

Welcome to the **February Sustainable Leicester Schools' eBulletin**. As we hurtle through towards half-term we have lots of new and exciting information for you, including the brand new Pumpkin Garden Competition along with the popular Grow Your Own Grub 'Mealbarrow' Competition (see details below). Lots of schools are preparing to apply or renew their Green Flag Award, so do please let us know if you require any assistance.

Dates for your diary:

- [EcoTeachMeet at New College](#), Leicester – 11 February 2020, 4-5.30pm
- [Climate Emergency Consultation](#) – deadline for comment 9 February 2020
- [Fairtrade Fortnight 2020](#) Monday 24 February – Sunday 8 March 2020
- [Carbon Literacy Training for school staff](#) – Friday 28 February 2020 – City Hall, Leicester, all day
- [Air Quality Training Day](#)- at Sandfield Primary School - Tuesday 10 March
- [Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration 2020](#) –29 June 2020, - City Hall, Leicester, all day

As always, if you need any help or support email or contact us, Lee and Amy

- Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk
- Amy.Peace@leicester.gov.uk

[Young People's Climate Assembly](#)

Over 130 young people from Leicester gathered at City Hall on Monday 27 January 2020 to have their say on how the city responds to the climate emergency.

The Young People's Climate Assembly brought together children from 15 schools across the city to hear from expert speakers and feedback their own ideas on how Leicester needs to change to become carbon neutral. The event was very successful, further details in the next newsletter.



January Sustainable Schools Newsletter

The latest newsletter can be downloaded from the schools' extranet. It contains information about all the upcoming events as well as:

- Eco-Schools roadshow success
- Salix Finance information
- National Eco-Schools Winners from Leicester
- Permaculture training
- The Big Spring Clean 2020
- Carbon Literacy training for students
- School Cartoon competition

Schools Sustainable news
January 2020
LEICESTER

Welcome to the January Leicester Schools Newsletter. When did the Christmas break get away from you? Last term we had some fantastic events including our Eco-Roadshow and the Eco-Schools National Awards. This term our focus shifts to the Climate Emergency consultation with the Young People's Climate Assembly in January, Carbon Literacy Training for students and teachers as well as Green Flag accreditation. As always get in touch if you need any support, I'm here!

What is Eco-Schools Leicester?
Leicester City Council has a dedicated Environmental Education team based in the Energy and Sustainability Team that works with schools to help them become more sustainable in what they do. As well as one-to-one support, schools can also engage through termly #EcoSchools, staff training, resource printing & exhibition, assemblies, Eco-Schools conferences & exhibition events and can keep up to date through a dedicated Twitter account, monthly e-newsletters & newsletters. We also have the Eco-Schools Ambassador program, exciting opportunities for students to participate time as well as outside the classroom, looking across the curriculum. LEISD has been identified as 'exemplary activities leading to sustainable learning and positively contributing to pupil safety', LEISD provides positive benefits to all groups of young people and supports a risk-relevant, broad and balanced curriculum.

20 MARCH - 17 APRIL 2020

Climate Emergency Consultation Pack for Schools
We are developing a pack for primary schools to use so that they can be involved in the Climate Emergency consultation. If you would like a copy of the resources to help us get your pupils input on this very important matter please email Eco_Schools@leicester.gov.uk ASAP! The deadline for consultation returns is the 3 February 2020

How to find out more
Lee Inwood & Amy Peace
Environmental Education Team
Phone: 0116 454 2273 / 454 4543
Go to Eco_Schools@leicester.gov.uk
ecoteams@leicester.gov.uk
leicesterschools.gov.uk/eco-schools
www.leicesterschools.gov.uk
www.leicesterschools.gov.uk
© 2016-2019 Leicester City Council

Finished reading? Pass on to a colleague

Eco-School Awards
Schools can register for Eco-Schools for free at www.eco-schools.org.uk/register

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

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

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 pieces of work on three of the six topics. You have also identified where environmental issues are covered in the curriculum.

