

# Eco-Schools Leicester Monthly Bulletin



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

## October 2019

Welcome to the **October Eco-Schools Leicester eBulletin**. Lots of things happening before and after half term.

- **\*\*THIS WEEK\*\* #EcoTeachMeet Thursday 3 October 2019, 4.00pm-5.30pm** at Wolsey House Primary School, Beaumont Leys Lane, Leicester LE4 2BB - *book via [bit.ly/2kaj0A4](http://bit.ly/2kaj0A4)*
- **\*\*LAST CHANCE TO JOIN\*\* Litter Less Campaign** – now in our third year – training 1 November 2019
- **\*\*DEADLINE FAST APPROACHING\*\* The Sea Starts Here** – plastic pollution competition – Deadline Friday 11 October 2019
- **Eco-Schools Roadshow** – various dates, October-November 2019
- **Energy monitoring training** – Tuesday 22 October
- **Governor training** – Tuesday 22 October 2019
- **Schools Assembly for Young People on the Climate Emergency in Leicester** - Wednesday 20 November 2019

If you would like to sign up to any events or would like further information just send me an email. **As always, if you need any help or support email or contact me, many thanks, Lee**

### [#EcoTeachMeets in Leicester](#)

Learn about all the latest environmental activities happening both in the city and nationally.

**Thursday 3 October 2019, 4.00pm-5.30pm** at Wolsey House Primary School, Beaumont Leys Lane, Leicester LE4 2BB - *book via [bit.ly/2kaj0A4](http://bit.ly/2kaj0A4)*

***Please note the school car park gates are locked until 3.30pm due to children leaving via the driveway.***

**Tuesday 11 February 2019, 4.00pm-5.30pm** at New College Leicester, Glenfield Road, Leicester LE3 6DN *TeachMeet presenting lots of different projects in the city including Air quality, sustainable transport, global learning, energy saving,*

### #EcoTeachMeets Leicester 2019/20



TBC - Thursday 3 October 2019, 4.00pm-5.30pm at Wolsey House Primary School, Beaumont Leys Lane, Leicester LE4 2BB **NEW** updates on the Eco-Schools Award • **BRAND NEW** Reducing single use plastic in school • Food growing opportunities • *book via [bit.ly/2kaj0A4](http://bit.ly/2kaj0A4)*

TBC - Tuesday 11 February 2019, 4.00pm-5.30pm at New College Leicester, Glenfield Road, Leicester LE3 6DN *TeachMeet presenting lots of different projects in the city including Air quality, sustainable transport, global learning, energy saving, recycling and projects being delivered by Leicester Schools – book a 5 or 8 minute slot to present* *Book via [bit.ly/2lFeIQ](http://bit.ly/2lFeIQ)*

- Tuesday 5 May 2020, 4.00-5.30pm at Nether Hall School, Keyham Lane West, Leicester LE5 1RT *interactive workshops on outdoor learning and environmental education and opportunities to see the school grounds of Nether Hall School* *Book via [bit.ly/2lAD13b](http://bit.ly/2lAD13b)*

#EcoTeachMeet   
Learn about all the latest environmental activities happening both in the city and nationally

If you would like to present something you have done in school that would be great - otherwise just come along to learn something new!

All school staff and like-minded organisations are welcome to come along! Book your place by following the links above

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

 Supports the Eco-Schools awards as part of your evidence

recycling and projects being delivered by Leicester Schools – book a 5 or 8 minute slot to present **Book via [bit.ly/2ILFeIQ](http://bit.ly/2ILFeIQ)**

- Tuesday 5 May 2020, 4.00-5.30pm at Nether Hall School, Keyham Lane West, Leicester LE5 1RT **Book via [bit.ly/2IAD13b](http://bit.ly/2IAD13b)**

If you would like to present something you have done in school that would be great - otherwise just come along to learn something new! All school staff and like-minded organisations are welcome to come along! Book your place by [following the links in the newsletter](#).

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### Stationary and bins

We have several pieces of stationary and bins which are available on a first come first basis (and will need to be collected).

