tuesday 21 May 2019 4.00-5.30pm  
*Refreshments from 3.30pm*

**Presentations from colleagues on the impact of environmental education, projects and activities** and an opportunity to see Mayflower's award winning gardens and outdoor spaces

If you would like to present please complete the Eventbrite presenter booking or get in touch

All school staff and organisations welcome! Book your place now:  
[SpringEcoTeachMeet19.eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/spring-eco-teach-meet-2019)

If you would like more information please contact Lee Jowett,  
Environmental Education Coordinator  
[Lee.Jowett@Leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Lee.Jowett@Leicester.gov.uk) or 0116 454 2271



 @EcoSchoolsLCC  
[schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools/](https://schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools/)

## City Nature Challenge 2019

For a number of years Leicester has participating in an annual Bioblitz (an intensive time period where all animals and plants are surveyed in a designated area – usually a park).

This year, we are going **bigger and better!** We are participating in the City Nature Challenge, 7 UK cities, 150+ worldwide between the 26-29 April 2019. There are a number of ways to get involved:

1. Encourage parents and children to take part via your school newsletter, website or social media during the weekend **27-28 April**.
2. Participate in school time on **Monday 29 April** (first day back after the Easter break).

Download the [flyer](#) opposite or download [some text for your school](#) website, social media or school newsletter.

**7 UK Cities 150+ Worldwide 7+ Continents**  
**Leicester 26 – 29 April**  
 Be part of a global challenge to see which city can record the most species of plants and animals  
 For more information and download the app [www.naturespot.org.uk/citynaturechallenge](http://www.naturespot.org.uk/citynaturechallenge)

**Individuals and families** - Friday 26 - Sunday 28 April (during the Easter holidays) encourage your children and families to participate in their own gardens and parks.

**Schools** - Monday 29 April - take your Eco-Schools team or class out to record species in your school grounds or local park. Any school that participate will be entered into a prize draw to receive a **insect workshop from a wildlife specialist**.

This is a great project to support your Eco-Schools work (monitoring as well as informing and involving the whole school)

Make observations on your own or identify species using the iNaturalist app (a free download from app stores). Create an account on the app (this can be a whole school login) then upload your photo. The app will attempt to recognise the species through photo recognition and also use GPS to identify where you are in Leicester.

Leicester City Council, University of Leicester, Wildlife Trusts, TCU

#CityNatureChallengeLeicester

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**7 UK Cities 150+ Worldwide 7+ Continents**  
**City Nature Challenge 2019**  
 iNaturalist

It is free and easy to join iNaturalist. Set up your account on the iNaturalist website or download the app from the App Store or Google Play store and create your login details. Pick a username and password (if a member) Once you have an account, you can add content or your checks and photographs can share a login to one login per class/school.

1. Go to the App Store - it's free!
2. Pick a username, e-mail and password. This might take a few minutes. Click the link in the e-mail when it arrives!
3. Search 'Projects' and join 'City Nature Challenge 2019: Leicester'
4. Open the app, tap 'Observe' at the bottom of your screen, and point your camera at something! Use the big green button to take a photo.
5. You'll be asked what you think the species is - don't worry if you don't know! Try to use the suggestions, or have a search. If you allow it access, it'll show where you are on a map. Add the park. Add this view or 'Observe' to this collection? Or don't forget to choose project 'City Nature Challenge 2019: Leicester'!
6. Other people will see your observations. After a while, you'll get an e-mail to say what people think you've seen! You can check other people's observations too. iNaturalists are often friendly and helpful.

Make sure you let us know you have participated by email or using the hashtag on social media #CityNatureChallengeLeicester

## LRWT Story Telling competition

The Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust are running a storytelling competition for Leicester city primary schools. There are 3 prizes to be won:

- 1st prize: A storytelling chair and storytelling area for your school grounds
- 2nd prize: A bespoke wildlife-themed story trail for your school

**KS2 short story writing competition**

Enter Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust's short story writing competition and get the chance to win some top wildlife themed prizes for your school!

**1st Prize** A storytelling chair and storytelling area for your school grounds

**2nd Prize** A bespoke wildlife themed story trail for your school grounds

**3rd Prize** 12 wildlife themed fiction and non-fiction books for your school library

**The rules**

- Leicestershire City primary schools only
- For KS2 children from Years 3 - 6
- Story must be UK wildlife themed - so featuring UK plants or trees or animals (big or small)
- Length should be a maximum of one typed A4 page (or 500 words)

Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust  
 The Old Mill, 8 Bark Lane, Leicester LE2 3DC  
 T: 0153 262 9988  
 Registered Charity Number: 210551

**To Enter**  
 Closing date is Friday 7 June 2019.  
 Download an entry form and read the full list of Terms and Conditions: [www.wildlifereschool.org.uk/competition](http://www.wildlifereschool.org.uk/competition)  
 Send entries by email to: [moses@lrwt.org.uk](mailto:moses@lrwt.org.uk) along with the entry form.

Sponsored by **PEOPLE'S POSTCODE LOTTERY**

grounds

- 3rd prize: 12 wildlife themed fiction and non-fiction books for your school library

For more information please see their [website](#). Deadline for entries is **Friday 7 June 2019**.

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### [One World Learning – Wildlife and School Grounds Conference](#)

We are very pleased to be hosting an international Wildlife and Schools Grounds Conference here in Leicester and Leicester City Hall on **Thursday 13 June 2019**.

It is an ideal opportunity to share good practice, find out what is happening internationally and take lots of ideas back to school or your organisation.

Complete free to attend (deposit required to confirm attendance).

Please visit the [Learning through Landscapes website](#) for more information.



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