

# Schools' monthly eBulletin

Visit the schools extranet site schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools

# June 2020



Hope this eBulletin finds you and your family well. As always, we are **both around and available** to speak to you and colleagues in school over the phone, video calls and as always on email. We're also maintaining ebulletins, newsletter and our social media channels. **Make sure to check out our EcoTeach Webinars!** 

**Eco-Schools England** are still working remotely and able to provide any advice and support to schools as required. They are also **accepting Green Flag applications** throughout the summer term. The main difference being no assessor visits – therefore schools can apply and be approved for their Green Flag application (including renewals) **through the online application process only**.

Do take care and always, if you need any help or support email or contact us, Lee and Amy

- Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk
- <u>Amy.Peace@leicester.gov.uk</u>

### Water Fountain design competition

We are very pleased to announce **a brand-new competition for Leicester City Schools.** We are asking students from all schools of primary and secondary age to design the 'backplate' which will appear on water fountains that will be installed in Leicester City Centre later this year. Alongside each water fountain will be a display board which will highlight the winning design and shortlisted winners' schools Eco-School credentials.

To enter, students need to design the backplate bottle design. Download the entry form and submit by either scanning or photographing the entry.

Schools can enter themselves as well as parents of children who are not in school.

- Competition Poster (pdf)
- Classroom Poster (pdf)
- Design Template (pdf)

Deadline for entries is **5pm on Friday 3** July 2020.



### EcoTeach Webinars Wednesdays at 10.00 – 11.00am

Keep up to date with all things Environmental Education while social distancing. Find out about opportunities to participate in different projects and activities taking place in Leicester. Watch previous webinars can be viewed on the schools' <u>extranet.</u>

All webinars will be presented by Lee Jowett and Amy Peace with support from other colleagues.

If you would like more, information please contact the Environmental Education Team:

Lee.Jowett@Leicester.gov.uk 0116 454 2271

Amy.Peace@Leicester.gov.uk 0116 454 4543



# SUS**trans**

<u>Sustrans Leicester</u> <u>Schools Parents</u> <u>Survey</u>

This <u>survey</u> is being carried out by

Sustrans who currently work with over 60 Leicester schools to help more students to walk, scoot or cycle to school or college. This survey will help Sustrans and Leicester city council to enable more pupils to travel sustainably to school. This survey is open to all parents who have children that attend a Leicester City School.

By completing this survey your name will be entered into a **prize draw to win a bike up to a value of up to £400!** For example, it may be a Frog or Carrera bike to suit your child.

https://sustrans.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/leic ester-schools-parent-survey-2

### Leicester Schools Parent Survey

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#### Page 1

Parent Travel Survey

Welcome to the Leicester Parent Travel Survey to be completed by parents or guardians.

Sustrans currently works with over 60 Leicester schools to help more students to walk, scoot or cycle to school or college. This survey will help Sustrans and Leicester city council to enable more pupils to travel sustainably to school.

This survey is about your child's usual travel behaviour **prior to the Covid-19 crisis**, please answer thinking back to your child's travel behaviour to school during the last autumn term and then the type of travel you plan to use going forward.

By completing this survey your name will be entered into a prize draw to win a bike up to a value of up to £400! For example, it may be a Frog or Carrera bike to suit your child.

### Sustrans Outside In

Outside In is a weekly newsletter for parents full of activities and challenges for pupils to do at home to help them learn about healthy living and the benefits of cycling and walking. All the activities have been produced by a team of school officers at Sustrans and are designed to be enjoyed by a range of ages.

Parents can sign up to the newsletter on the Sustrans website.

### #EcoSchoolsAtHome

<u>Eco Schools England</u> are continuing to release a new Eco-Schools Topic handout every Tuesday at 8.00pm over 10 weeks.

The hand-outs are designed to help support those of you still working in school and those of you who are now having to home school. The resources can be adapted to enable you to work on a variety of environmental topics with young people of any age – whilst juggling a million and one other tasks and difficulties due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

• <u>#EcoSchoolsAtHome homepage</u>





### Go Wild at Home activities and resources

Whether you have a garden or yard, live in a flat or a house; there are lots of



Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust things you can do to stay connected to nature at home (and at school). You can learn something new, have fun and take action for local wildlife.

Every week, Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust is putting together a set of activities, 'how to' films and linked resources for you to try. They are aimed at children, their families and teachers and are designed to work for people who are able to access the outdoors and for those at home.

Each week there is a:

- Wildlife discovery activity
- Indoor wildlife activity
- Craft activity
- Wild web cam
- Forest School-inspired activity

You can sign up to receive the Go Wild at Home emails and see a set of sample <u>activities</u>.