If you are interested, please email [eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk)

- 20 hole punches
- 10 staplers (various)
- Calculators, folders and in-trays
- Blue, black, red & green bins (grey bins already taken)



Hole punches  
Staplers  
Calculators  
File trays and stackers



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### Eco-Schools Roadshow dates

All the dates for the roadshow are now available. Email to confirm your group (maximum of 15 students) and the risk assessment, parental letters and further information will be sent

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on return. *Workshop names and providers will be available soon.*

- **Wednesday 30 October 2019 – Soar Valley College**
- **Tuesday 5 November – English Martyrs' School**
- **Friday 8 November – Moat Community College**
- **Tuesday 12 November- Rushey Mead Academy**
- **Friday 29 November – Fullhurst Community College (Fosse site)**

Email

[lee.jowett@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:lee.jowett@leicester.gov.uk) with which date you would like to attend.

## Eco-Schools Roadshow 2019

Following last year's success, Leicester City Council will again be hosting a series of mini-conferences in the autumn 2019 term – **book now to avoid disappointment!**

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Wednesday 30 October 2019</b> | <b>Soar Valley College</b>                      |
| <b>Tuesday 5 November 2019</b>   | <b>English Martyrs' School</b>                  |
| <b>Friday 8 November 2019</b>    | <b>Moat Community College</b>                   |
| <b>Tuesday 12 November 2019</b>  | <b>Rushey Mead Academy</b>                      |
| <b>Friday 29 November 2019</b>   | <b>Fullhurst Community College (Fosse site)</b> |

Each event will run from approx. 9.15am-12.30pm and will consist of a carousel of interactive and informative workshops, based on the Eco-Schools themes



### Why attend?

- Gain a greater understanding of the **Global Goals for Sustainable Development** and **Eco-Schools** topics
- Opportunity to network with other schools and learn about their **environmental projects**
- Develop new **campaigns** and identify ways of promoting sustainability in school
- Find out about local and national **projects** and how to get involved

This free event is **open to all registered Eco-Schools in Leicester**, Primary or Secondary. Schools are invited to bring up to 15 students to attend. Further details will be provided on booking.



To book your school place please email [Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk) or call 0116 454 2271 **as soon as possible to confirm**

### [Schools' Assembly for Young People on the Climate Emergency in Leicester](#)

In February 2019, like many cities Leicester declared a climate emergency. The implication of declaring a climate emergency is that Leicester will need to work towards becoming carbon neutral as rapidly as possible i.e. its emissions of greenhouse gases must reach as close as possible to zero, with any remaining emissions that can't be avoided being offset in some way.

We are developing a plan of actions to address the emergency and are inviting school students to find out their views on what we should do.

Secondary schools are invited to attend with students from Years 9-10 on Wednesday 20 November from 9.30am to 2.30pm. The event will be a series of presentations, interactive sessions and opportunities for students to discuss

## Schools' Assembly for Young People on the Climate Emergency in Leicester

*Run in partnership with the Young People's Council of Leicester*



In February 2019, like many cities Leicester declared a climate emergency. The implication of declaring a climate emergency is that Leicester will need to work towards becoming carbon neutral as rapidly as possible i.e. its emissions of greenhouse gases must reach as close as possible to zero, with any remaining emissions that can't be avoided being offset in some way. We are developing a plan of actions to address the emergency, and are inviting school students to find out their views on what we should do

- Students will develop a greater understanding of climate change and the implications for Leicester
- In the morning, city-wide carbon savings and actions will be consulted on and prioritised
- A collective vision will be created of what Leicester will need to be like as a carbon neutral city
- Solutions will be developed in the afternoon which the city will look at as we develop our action plan

**Secondary schools are invited to attend with students from Years 9-10 on Wednesday 20 November from 9.30am to 2.30pm. The event will be a series of presentations, interactive sessions and opportunities for students to discuss and be formally consulted on proposed actions**

Maximum group size is 16 students. Please email [Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk) by **31 October 2019** to secure your group

**Wednesday 20 November 2019**  
**City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ**  
**9.30am – 2.30pm**





and be formally consulted on proposed actions

## [Energy monitoring and Salix Finance in Schools](#)

**Energy and water is one of the biggest spends for schools after staffing.** Leicester City Council has worked closely to **develop tools to empower staff and students to take control** of their energy. **This free workshop and presentation will give you the initial tools to do this.**