Green Flag Award status, your school has done all of the above plus carried out in-depth project work for three of the six 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 August 2019
Recently registered or re-engaged
Castle Mead Academy
Janneth Dhill Academy
Jodenshaw Community College
Oaklands School
Taylor Road Primary School

Silver
Abbey Mead Primary Academy
Bourneville Community Primary School
Elmwood College
Kilnwood Hill Primary Academy
St Remond's C of E Primary School
Tudor Orange Sunnyside Primary Academy
Woodstock Primary Academy

Green Flag Award
Leicester Islamic Academy

Correct as of 09/01/2020

Newsletter
Our newsletters are published 4 times per year. If you would like to submit an article for the next newsletter, the deadline is Friday 17 April 2020. We ask for around 200 words, at least 2 photos and contact details (e.g. name and email address) for eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk

Welcome Amy
Gisela Peacock Officer Amy Inwood at the end of the year she is graduate Environmental Science BSc with The Open University

Prior to joining Leicester City Council, she completed placements at the Field Studies Council and an ecological surveying company. With a background in catering, she is also a graduate about food and sustainable food she will be working alongside her to reduce and improve the younger generation of Leicester.

Winnal Metropolitan Borough Council	47
Leicester City Council	40
Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council	22

Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration 2020

This year our Eco-Schools and Food for Life celebration returns to City Hall and will be even bigger and better! We have taken over the main hall and conference room downstairs which means we can have up to 40 schools attend this year. We want 2020 to be the biggest and best to date!

Sign up now via email to Amy.Peace@leicester.gov.uk to conform your place.

Further details will be sent out in April regarding logistics, dietary requirements etc.

Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration 2020
Monday 29 June 2020 • City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester

Celebrate the work that your school has completed this year by attending the 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
- Waste
- Transport
- Water
- School grounds
- Healthy living
- Global citizenship
- Marine

Entries for the Eco-Schools 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 solely on the Food for Life journey.

All schools will also be entered into the:

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

The event will run from 9.30am - 2.15pm.

Tickets will be provided (dietary requirements nearest the door)

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

For more information and to book your school place contact:

Amy Peace, Leicester City Council
amy.peace@leicester.gov.uk, 0116 454 4543
Lisa Diller, Soil Association Food for Life
lisa@soilassociation.org, 07192 510943

Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration 2020
Monday 29 June 2020 • City Hall, 115 Charles Street, 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 SMAG 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 Diller. 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&2 for their bronze award 'we share food for life learning with local schools, the wider community and other partners'.

Lisa Diller, Soil Association Food for Life
lisa@soilassociation.org, 07192 510943

Carbon Literacy Training for school staff

In February 2019, Leicester City Council declared a climate emergency.

In order to raise awareness through the community of Leicester we are using the Carbon Literacy Project as a way of accrediting school staff and students to become carbon literate.

This one day course will enable participants to be carbon literate and

support them deliver their own course back in school

Training takes place on Friday 28 February 2020 and is provided free of charge. Book your place now via [EventBrite](#).

Carbon Literacy Training

Carbon Literacy Project

In February 2019, Leicester City Council declared a climate emergency. We are working to develop a climate emergency programme of action to reduce carbon with aim of the city becoming zero carbon.

In order to raise awareness through the community of Leicester we are using the Carbon Literacy Project as a way of accrediting school staff and students to become carbon literate. This one day course will enable participants to be carbon literate and support them deliver their own course back in school

Training: Friday 28 February 2020 9am-4pm
Location: City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester. LE1 1FZ

Refreshments and lunch will be provided

Who would benefit from this project: All school staff with an interest in becoming carbon literate, especially those involved in teaching about climate change and the climate emergency in Years 5 and 8.



Why participate?

