

Welcome to the **February Sustainable Schools Leicester eBulletin**. As we near half term we hope that you and all of the staff in school are well and are all coping with the constant stresses of working in education and looking forward to a proper break. As ever we are here to support you and each week we will be sending out an Eco-School at Home playlist which can be done in school or at home. These will cover all 10 Eco-Topics and are suitable for nursery, primary and secondary schools. More details below.

The eBulletin provides lots of information for projects that your schools can get involved in along with recent competition updates and a host of useful resources.

### Upcoming events and competitions:

- [#EcoTeachMeet](#) – Wednesday 24 February 2021 – Virtual via Teams
- [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)

### [Eco Schools at Home](#)

Each week the Environmental Education Team will be sending out an **Eco-Schools at home playlist** and set of activities which can be completed at home.

Each week there will be a YouTube play list with an introduction to the topic, interesting videos about the topic and finally a walkthrough of how to use the Eco-Schools at topic worksheet. Each Playlist is between 10 and 16 minutes.

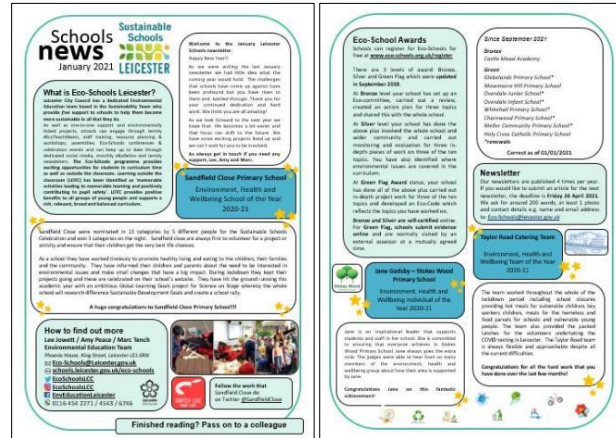
All topics can be viewed on the Eco-Schools at Home Resources [Extranet Page](#)



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



## [New College gain guardianship of Alice Hawkins](#)

We received over 150 amazing essays from secondary students across Leicester. They were really inspiring to read.

The overall winner selected by the judging panel was Gracie, a Year 10 student from New College Leicester. New College now become custodians of the statue of Alice produced by Liverpool sculptor Philip Garrett, which was kindly donated to the Alice Hawkins Legacy Group, to proudly display in the school ensuring it is looked after and interpreted for generations to come.

Read Gracie's essay on the competitions [extranet page](#).



## [Polli:Nation for the Next Generation](#)

We'll have more details in March 2021, but we wanted to let you know that we will be soon recruiting 24 schools to participate in a year-long project to increase pollinators in school grounds and the wider community. Further information available on our recent [press release](#).



If you would like to be first on the list to find out more please email [eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk).

### [Training and Networking Opportunities – 2021](#)

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

Presentations from colleagues on the impact of environmental education, projects and activities happening in Leicester schools. If you would like to present 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](#)



### [3D Printer Competition Winner](#)

Taylor Road Primary School will soon be the proud owners of a 3D printer after one of their Year 1 students won a competition to design a water saving device.

The winning design was a device to wash cars using rainwater, especially useful for those that live in flats.

The printer was donated after Severn Trent's Coronavirus Fund was used to buy a 3D printer to produce PPE for local NHS and care workers at hospitals in Leicester during the COVID-19 crisis and the printer is now kindly being donated to the city.

## [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.**

**For more information email:**

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



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### Fairtrade fortnight

Karen Bevan, Member & Community Relations Officer for the Co-op Southern Region, is offering Fairtrade presentation that covers what Fairtrade is, how it helps, and why the Co-op supports Fairtrade and provide ideas of what you can do to support the project. The 20-minute session involves a presentation, a film and a quiz and takes place via Zoom.

If you would like further information, please contact Karen directly.

Karen Bevan

Member & Community Relations Office,  
Southern Region Telephone: 07801468340 or  
Email: [karen.bevan@centralengland.coop](mailto:karen.bevan@centralengland.coop)



## [Practical Action – Farmers’ Footsteps](#)

Whether you are delivering on-line or school-based lessons the NEW resource 'Farmers' footsteps' will inspire your pupils.

Based on [Practical Action's](#) work in Nepal, Farmers' footsteps introduces pupils to six Nepalese farmers, each with their own story to tell about how climate change has made their lives harder. Taking on the role of the farmers, the pupils play a board game which brings to life the challenges of growing food and getting goods to market. However, the dice rolls, there's much to learn along the path!

### STEM challenges - Update

All of Practical Action's fabulous [STEM challenges](#) set in real life contexts have been updated. Visit the website for more details:

[practicalaction.org/schools/stem-challenges/](http://practicalaction.org/schools/stem-challenges/)



### Free strawberry plantlets

We have about 150 small bareroot strawberry plantlets available now to go to schools, on a first come, first served basis.

You can plant about 20 plants in a 1x1 metre square if you are thinking of planting them in a raised bed. They can be posted to school and need to be planted within a few days of arrival.

If you would like some please email [eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk)



### [Plastic Free Schools](#)

**We're here to help you weather the storm.**

We recognise that our teachers are having a challenging start to 2021, but we want to reassure you that our support is still here! This newsletter features resources from [Digital Ocean School](#) to lesson plans, that can be used for pupils learning in class or online, and a reminder that many of the



Plastic Free Schools objectives can be achieved remotely.