**Tuesday 22 October 2019 - Soar Valley Training Centre, Soar Valley School, Gleneagles Avenue, Leicester, LE4 7GY**

- 1.00-2.00pm - Online monitoring of your energy and water
- 2.15-3.15pm - Salix Finance – interest free energy savings loans for schools

**To book your place on one of both sessions, please go to [SchoolsEnergy.eventbrite.co.uk](http://SchoolsEnergy.eventbrite.co.uk)**

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|-------------|--|
| 1.00-2.00pm | Online monitoring of your energy and water                     |
| 2.15-3.15pm | Salix Finance – interest free energy savings loans for schools |


**Colleagues are encouraged to attend one or both sessions**


**Who would benefit from this workshop:** All school staff with an interest in energy management including school business managers, premises officers, facilities managers, site supervisors, teachers, senior leaders and Eco-Schools leads



**Why attend?**

- Learn how to access and use **DynamatLite**, the energy monitoring website used by Leicester City Council
- Use **strategies & activities** to engage your staff and students to reduce your energy consumption
- **Network** with other colleagues
- **Resources** and interest free loans and **funding available** through Salix Finance for LA schools and academies

Supports your Eco-Schools energy topic 

**SALIX** SOLVING ENERGY EFFICIENCY FINANCE IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR 

This free event is **free and open to all schools in Leicester City**

To book your place please go to [SchoolsEnergy.eventbrite.co.uk](http://SchoolsEnergy.eventbrite.co.uk) or for more information email [Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk)

## [Air Quality and Environmental Education support in Leicester Schools - Governor Training 2019](#)

All schools in Leicester are offered free environmental and air quality education opportunities to support teaching and learning in and outside of the classroom, offer practical activities and campaigns to raise awareness

**Tuesday 22 October 2019 – 10am-12noon** – Soar Valley Training Centre, Gleneagles Avenue, Leicester, LE4 7GY

To book please email [lee.jowett@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:lee.jowett@leicester.gov.uk)

### Air Quality and Environmental Education support in Leicester Schools - Governor Training 2019

In Leicester there are over 100 schools registered on the Eco-Schools programme including 40 Green Flags. All schools in Leicester are offered free environmental and air quality education opportunities to support teaching and learning in and outside of the classroom, offer practical activities and campaigns to raise awareness

**Tuesday 22 October 2019** Soar Valley Training Centre,  
10am-12noon Gleneagles Avenue LE4 7GY

**Free and open to all schools in Leicester City**

*Eco-Schools is a global programme which provides a framework for learning and action around 10 environmental topics. It is free to register for Eco-Schools and to apply for Bronze and Silver awards. A cost applies for Green Flag accreditation, however there are several sponsorship schemes in Leicester*



**This course will explore:**

- Air quality education opportunities
- Leicester City Council's anti-idling campaign and other projects being delivered in schools
- The Eco-Schools award and Global Goals for Sustainable Development
- The role of the Eco-Schools Environmental link governor
- Local and national projects and how to get involved

**Who would benefit from this course?**  
All governors but particularly those with responsibility for environment, curriculum or health and safety and those with a keen interest.



Refreshments will be provided

To book your place please email [Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk) or call 0116 454 2271

## **\*\*LAST CHANCE\*\*** [Litter Less 2019-20](#)

The Litter Less Campaign, led by Eco-Schools aims to reduce litter and affect long-term behaviour change through implementing a waste management system, which involves the whole school. Participating schools must participate for two academic years (2019/20 and 2020/21)

### Why participate?

- Use **strategies & activities to engage** your staff and students to reduce litter in and around the school ground
- **Receive funding** to run a campaign and litter pick in and around your school grounds
- **Learn how to apply** for the prestigious Eco-Schools Green Flag Award and use project evidence to support this

Further information is available in the September Eco-Schools newsletter.

### The Eco-Schools Litter Less Campaign



The Litter Less Campaign, led by Eco-Schools aims to reduce litter and affect long-term behaviour change through implementing a waste management system, which involves the whole school. Participating schools must participate for two academic years (2019/20 and 2020/21)

**Training: Friday 1 November 2019**  
9.30am – 3.00pm - for new schools  
Abbey Park Education Centre, Abbey Park, Leicester LE1 3EJ (nearest postcode)

Lunch and refreshments will be provided

Who would benefit from this project: All school staff with an interest in reducing litter in and around their school including teachers, support staff, senior leaders and Eco-Schools leads, school business managers and site managers. A small number of schools that previously applied can participate again (and receive funding) – so do get in touch!



