



# Schools' monthly eBulletin

Visit the schools extranet site [schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools](https://schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools)

April 2021



Welcome to the **April Sustainable Schools Leicester eBulletin**. We hope that you had chance to bask in the sunshine (and snow!) during the Easter break. We have been busy making plans for the next term and are excited to get back into schools once more, as well as seeing you when we are delivering Polli:Nation for the Next Generation (Polli:Gen), Summer Reading Challenge workshops and Carbon Literacy.

We also welcome Hollie Campbell, our new Graduate Project Officer to the team. With our ever-expanding team, we have provided information of who is your best contact for projects and queries. You can find this in the Newsletter on page 4.

We'll continue to run online training this term, getting back into Eco-Schools, Carbon Literacy and Earth Day which is 22 April 2021. However, we are now able to attend schools to offer outdoor meetings and activities including litter picks. Please do get in touch if you would like support in the area. Here's to an exciting term!

## Upcoming events and competitions:

- [Eco-Schools: Getting Back on Track with your Green Flag](#) – Online, Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April, 4.30 – 5.30pm
- [Earth Day 2021](#) – Online, Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 10 am and 2pm
- [#EcoTeachMeet](#) –@Nether Hall School, Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May, 4.00 – 5.30pm
- [Carbon Literacy Training](#) – Online, commencing Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 4.30 – 6.30pm for three weeks
- [Summer Reading Challenge workshops](#), in school, Monday 7 June – Friday 2 July 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)
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The latest newsletter can be downloaded from the schools' extranet. It contains information about all the upcoming events as well as:

- Earth Day Celebrations
- Dates for your diary
- Environmental Education Team roles and responsibilities
- Climate Dice
- Sustrans Big Pedal
- Jane Goodall's Roots and Shoots Mission Updates
- Carbon literacy training
- Great Big Green Week
- Much more....

Read the newsletter on the extranet here: [schools.leicester.gov.uk/services/environment-health-and-well-being/environmental-education/newsletters-and-e-bulletins](https://schools.leicester.gov.uk/services/environment-health-and-well-being/environmental-education/newsletters-and-e-bulletins)

**Sustainable Schools news**  
April 2021  
LEICESTER

Welcome to the April Leicester Schools newsletter. We hope that you had time to look in the calendar (and scroll) during the Easter break. We have been busy making plans for the next term and are excited to get back into schools, once more and seeing you where we are delivering. Publication for the Next Generation (2021/2022), Summer Reading Challenge, 'Actionzone' and Carbon Literacy. We also welcome Hollie Campbell, our new Graduate Project Officer to the team. With our ever-expanding team, we have provided information of who is your best contact for projects and queries. You can find this on page 4. We'll continue to run online training - this term, getting back into Eco-Schools, Carbon Literacy and Earth Day which is 22 April 2021! Here's to an exciting term! As always get in touch if you need any support. Lee, Amy, Mary and Hollie

**What is Eco-Schools Leicester?**  
Leicester City Council has a dedicated Environmental Education team based in the Sustainability Team who provide free support to schools to help them become more sustainable in all that they do. As well as one-to-one support and environmentally led projects, schools can engage through termly EcoConferences, staff training, resource planning & workshops, assemblies, Eco-Schools conferences & celebratory events and can keep up to date through dedicated social media, monthly ebulletins and termly newsletters. The Eco-Schools programme provides exciting opportunities for students in curriculum time as well as outside the classroom. RISE has been identified as 'memorable activities leading to memorable learning and positively contributing to pupil safety'. RISE provides positive benefits to all groups of young people and supports a rich, relevant, broad and balanced curriculum.

**A SPECIAL BIRTHDAY MESSAGE TO DR. JANE GOODALL!** On the 13 April 2021, Dr. Jane Goodall celebrated her 87th birthday! She is an incredible, inspirational woman who has inspired and motivated millions of people around the globe to live in greater harmony with nature and to take action on behalf of the planet we share. We have worked with the Jane Goodall Roots and Shoots programme since 2016 and several schools have met Dr. Jane in London. You can watch a birthday tribute video, featuring a very familiar face on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...).

