

Welcome to the **January Sustainable Schools Leicester eBulletin**. Happy New Year!! As we were writing the last January newsletter, we had little idea what the coming year would hold. The challenges that schools have come up against have been profound, but you have risen to them and battled through. Thank you for your continued dedication and hard work. We think you are all amazing!

As we look forward to the next year, we hope that life becomes a bit easier and that focus can shift to the future. We have some exciting projects lined up and we can't wait for you to be involved.

This term we have governor/trustee training – please do forward to your governors and trustees.

#### Upcoming events and competitions:

- [Eco-Schools Governor & Trustee Training](#) - Tuesday 12 January 2021
- [Carbon Literacy Training for School Staff, Governors and Trustees](#) – Starts Wednesday 20 January 2021
- [#EcoTeachMeet](#) – Wednesday 24 February 2021 – Virtual
- [Grow Your Own Grub](#) – Deadline to sign up - Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021
- [Fairtrade Fortnight 2021](#) – 22 February to 7 March 2021

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

- [Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk)
- [Amy.Peace@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Amy.Peace@leicester.gov.uk)
- [Marc.Tench@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Marc.Tench@leicester.gov.uk)

#### [January Newsletter](#)

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

- Sustainable Schools Celebration success
- Dates for your diary
- Climate Action Fortnight evaluation
- Ashden LESS CO2 virtual programme
- eBikes for schools
- Governor training
- Carbon literacy training



**Schools news** **Sustainable Schools LEICESTER**  
January 2021

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As we look forward to the next year we hope that life becomes a bit easier and that focus can shift to the future. We have some exciting projects lined up and we can't wait for you to be involved.  
An always get in touch if you need any support, Lee, Amy and Marc.

**Sandfield Close Primary School**  
Environment, Health and Wellbeing School of the Year 2020-21

Sandfield Close were nominated in 13 categories by 5 different people for the Sustainable Schools Celebration and won 3 categories on the night. Sandfield close are always first to volunteer for a project or activity and ensure that their children get the very best life chances.  
As a school they have worked tirelessly to promote healthy living and eating to the children, their families and the community. They have informed their children and parents about the need to be interested in environmental issues and make small changes that have a big impact. During lockdown they kept their projects going and these are celebrated on their school's website. They have hit the ground running this academic year with an ambitious Global Learning Goals project for Science on Stage whereby the whole school will research different Sustainable Development Goals and create a school rally.

A huge congratulations to Sandfield Close Primary School!!!

**How to find out more**  
Lee Jowett / Amy Peace / Marc Tench  
Environmental Education Team  
Phoenix House, King Street, Leicester LE2 6RN  
or [Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk)  
or [schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools](https://schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools)  
EcoSchoolsLEIC  
EcoSchoolsLEIC  
EcoEducationLeicester  
0116 454 2271 / 4543 / 6746

Follow the work that Sandfield Close do on Twitter @SandfieldClose

Finished reading? Pass on to a colleague

- Grow Your Own Grub and pumpkin competitions
- Much more....

**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 review, created an action plan for these 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 these in-depth pieces of 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 normally visited by an external assessor at a mutually agreed time.

**Since September 2021**

**Bronze**  
Castle Mead Academy

**Green**  
Glebelands Primary School\*\*  
Moorhouse Hill Primary School  
Overdale Junior School\*\*  
Overdale Infant School\*\*  
Whitehall Primary School\*\*  
Charwood Primary School\*\*  
Merlor Community Primary School\*\*  
Holy Cross Catholic Primary School  
\*Renewals  
Correct as of 02/01/2021

**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 26 April 2021. 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)

**Taylor Road Catering Team**  
Environment, Health and Wellbeing Team of the Year 2020-21

The team worked throughout the whole of the lockdown period including school closures, providing hot meals for vulnerable children, key worker's children, meals for the homeless and food parcels for schools and vulnerable young people. The team also provided the packed lunches for the volunteers undertaking the COVID testing in Leicester. The Taylor Road team is always flexible and approachable despite all the current difficulties.

**Congratulations for all the hard work that you have done over the last few months!**

**Jane Gadsby – Stokes Wood Primary School**  
Environment, Health and Wellbeing Individual of the Year 2020-21

Jane is an inspirational leader that supports students and staff in her school. She is committed to ensuring that everyone achieves in Stokes Wood Primary School. Jane always goes the extra mile. The judges were able to hear from so many members of the environment, health and wellbeing group about how their area is supported by Jane.

**Congratulations Jane on this fantastic achievement!**

## Training and Networking Opportunities – 2021

- **#EcoTeachMeet Student Takeover** – Wednesday 24 February 2021, 3.30 – 4.30 pm [online via Microsoft Teams](#).