- Gain a better understanding of how climate change will effect you and those around you
- Fully funded accreditation
- Acquire knowledge and skills to develop your own responses to lowering your carbon footprint, and the carbon footprint of others
- Gain knowledge of delivering a course about basic climate change science to your students
- Help to enable students to become carbon literate

Your commitments

- Attend training in February 2020
- Become an accredited Carbon Literate accredited and complete feedback about your experience
- Create at least one significant action, as an individual, to reduce your own personal carbon footprint.
- Create at least one significant action involving other people to reduce the collective footprint of your workplace, community or place of education.
- Encourage your school to participate in carbon literacy either by delivering training yourself or arranging for Leicester City Council to deliver in-house

   Funding kindly provided by the NAEE

This project is free and open to all school staff

To book your place please book via [Eventbrite](#) or email Amy.Peace@leicester.gov.uk

[Grow Your Own Grub 'Mealbarrow' and Pumpkin Garden Competitions](#)

Following the success of last year's competition, the format of the [Grow Your Own Grub 'Mealbarrow' competition](#) will remain the same.

- Students need to design a 3-course menu (you don't need to cook the menu)
- Grow at least 5 ingredients in the Mealbarrow (the crops don't need to be ready to harvest when judged)
- Present the Mealbarrow at our showcase event which this year is at Abbey Pumping Station

There is a training twilight session on **Thursday 12 March 2020 4.00-5.30pm**.

Our brand-new [Pumpkin Garden competition](#) will encourage students to grow pumpkins in the school grounds. There will be bonus points for how you use the squash and pumpkins as well as how you deal with the waste e.g. by composting.

Leicester's Mealbarrow Extravaganza

...incorporating the Grow Your Own Grub Competition



The Mealbarrow competition is a great way to involve the wider school community in your growing activities. Grandparent and community gardening week is on the 27th April to the 1st May. If you go to the Food for Life website www.foodforlife.org.uk you can register your intergenerational event, receive free resources and if you come along to the training on March 12th, you will find out about available grants

FREE Training course: Thursday 12 March 2020, 4.00-5.30pm
Graceworks, URC, The Common, Leicester LE5 6EA
Light refreshments will be provided

Who would benefit from this project: All schools interested in growing and cooking

School commitments

- Attend free food growing training in March 2020
- Collect compost - available at the training event on 12 March 2020. Schools that have not previously participated will be provided with a mealbarrow but will need to purchase their own seeds and/or plug plants (some seeds provided on the training)
- Design and submit a healthy 3 course menu by 20 May 2020 (judging takes place on 21 May 2020)
- Grow at least 5 of your ingredients in the Mealbarrow
- Deliver and collect the Mealbarrow to Abbey Pumping Station for the celebration day - Saturday 4 July 2020 (support is available)
- Host the judging team during your site visit to view your Mealbarrow and extended growing area (where available) Visits will be arranged for between 8-12 June 2020.
- Advertise the competition and the celebration day to parents & families via school newsletters and the school's social media channels

Why participate?

- Combine creative culinary skills and gardening, your school is challenged to design a three course menu and grow a minimum of 5 ingredients in your Mealbarrow along with your own growing area. Mealbarrows are then showcased at Abbey Park for a public vote
- Raise awareness of healthy eating and cooking in your school. Use as part of your Food for Life and Eco-Schools Awards
- Receive recognition with Bronze, Silver or Gold Grow your Own Grub Award for published criteria on your extended growing area

Supports your Eco-Schools healthy living, school grounds and biodiversity topics & Food for Life Award criteria
This free event is free and open to all schools in Leicester

 Deadline for entries is Friday 28 February 2020 and will be filled on a first come basis
Book your school's place via [surrey@leicester.gov.uk](#) as soon as possible to confirm.
Any questions please email GrowYourOwnGrub@leicester.gov.uk

For further information check out the flyers and [information sheet](#) in the attachments at the bottom of the page.

The deadline to enter both competitions is **Friday 28 February 2020**.