**How to find out more**  
Lee Jowett / Amy Pease / Marc Finch / Hollie Campbell  
Environmental Education Team  
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Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk  
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EcoSchoolsLCC  
EcoEducationLeicester  
0116 454 2271 / 4543 / 6746 / 4048

**Save the date!**  
Green Day  
17 June 2021

**EARTH DAY**  
APRIL 22

Finished reading? Pass on to a colleague

### 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!



[EnvEducationLeicester](https://www.facebook.com/EnvEducationLeicester)



[EcoSchoolsLCC](https://www.instagram.com/EcoSchoolsLCC)



[EcoSchoolsLCC](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)



[EcoSchoolsLCC](https://twitter.com/EcoSchoolsLCC)



[schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools](https://schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools)



[Eco-School@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-School@leicester.gov.uk)



### Drinks can recycling scheme

We are encouraging all schools in the city to help recycle fizzy drinks cans (not food cans). Please send unsquashed cans (in the boxes that paper reams arrive in are perfect) to Sarah Tovey, "Can recycling", The Post Room, Pilot House, King Street, Leicester, LE1 1FW.

Please note these can be collected by the internal post (for free) – if you do not have the internal schools post, they will need to be dropped off.

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

- **Monday 10 May, 4.30 – 6.30 pm**
- **Monday 17 May, 4.30 – 6.30 pm**
- **Monday 24 May, 4.30 – 6.30 pm**  
(You must attend all sessions to pass)

### 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 own 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 May 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)

## 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: Mondays 10, 17 and 24 May 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 8.



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- 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)



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

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## Training and Networking Opportunities – Summer Term 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](mailto:Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk)

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

**Eco-Schools Training**  
**Getting back on track with your Green Flag**

**FREE Online Training course:**  
Wednesday 21 April 2021, 4.30-5.30pm  
and a chance for an informal catch-up after.  
Sign up [here](#)

- Are you wanting to get back on track with progress towards your schools Eco-Schools Green Flag?
- Has your Eco-Schools Green Flag lapsed and you are unsure what to do about it?
- Are you wanting to find out more about Eco-Schools and how to gain the Green Flag award?

**If the answer to any of these questions is "Yes", then come along and find out more!**

**In Leicester there are now 54 schools with the prestigious Green Flag Award putting us number one in England!** This training, delivered by Leicester City Council, will provide top tips for working on Eco-Schools when you are working in bubbles, ideas for new projects, things that have gone well this year, things that maybe haven't and a chance to pair up with colleagues.

**Who would benefit from this course?**  
Eco-leads and all school staff with an interest in environmental education - heads, deputy heads, assistant heads, classroom teachers, TAs, support staff, premises officers, business managers and governors/trustees.

The Eco-Schools programme provides exciting opportunities for students in curriculum time as well as outside the classroom. Learning outside of the classroom (LOTC) has been identified as 'memorable activities leading to memorable learning and positively contributing to pupil safety'. LOTC provides positive benefits to all groups of young people and supports a rich, relevant, broad and balanced curriculum.

For more information please contact:  
**Lee Jowett, Amy Peace & Marc Tench**  
Environmental Education Team  
✉ [Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk)  
🌐 [schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools](https://schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools)  
📧 [EcoSchoolsCC](mailto:EcoSchoolsCC)  
📺 [EnvEducationLeicester](#)  
☎ 0116 454 2271 / 4543 / 6746



**#EcoTeachMeet Leicester**  
**Wednesday 5 May 2021**



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

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

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To register to attend or present please complete the following eForm:  
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If you would like more information, please contact the Environmental Education Team [Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto: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.

 [EnvEducationLeicester](#)  [@EcoSchoolsCC](#)  [@EcoSchoolsCC](#)  
 [schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools](https://schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools)

## [Earth Day – Thursday 22nd April 2021](#)

Join the environmental education team on Thursday 22 April to celebrate Earth Day with a 15-minute presentation via Microsoft Teams followed by up to 15 questions and answers.

This year, Earth Day is a three-day event to call for climate action, with the theme Restore Our Earth™. Live events are taking place across the world, so visit the [website](#) to find out how you can watch!

If you would like your class, Eco-team or whole school to join in please complete this [eForm](#) if you would like your class.

Presentations will take place at 10am and 2pm. Both sessions will be identical, so you only need to attend one session.



**Earth Day**  
**20-22 April 2021**

This year, Earth Day is a three-day event to call for climate action, with the theme **Restore Our Earth™**. Live events are taking place across the world, so visit the [website](#) to find out how you can watch!