In a slightly different format, we want to throw out next EcoTeachMeet over to the students of Leicester. Do your students have project that would like to share? If so please complete the interest form [here](#).

All are welcome to attend to catch up on what is happening in Leicester.

Book your place now: [February #EcoTeachMeet2021](#)

- **Carbon Literacy Training for School Staff** - January 2021 (full details below).
- **Eco-Schools Governor & Trustee Training 2021** - Tuesday 12 January 2021, 4.30pm – 6.00pm - Online on Microsoft Teams (link will be sent the week before). Free and open to all schools in Leicester City (full details below).

**#EcoTeachMeet Leicester**  
**Wednesday 24 February 2021**

Leicester City Council

Online on [Microsoft Teams](#)  
Wednesday 24 February 2021  
3.30 - 4.30pm

Presentations from colleagues and children on the impact of environmental education, projects and activities happening in Leicester Schools.

If you or the young people from your school would like to present please complete the interest form [here](#) or get in touch.

All school staff welcome! Book your place now:  
[FebruaryEcoTeachMeet2021](#)

If you would like more information, please contact the Environmental Education Team [Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk)

[EnvEducationLeicester](#) [@EcoSchools.LCC](#) [schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools](http://schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools)

## Carbon Literacy Training for School Staff

In order to raise awareness through the community of Leicester we are using the Carbon Literacy Project as a way of accrediting school

**Virtual Carbon Literacy Training for School Staff, Governors & Trustees**

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 equivalent one-day course will enable participants to be carbon literate and support them deliver their own course back in school

**Training: Wednesdays 20 & 27 January, 3 February 2021**  
4.30-6.30pm each day (you need to attend all 3 sessions to pass)

**Training Delivered online via Microsoft Teams**

Who would benefit from this project: All school staff and governors with an interest in becoming carbon literate, especially those involved in teaching about climate change and the climate emergency in Years 5 and 6.



**Why participate?**

- Gain a better understanding of how climate change will affect you and those around you
- Become an accredited Carbon Literate individual
- 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 all three training online training events in January/February 2021
- 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 (at a future date to be confirmed)

**This cost of this training is £10 per person to cover accreditation**

**To book your place please book via this eForm or email [Eco-Schools@Leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-Schools@Leicester.gov.uk)**

staff and students to become carbon literate. This equivalent one-day course will enable participants to be carbon literate and support them deliver their own course back in school. Following the success of our recent virtual courses we are hosting another starting in **January 2021** on the following dates:

- **Wednesday 20 January, 4.30 – 6.30 pm**
- **Wednesday 27 January, 4.30 – 6.30 pm**
- **Wednesday 3 February, 4.30 – 6.30 pm** (*You must attend all sessions to pass*)

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### [Grow Your Own Grub and Pumpkin Garden Competition 2020-21](#)

We were very sad to cancel our 2020 food growing competitions BUT we have already started to plan this year, with adaptations to allow for changes in school.

The Mealbarrow and pumpkin garden competitions are a great way to incorporate healthy living and mental well-being into the school day as well as highlighting your growing activities to the wider school community.





- Grow Your Own Grub - for more details visit the [competition page](#) and download the flyer [here](#).
- Pumpkin Garden - for more details visit the [competition page](#) and download the flyer [here](#).

**Deadline for entries is Friday 26 February 2021 and will be filled on a first come basis.**

**Any questions please**

email [GrowYourOwnGrub@Leicester.gov.uk](mailto:GrowYourOwnGrub@Leicester.gov.uk)

**Eco-Schools Governor & Trustee Training 2021**

In Leicester there are over 100 schools registered on the Eco-Schools programme with 90 at bronze, nearly 80 at silver and 53 Green Flags. This training, delivered by Leicester City Council will support your understanding of the Green Flag award. We'll also discuss how to declare a climate emergency in school and how as a Governor or Trustee you can support the school or MAT to reduce their carbon footprint.

**Tuesday 12 January 2021**  
**4.30pm – 6.00pm** Online on Microsoft Teams  
 (link will be sent the week before)

**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.*



**Why attend?**

- Gain a greater understanding of the updated **Eco-Schools** criteria and **how to declare a climate emergency in school**
- Understand the role of the **Environmental Education/Eco-Schools link governor/trustee**
- Find out how your school can link with **Eco-Schools and similar environmental programmes** local and nationally
- **Learn more about the Let's Go Zero 2030** campaign to make schools carbon zero

**Who would benefit from this course?**  
 Any governors who have taken on the responsibility as Environmental Education/Eco-Schools Environment link as well as those who are interested to find out more



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**For questions please email [Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk)**

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