To participate please follow the links below:

- [Grow Your Own Grub entry](#)
- [Pumpkin Garden competition entry](#)



Pumpkin Garden Competition

Leicester City Council

This year we have launched a brand new competition – the Pumpkin Garden Competition. We have further expanded the competition to include this opportunity for all schools (primary, secondary and SEN schools)

Who would benefit from this project: All schools interested in growing



The finer details...

Please sign up by 28 February 2020 via [SurveyMonkey](#)

- By the end of April 2020, each school participating in the competition will be provided with the same selection of pumpkin and squash seeds and a downloadable guide explaining how to grow pumpkins and squash. It is intended that the plants are started off in class and then grown in the school grounds in a designated area.
- In October 2020 to be in with a chance of winning you will need to submit a selection of photos and a brief report (which can be done by the students) of the garden. The report template is provided as part of the downloadable guide.
- As part of the competition you are encouraged to design the garden on a theme of your choice. There will be prizes for first, second and third place

As part of the competition we will be providing information about composting and recipes with support from [Carryscomposting.com](#)

Supports your Eco-Schools healthy living, school grounds and biodiversity
This free event is free and open to all schools in Leicester

Deadline to participate is Friday 28 February 2020
Book your school's place via [SurveyMonkey](#), as soon as possible to confirm
Any questions please email GrowYourOwnGrub@Leicester.gov.uk

[#EcoTeachMeet at New College](#)

The next #EcoTeachMeet will take place **Tuesday 11 February 2020, 4.00pm-5.30pm** at **New College Leicester, Glenfield Road, Leicester LE3 6DN** The *TeachMeet* will present 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/2ILFeIQ](#)*

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 [now](#).



#EcoTeachMeet Leicester
Tuesday 11 February 2020

Leicester City Council



New College Leicester
Learning & Sports Village

**New College, Glenfield Road,
Leicester, LE3 6DN**
Tuesday 11 February 2020 4.00-5.30pm
Refreshments from 3.30pm

Presentations from colleagues on the impact of environmental education, projects and activities

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

All school staff welcome! Book your place now:
[WinterEcoTeachMeet20.eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/winter-eco-teach-meet-2020)

If you would like more information please contact Lee Jowett or Amy Peace, Environmental Education Team
Lee.Jowett@Leicester.gov.uk 0116 454 2271
Amy.Peace@Leicester.gov.uk 0116 454 4543



SCAN ME

[Air quality training education training](#)

Tuesday 11 March 2020, Sandfield Close Primary School, 1pm - 3.30pm

This one day course will give delegates the skills and knowledge to deliver exciting and relevant science lessons around the brand new innovative [Air Quality Education](#) offer from Leicester City Council. This course is suitable for

primary and secondary teachers (resources aimed at KS2 and KS3 students, but suitable for all year groups).

To book your place email [Amy](mailto:Amy@leicester.gov.uk) or call **0116 454 4543**

Air Quality Education Training

This one day course will give delegates the skills and knowledge to deliver exciting and relevant science lessons around the brand new innovative Air Quality Education offer from Leicester City Council. This course is suitable for primary and secondary teachers (resources aimed at KS2 and KS3 students, but suitable for all year groups)

Tuesday 10 March 2020 Sandfield Close Primary
1.00pm-3.30pm School, Leicester, LE4 7RE

Free and open to all schools in Leicester City



Why attend?

- Become confident in using resources developed by Leicester City Council – Air Quality Education team
- Be aware of free support to schools around air quality education offers including anti-idling
- Develop learning opportunities linked to the curriculum around the resources for your school
- Network with other teachers and organisations to support your school

Who would benefit from this course?
All primary and junior school teachers, primary science leads, Eco-Schools coordinators, teaching assistants, curricular Science/STEM club organisers, teachers of secondary science (KS3)



Refreshments will be provided

To book your place please email Amy.Peace@leicester.gov.uk or call 0116 454 4543

[A new STEM challenge from Practical Action](#)

Regreen the desert challenges pupils aged 7-14 to provide a solution for a community in Sudan suffering from drought as a result of climate change. Pupils explore how water pressure works then design and build a simple irrigation system. The challenge supports the UK science curriculum and is accredited for a Discovery [CREST Awards](#) so perfect for STEM/science clubs and could be used as a project for the [Big Bang Fair competition](#), [British Science week](#) and the [Great Science Share for Schools](#).