### Join our Digital Ocean School!

During the first lockdown in 2020, we adapted our Ocean School, which is normally held on the beach, and created video lessons, quizzes, challenges and accompanying resources for 14 whole weeks.

All of this is still freely available on the [SAS website!](#)

Expect rock pool raps, waste creations and waves of optimism. We would love for you and your pupils to get involved and use what we have created, so check it out below.

### Win a Prize for Your School by Taking our Survey

Whether you have completed the programme or not, we want to hear from you. Your feedback will help us to develop and improve what we offer and secure funding for the future of our education work.

As a thank you for your time, we would like to enter you into a prize draw to win 40 Hydro Flask bottles for your school.

[Take the survey](#)



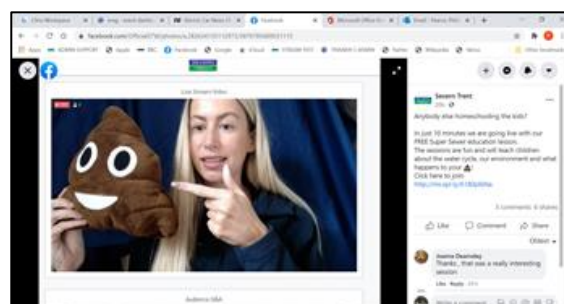
### Severn Trent Education Offer

My name is Phil and I work as an Education Officer for Severn Trent. **I'd really like to help out with your schools remote and in school learning during these challenging times and wanted to offer our free education programme to your pupils.** Usually, our team of educators would visit schools across our region to deliver free assemblies and workshops and recently we've adapted our approach so we can still deliver our sessions but through a livestream instead.

Our session is all about the journey of sewage and is interactive, informative and above all fun with videos, demonstrations, props, pictures and even a song! We cover topics such as the water cycle, the environment and what should and shouldn't go into our sewers.

We have three ways we can deliver our session:

WONDERFUL ON TAP



- **Invite your pupils to watch a public live session** - every weekday 4 live sessions are hosted by one of our educators which are open to the public. The links are posted on our Facebook page and I can share them with you if you need me too.
- **Book a dedicated session for your school to watch at home or in school** by replying to this email. Children in school **and** at home can all join the same session to be with their classmates!
- **Book a dedicated session for your school for when schools are due to reopen by replying to this email.**

All of our livestream sessions are accessed by a link that once clicked opens the stream, all your school/pupils will need is access to the internet.

I really hope I can help out by delivering our session and welcome any questions you may have. I look forward to hearing from you, take care and stay safe

**Phil Pearce, Education Officer, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire** Tel: 07703718340 or E-mail: [philip.pearce@severntrent.co.uk](mailto:philip.pearce@severntrent.co.uk)

## Living Streets

Living Streets has produced resources for primary schools to use at-home or in-school, as well as an update on temporary changes we've made to the WOW Travel Tracker.

### Living Streets #WalkingFromHome Activities for Families

- **ACTIVITY DIARY:** Five fun walking activities to support families to keep children active. From sensory walks to i-spy, to designing your own zebra crossing. The link to send to pupils' families is here: [Download Living Streets Activity Diary](#).
- **ACTIVITY BOOKLET:** Fourteen sets of activities for families to support their children in learning about important themes while staying active. Each resource sheet includes three activities; one for the little ones, one for older children, and one special indoor activity. Link to send to families is: [Download Living Streets Activity Booklet here](#).

### Living Streets Lesson Plan for In-Class or Remote Learning



Curriculum-linked 60-minute lesson plan looking at 'FOOTPRINTS – humans and animals walking'. We had initially created this resource for delivery in the classroom, but schools may like to adapt it for remote learning or for families to use at home.

[Download the KS1 and KS2 lesson plans here.](#)

They're all available to download from this page:

[www.livingstreets.org.uk/get-involved/walking-from-home](http://www.livingstreets.org.uk/get-involved/walking-from-home)

### Temporary changes to WOW Travel Tracker – effective from 25 January

With much of schools learning now online, and many pupils at home, Living Streets has made some temporary developments to the WOW Travel Tracker to allow pupils who are not travelling to school to record physical activity they do at home. It's been renamed the WOW Activity Tracker and is now live. It's exactly the same as the current Travel Tracker and schools will have the same log-ins as before – but alongside the normal travel to school modes, we've included options that focus on indoor and outdoor physical activity at home e.g. walking from home.

A full update and FAQs about the changes in will have been sent out to all WOW schools separately but if you have any further questions, please get in touch.

**Katie France** Project Coordinator (Leicester) Living Streets *Working in partnership with Leicester City Council* **Email:** [katie.france@livingstreets.org.uk](mailto:katie.france@livingstreets.org.uk) or **phone:** **07808 640305**

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### [BioLearn Secondary Schools Challenge - bringing nature inside](#)

The BioLearn Challenge invites schools to rethink how their school and community can become more sustainable. It uses nature as the inspiration to create solutions to human design challenges. For example, buildings need to conserve heat to reduce energy use, yet nature has ways of staying warm without an external energy source; can we mimic nature's solutions? The Challenge has:

- Real-world application for science and design
- Strong links with STEM and D&T curriculum
- Supports competences in working scientifically
- Supports school sustainability work
- Links to STEM careers and Science Capital

The BioLearn Challenge is suitable for delivering face-to-face, digitally or blended learning, or as part of a STEM Club activity.

The [website is available now](#), with the challenge launch taking place on 15 March 2021. The deadline for entries is 17 May 2021.

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