When you sign up, you will also have the chance to enter our prize draw and showcase your creations!

All Forest School 'how to' films and activities can be found <u>online</u>.

These include lots things to do with sticks, mud-themed fun and exploring colour and texture.

Our Wild About Learning teachers' pack, which is designed to support and encourage teachers to take their numeracy and literacy lessons outdoors, is now available to download by year group and <u>subject</u>.

### Off School Website

Parents, carers, families and school staff... You are doing great - keep going!

Take a look at <u>www.offschool.org.uk</u>, a free website full of ideas for home learning and activities.

FREE access to:

• 100s of videos created by teachers that demonstrate fun,







quality learning opportunities that can be recreated at home.

- Teacher recommended downloadable resources.
- Links to great websites that support families across lots of topics and themes.

### 30 Days Wild in June with Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust

Can you do one wild thing a day throughout the whole of June? We believe you can! Join thousands of people taking part in our annual nature challenge, 30 Days Wild! Do it for your health, happiness, wildlife and the planet. Wildlife needs us – and at the moment, we really need it too!

Back for its sixth year, sign up has now opened to receive your free downloadable pack of goodies to help you plan wild activities throughout the month of June (and we won't tell if you start a little early either). Full of ideas of things you can do from home, why not join others taking small actions that can collectively have big impact? We love to see what you get up to, so make sure to share your actions using #30DaysWild.

We know schools are currently closed, but that doesn't mean you should miss out on 30 Days Wild! We've created new packs for you that we hope will provide your students and staff some fun and inspiring activities to do with their classes from home. With all items delivered as a digital download, you can send them out to your classes all at once or spread them out during the challenge.

Sign up for your school's pack on the Trust <u>website</u>.

### **Beat the Bug newsletter**

Our friends at Beat the Street (that many of you participated in last year) have



developed a Beat the Bug newsletter with lots of ideas.

Beat the Bug is a free online health and wellbeing programme designed to help you tackle Coronavirus and protect the NHS. It is packed with hints, tips and ideas to help individuals and families of all ages stay physically fit, strengthen their immunity and improve mental and emotional wellbeing

If you would like to find out more sign up to the <u>newsletter</u>.



#### **Bees in school grounds**

We have been contacted by an organisation who are interested in keeping 2 beehives in Leicester City and would be open to siting these on a school site.

If you are interested in hosting 1 or 2 honeybee hives in school, please contact us and we can you put you in touch with them to discuss the potential.

### Jane Goodall's Roots and Shoots resources

Jane Goodall's Roots and Shoots programme have put together some excellent resources for you to use at home and in school. Why not look and share with children in school, especially the amazing story times with Dr Jane!

- Our working/studying from home blog
- Our brand new Disney resource a whole set of activities dedicated to learning about – and improving – your local area
- <u>Story time with Jane</u> <u>Chimpanzee Family Book</u>
- <u>Story time with Jane Elephant</u> <u>Family Book</u>
- <u>Reading of Me Jane</u>





### **Rethink Food Growing Towers**

<u>Rethink Food</u> work with primary schools up and down the country.

As part of the original date set for COP26 United Nations Climate Change Conference (November 2020) they want to work with 17 schools in 17 cities (17 Global Goals!)

The project costs are fully covered in Year 1. In Year 2 onwards, schools pay £160 annually to cover support and resources or they can choose to return the tower for another school to participate.

All schools will receive a package that includes:

- Growing tower
- Educational resource
- Staff training
- UN Climate Change Challenge resource
- Platform to showcase solutions

If successful, schools will receive resources and towers from September 2020 onwards. Places are limited and on a first come first served basis. Register an expression of interest via <u>Eventbrite</u>.



### Leicester COVID-19 Transport Recovery Plan

A comprehensive document setting out how Leicester's transport system can best meet the challenges presented by the coronavirus pandemic and help the city's economy to recover, as well as securing longer-term environmental benefits, has been published by the city council.

The Leicester Covid-19 Transport Recovery Plan sets out planned actions for the coming months to create space for social distancing and safe travelling throughout the city, ranging from pop-up cycling and walking schemes to bringing





Reshaping transport in the COVID-19 recovery phase

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- a car. Alongside the result to work closely with our bus and rail operators to provide safe travel options for those that have to travel by public transport we have a unique
- provide sustainable healthy travel at empty-use day to the potential to maillocate empty traffic lanes and repurpose/extend poveneums for people to maile
- opportunity to deliver sustainable environmental, so health and economic growth server fits. This will contriignificantly to the council h. denies enverginecy and

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forward infrastructure projects including support for schools.

It can be viewed on the council <u>website</u> along with the <u>press release</u>.

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