**Why participate?**

- Use **strategies & activities to engage** your staff and students to reduce litter in and around the school ground
- **Receive funding** to run a campaign and litter pick in and around your school grounds
- **Learn how to apply** for the prestigious Eco-Schools Green Flag Award and use project evidence to support this

**Your school commitments**

- Attend **training** on Friday 1 November 2019
- **Purchase equipment for litter picking and/or raising awareness** (funding provided)
- **Assessment of your areas** and decide on a certain litter item to focus on for the campaign and submit 200 word report explaining why this item was chosen
- **Bespoke action plan** of events for the project
- Carry out **6 litter picks** in and around the school grounds
- Use at least **3 different lesson plans** linked to litter and waste built into the curriculum (these will be provided)
- Invitation to attend the **celebration event** at Abbey Park (with children) on **Wednesday 22 April 2020 (Earth Day!)**
- Complete a **short case study** (200 words) after the event with a couple of photos – (template provided)



Supports your Eco-Schools litter topic and awards  
This free project is **free and open to all schools in Leicester**

To book your place please book via [Eventbrite](#) or email [Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk)

## [The Sea Starts Here](#)

Leicester City Council has launched a design competition for all schools in Leicester. *The design will be used to create a stencil which will be used around drains in Leicester*

'The Sea Starts Here Campaign' aims to increase awareness within schools and their wider community on the impacts of single use plastics. Reducing the impact of single use plastics via stencilling around drains, awareness posters, litter picks, recycling and single use plastic reduction initiatives.

Further information and a classroom poster can be downloaded from the [Schools extranet page](#) by following this link.

**The Sea Starts Here Competition**  
Calling all schools!  
Leicester City Council has launched a design competition for all schools in Leicester

The design will be used to create a stencil which will be used around drains in Leicester

**Design Brief**

- Include a water creature
- Two pieces of text
  - Notifying that rivers/sea start at the drains
  - Instruction about litter/plastics or impacts of plastic and litter

The overall winner will have their design turned into a stencil and will be used outside at least 20 schools in Leicester this academic year

The 'Sea Starts Here Campaign' aims to increase awareness within schools and their wider community on the impacts of single use plastics, reducing the impact of single use plastics via stencilling around drains, awareness posters, litter picks, recycling and single use plastic reduction initiatives.

**Deadline for entries: 5pm on Friday 11 October 2019**

Entries are to be emailed to: [eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk)

They can also be posted to **The Sea Starts Here Competition, Flooding & Drainage, Castle Park Depot, 90 Leycroft Road, Leicester, LE4 1BZ**

**Schools are asked to send a maximum of 5 entries for each key stage**

Competition poster

**The Sea Starts Here Competition**

Leicester City Council has launched a design competition for all schools in Leicester. *The design will be used to create a stencil which will be used around drains in Leicester*

Here is an example of what the final design could look like once it created into a stencil

The overall winner will have their design turned into a stencil and will be used outside at least 20 schools

**Your design needs to:**

- Include a water creature
- Two pieces of text
  - Notifying that rivers/sea start at the drains
  - Instruction about litter/plastics or impacts of plastic and litter

Classroom poster

Deadline: Friday 11 October 2019

## [Free wildflower seed to make your own Pollinator Patch](#)

Leicester City Council has free wildflower seed kits to produce your very own wildflower patch in school. The kits come with enough seed to create a 10m<sup>2</sup> area.

The packs also come with planting information and top tips.

To order your pack and information please email [eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk)

The packs can be planted in October or in early Spring.

### Creating Your Pollinator Patch

Here are a few simple instructions on how to create and look after your Pollinator Patch so that it will continue to look good and support many pollinating insects for years to come. Remember, the best time of year to create your patch is in the autumn (late September - October) as some seeds need to over-winter.

**Step 1: Pick an appropriate area**  
The site needs to be in a sunny spot and quite low in nutrients (see below). The size can be as big or small as you want depending on how you can maintain it.

