



Schools' monthly eBulletin

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

March 2021



Welcome to the **March Sustainable Schools Leicester eBulletin**. We hope that you have had a restful half term and we are sure you are looking forward to welcoming all your students back next week.

We know that this last half term has been particularly stressful – we think you are all amazing! As ever we are here to support you and each week, we continue to 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:

- [Grow Your Own Grub](#) – Online Training – Thursday 11th March, 4.30 – 5.30pm
- [Fairtrade Fortnight 2021](#) – 22th February to 7th March 2021
- [Pumpkin Garden Competition Deadline](#) – Friday 12th March
- [Eco-Schools: Getting Back on Track with you Green Flag](#) – Wednesday 21st April, 4.30 – 5.30pm
- [#EcoTeachMeet](#) – Wednesday 5th May @Nether Hall School, 4.00 – 5.30pm
- [Carbon Literacy Training](#) – Commencing Monday 10th May 4.30 – 6.30pm for three weeks

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

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

[Eco Schools at Home](#)

Each week the Environmental Education Team will continue to 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](#)



[Follow us on Social Media](#)

The Environmental Education Team have their own social media channels where you can keep up to date with all things sustainability in schools.

We also have a new Facebook page. Give us a follow!



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[EcoSchoolsLCC](#)



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schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools



[EcoSchoolsLCC](#)



Eco-School@leicester.gov.uk

[Get Together Growing Grants](#)

Food for Life are offering small grants of £150 from June 2020 to April 2021. The grants are to support community led food growing, cooking and sharing activity and Get Togethers. Applications are open on a rolling basis with the next assessment and award deadlines being **12th March 2021**. Both of these have a focus on growing activity.

For more information on eligibility and how to apply visit our [support page](#).

If you would like any further information on the Food for Life Get Togethers programme and the support available please visit the [Get Together website](#) or contact us in the Midlands team at midlands@fflgettogethers.org



Training and Networking Opportunities – 2021

- **Eco-Schools: Getting Back on Track with your Green Flag** - Wednesday 21 April 2021, 4.30 - 5.30pm, Online via Teams

A session to offer support for refocusing on your Eco-Schools Green Flag Award. We will discuss the current Eco-Schools criteria and provide suggestions for projects and be able to answer any questions you may have.

To register complete this [eForm](#).

- **#EcoTeachMeet** - Wednesday 5 May 2021, 4.00 - 5.30pm @ **Nether Hall School**, Keyham Lane West, Leicester, LE5 1RT

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

All school staff welcome!

To register to attend or present please complete the following eForm: [MayEcoTeachMeet2021](#)

If you would like more information, please contact the Environmental Education Team Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk

It is our intention to host this event in person however we will monitor the Covid-19 situation and switch to a virtual session if necessary.

- **Carbon Literacy Training** – Commencing Monday 10th May 4.30 – 6.30pm for three weeks. Open to all school staff and governors.

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. The next course will take place on Microsoft Teams on the following dates:

- Monday 10 May, 4.30 – 6.30pm
- Monday 17 May, 4.30 – 6.30pm
- Monday 24 May, 4.30 – 6.30pm

You need to attend all 3 sessions to pass.

#EcoTeachMeet Leicester
Wednesday 5 May 2021

Leicester City Council

Nether Hall School
Keyham Lane West, Leicester, LE5 1RT
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[EnvEducationLeicester](#) [@EcoSchoolLCC](#) schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools

[Food For Life Plant and Share](#)

Plant and Share Month is a celebration of growing your own. From **19 April - 19 May 2021**, we are encouraging the nation to dig in and sow, grow and share veg with their communities.

Whether you're growing in yogurt pots for the first time or you're a seasoned grower with an allotment, Plant and Share Month is for you. It's easy to get involved:

1. **Plant your seeds** - prizes for the most original container used!
2. **Help them grow** - we'll give you everything you need to show you how
3. **Share the seedlings** - and tell us who you shared them with on Facebook or Twitter using #FFLGetTogethers

Ready to spread the joy of home-grown food? Take part in our free [online training](#) to boost your skills, check out our [growing resources](#), and join our [digital community](#) to swap tips and ideas. Finally, sign up to our mailing list for more information and be the first to hear about our Plant and Share Toolkit launch.