To download the free teaching materials go to practicalaction.org/schools/regreen-the-desert

‘The challenge was written to support Practical Action’s DFID Aid match campaign *Turn the tables on climate change*. To find out more about the campaign go to practicalaction.org/turn-the-tables.



[Food and Farming Day](#)

Friday 3 July, East of England Showground

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.

- 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

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

Book now
to avoid
disappointment!
01753 363514

Kids Country

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

"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: olaw@eastofengland.org.uk Tel: 01753 363514

Book now to avoid disappointment!

[Become a Community Food Volunteer](#)

An invitation to come and learn about volunteering opportunities with [The Conservation Volunteers](#) on a variety of urban food-growing sites

This workshop is a brief introduction to volunteering opportunities across a wide range of city-based food projects, including community gardens and schools.

The session will also talk about the free training available through The Conservation Volunteers for people wishing to take first steps in a career in conservation or outdoor urban projects.

The session will be followed by an optional tour of [Graceworks](#)



[Community Garden](#) and light refreshments.

[Fairtrade Fortnight 2020 – 24 February – 8 March](#)

Fairtrade Fortnight is in just 3 weeks!

To get your class excited about what's to come Fairtrade have produced a trailer for the brand new schools film '[Guardians of the Rainforest!](#)' This film tells the inspiring story of the cocoa farmers who have come together to protect the Gola Rainforest in Sierra Leone.

Your [resources](#), including 'Guardians of the Rainforest' will be available to download at the end of January. In the meantime, download your [Schools Action Guide](#) for ideas on how you can get involved in [Fairtrade Fortnight 2020](#).

Take a look at the Twitter feed ([@FairtradeUKEd](#)) to feel the excitement building in schools across the country - why not join in and let us know what you are doing too!



[What is your plastic footprint?](#)

Water bottles, coffee cups, takeaway food wrappers - it's easy to lose track of the plastic we use in our day-to-day lives.

[Earthwatch's](#) new [plastic footprint calculator](#) shows you exactly how much plastic you use when you're on the go, and gives you advice on how you can use less.

The plastics calculator focuses on the most common pollutants in rivers, because rivers are the source of up to 80% of ocean plastic.

With [Earthwatch's](#) practical recommendations you can make alternative choices and have a more positive environmental impact.



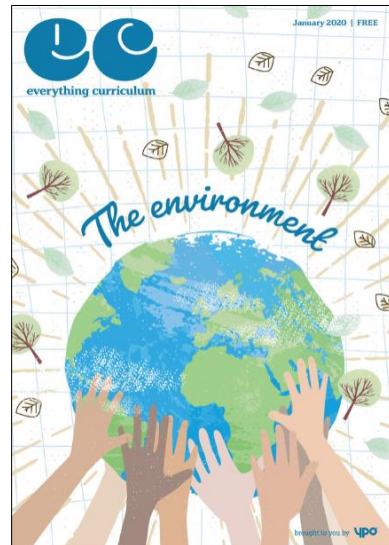
Once you've started to make changes, you can check your footprint again to see what a difference you've made.

Make sure to share your results with your friends and family to compare scores!

[Everything Curriculum – Environment Edition](#)

Especially for primary school teachers, the latest edition of our Everything Curriculum magazine is out now. Produced by YPO - it's free and full of great advice, tips and insight.

This edition is themed around the environment, [take a look](#) now.



Copyright © 2020 Leicester City Council - Sustainability Team, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because it provided information about Environmental Education. We send monthly eBulletin and termly newsletters.

Our mailing address is:

Leicester City Council – Sustainability and Energy Team
Phoenix House, King Street
Leicester, Leicestershire LE1 6RN
United Kingdom

To unsubscribe, please click [this link](#).