**Step 2: Prepare the land**  
This is an important step to make sure the seeds have the best chance of survival and provide a good display. Use a spade, hoe and other garden tools. If the area is already grassed, remove any big weeds such as docks, thistles and nettles, cut back the grass until it is short and then remove all the turf. Once the soil is bare, fill it over with a fork or hoe to loosen the top surface. If it is very nutrient rich, then remove the top inch or so too - wildflowers will thrive better in poor soils.

**Step 3: The wildflower seeds**  
The seed packs are separated into 1g of wildflower seed - enough to make a patch of 1m<sup>2</sup> so you can make several small areas or one larger area of up to 10m<sup>2</sup>. They are a native seed mix which will help to support our pollinators so that they are attracted to the plants and can feed on them easily. See separate sheet for full list of plants. Mix the seeds 50:50 with saw dust or dry sand so that they will go further - and you can see where they have been sown. Scatter the seeds on the soil in an even direction - see sowing rate above - then press them into the ground by GENTLY walking over them. Don't forget to net the area to protect the seeds from the birds.

**Step 4 Watering your seeds and grown plants**  
Water the seeds with a watering can and sprinkler or hose on a light spray taking care not to over-water and drown the seeds, or later, the seedlings and plants. The seedlings should start to come up in early spring followed by a colourful wildflower meadow display.

**Step 5 Caring for your Pollinator Patch**  
Cut your patch when the flowers have germinated and the grasses have reached a height of about 10 cm. This is usually from mid-July to mid-August. This will help to knock back the unwanted weeds and freshen-up the patch for next year. To keep the patch low in nutrients and make sure the plants are not smothered, rake off the cuttings.

**Promoting Your Pollinator Patch**  
We would love to hear how your Patch is doing next year! Upload some photos to get your name in our newsletter and when it comes you could tweet it out to all others know too. We can also add it into our Making Wildlife Count report and the Eco-Schools website.

Contact Us: [leisure.com@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:leisure.com@leicester.gov.uk)

Leicester City Council  
Making Wildlife Count  
a partnership of all positive activities



7,000 spaces  
£3.60 (inc VAT)  
per child



Book now  
to avoid  
disappointment  
01733 363514

## Food & Farming Day

Friday 3 July 2020

East of England Showground, Peterborough, PE2 6XE



"There were so many activities for the children to be involved in. Our children learnt about many aspects of farming life, which surround our home environment. The staff were very helpful and the children really enjoyed the shows and getting practical with food and animals." - Tydd St Mary CofE Primary School

### What's on Offer?

The Kids Country Food & Farming Day aims to teach children where food comes from and the importance of agriculture and the countryside, through interactive learning experiences  
Just £3.60 (inc VAT) per child





"I visited with my daughter and her school. We had a fantastic day learning and exploring. We have come home with lots of yummy produce and lots of ideas on how to use them. My daughter, who has additional needs, didn't want to leave.... A truly great day. THANK YOU." - Parent, Great Gidding Primary School



- Huge range of activities designed to ensure a fun and interactive learning experience
- Hands-on demonstrations and talks from leading industry suppliers and experts in the field
- Children can engage with livestock, learn new skills and understand the farm to fork adventure
- Exciting competitions to enter
- Event incorporates key elements of the national curriculum for Key Stages 1 and 2
- Associated project work is available for classroom preparation and follow up



Use the above QR code to watch a short video of the Food & Farming Day.

Book now to avoid disappointment!  
Email: [slauridsen@eastofengland.org.uk](mailto:slauridsen@eastofengland.org.uk) Tel: 01733 363514



**Enstruct Training is working in partnership with Trees for Cities again this Winter.** Would you like to improve your school grounds for people, wildlife and the climate? The trees are free and come with a member of Enstruct staff to help your pupils plant the trees and they provide all tools, equipment and risk/benefit assessments. **The school pays nothing.** Planting days start with an assembly about the importance of trees then each class comes outside for about 40 minutes and every child in the school can be involved with the planting. The trees are currently about 50cm tall and will "wear" biodegradable guards for the first 3 years or so. If your school already has a wooded area which is used regularly, you may like to consider extending it to allow for rotation in the future.

If you can set aside a tennis court-sized area (of any shape, including a row along a fence line,) to be a Forest of the Future and commit to leaving it there then do let Enstruct know ASAP by e-mailing [bethan@enstructtraining.co.uk](mailto:bethan@enstructtraining.co.uk) or calling 07398 777691.

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