Keep up to date on this event at our dedicated Plant and Share Month [webpage](#).



[Outlearn – For those who love the outdoors](#)

The Outlearn website has a host of resources to help inspire anyone wanting to take their learning outside. These resources can give you guidance and good practise towards areas that you may not feel confident in. The only way of embracing these resources is to make that initial first step forward.

From [sensory activities](#) to [bushcraft](#), there are plenty of activities to choose from. Find out more visit the [website](#).



[Pumpkin Garden Competition 2020-21](#)

We have extended the deadline for this year's Pumpkin Garden Competition. If you would like to sign up please complete the [eForm](#).

For more details visit the [competition page](#) and download the flyer [here](#).

Deadline for entries is now Friday 12th March 2021.

For more information email: GrowYourOwnGrub@Leicester.gov.uk



[Creative Earth Competition](#)

Creative Earth is an art competition for people aged 16 and under from across the UK, run by the UN COP26 Climate Change Conference in collaboration with WWF.

As part of the Together for Our Planet campaign, they're inviting young people to get creative and show global leaders the world they want to live in.

Whether it's green forests and garden cities, clear skies and wind turbines or oceans teeming with life – paint, draw or design a piece of art that shows how you'd like our planet to look in the future.

The UK is hosting COP26 in Glasgow in November 2021, bringing together world leaders to tackle climate change and ensure a better future for us all.

Enter the competition to be in with a chance of having your artwork displayed at COP26 and show the rest of the world your vision for the future.

Teachers and youth group leaders, this is a great thought-provoking activity for a group of young people to do together, and it's easy to submit entries. For details on how to take part visit the COP26 [website](#):



Helmet Hijabs Competition

Helmet Hijabs and Hair' is a competition from **Sustrans** launching on International women's Day weekend 5th - 8th March. **The aim of the campaign is to:**

- Give young women a voice and a platform
- Get young women of ALL backgrounds thinking about cycling as an option for them, including young women from backgrounds that are less represented in the cycling world and who may face additional barriers to cycling and helmet wearing (African, Caribbean, Middle Eastern and South Asian heritage people are under-represented)
- Help ALL young women, and especially those who face additional barriers to helmet wearing and cycling, to feel confident and positive to cycle with a helmet if they want to, including cycling to school

What's the plan?

Secondary School and College aged students will be invited to send in photos of themselves and/or pictures that they have drawn with suggested hairstyles or hijab styles that will work especially well with cycle helmets.

Our focus is on encouraging and involving young women of Secondary school and college age to cycle, but everyone can take part. Which means clients, volunteers, and staff are all welcome to submit photos.

Follow this link (<https://youtu.be/s9Mf-hMJ7fU>) to the #HelmetHijabsAndHair video, for easy to follow instructions on how to take part in the prize giving competition. To win, design a hair or Hijab style which can be worn with a bike helmet. We are really looking forward to seeing your entries. *Winning entries will choose between a hairdresser voucher for a hairdresser of choice or a voucher for cycling equipment.* Good luck!

For more information and to receive a copy of the launch assembly slides, contact Anna Singleton at Sustrans: anna.singleton@sustrans.org.uk.



Check out this webinar on Friday 5th March at 4.30pm, hosted by Sustrans Midlands & East:

International Women's Day Cycling Spotlight: Identities, Barriers & Freedoms

Get your ticket here: <https://tinyurl.com/dmh4frs5>

There's an amazing panel of speakers lined up who will talk about overcoming their own barriers to inspire others to get involved.

[Beaumont Leys Project Bees Crowdfunder](#)

All you need is BEES! 🐝 Be part of creating community apiary at Beaumont Leys. Pledge £2 or more to support this project. Money will be taken only if the project will hit its target.

Mowmacre Hill Primary School is in the centre of their community and community apiary will help bring people together through beekeeping. Participants will learn new skills including: how to look after bees, about bees as an important element in the local nature, pollinator plants, how to prepare healthy food and much more.

The project will work with people from different socio-economic backgrounds and support people with additional needs, the aim to improve participant wellbeing.

The community apiary will be based at the school and will be utilised by teachers and pupils to support the curriculum. Children will be learning about bees in practical sessions with the apiary a vital asset in children's learning as part of their curricular and cross-curricular activities in and out of school.

For more information visit the Spacehive [website](#).



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