**Earth Day Presentation for Leicester Schools**

**Thursday 22 April 2021**  
**10am and 2pm**

The environmental education team can deliver two identical 15-minute presentations via Microsoft Teams followed by questions and answers on this year's Earth Day theme.

Please complete this [eForm](#) if you would like your class, eco-team or whole school to join!



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## [Sustrans Big Pedal family photo and video competition](#)

**Your school doesn't need to be signed up for families to take part in this.**

The Big Pedal family competition gives parents and guardians the chance to win one of three amazing prize bundles for their family. All they need to do is take a photo or a short video of their child(ren) taking part in Big Pedal between 19-30 April. Post it to Instagram, Facebook or Twitter, tag @Sustrans and use #BigPedalWin. Families whose children are remote learning can still take part from home.

[Find out more information](#)

Don't forget to sign your school up to the Big Pedal <https://bigpedal.org.uk/>. It is a National Active Travel School Competition that includes walking, cycling and scooting!



## [Summer Reading Challenge](#)

This year's challenge will run in Leicester libraries 26 June - 31 August. Stand up for the future of our planet by joining in a celebration of reading, nature and action for the environment.

The Environmental Education Team at Leicester City Council are offering free 90 minute in-school workshops suitable for Y2 - Y6, including a book reading or review and a mix of environmental and literacy activities workshops. These are available between **Monday 7 June – Friday 2 July 2021** (workshop numbers are limited – one year group per school).

### **Weekly Challenges during the summer - 12 July 2021 – 20 August 2021**

Mini challenges featuring a different environmental theme each week will be featured on our [website](#) and social channels alongside the Wild World Heroes!

If you would like more information or to book, please contact the Environmental Education Team [Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk) - the deadline for bookings is 29 April.



**Summer Reading Challenge 2021** **WILD WORLD HEROES**

This year's challenge will run in Leicester libraries 26 June - 31 August. Stand up for the future of our planet by joining in a celebration of reading, nature and action for the environment.

Free workshops delivered by the Environmental Education Team with Leicester libraries between

**Monday 7 June – Friday 2 July 2021**

A 90 minute workshop delivered in school suitable for Y2-Y6, including a book reading or review and a mix of environmental and literacy activities.

**Workshop numbers are limited – one year group per school**

**Weekly Challenges during the summer 12 July 2021 – 20 August 2021**

Mini challenges featuring a different environmental theme each week will be featured on our [website](#) and social channels alongside the Wild World Heroes!

If you would like more information or to book, please contact the Environmental Education Team [Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk) as soon as possible – the deadline for bookings is 29 April.

Supporting public funding by **ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND** **Leicester City Council** **Sustainable Schools LEICESTER** **WWF** **WORLDWIDE LEADERSHIP FOR OUR PLANET** **READING** **READING**

## [AimHi's Climate & Nature Course](#)

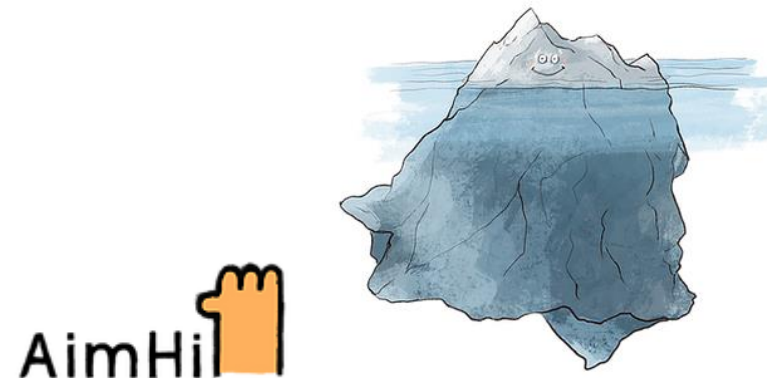
Everything you need to know about climate, nature and how to make a difference. A live and empowering four-part course.

Bringing together top-level scientists, educators, behavioural psychologists and expert communicators to equip you with all you need to know about climate, nature and how to make a difference.

Get to grips with key climate concepts in four short interactive lessons and feel empowered to make positive change, break through misinformation and focus on solutions.

This course is recommended for people aged 16 and above. You don't need any prior knowledge to attend.

Find out more on their website: <https://www.aimhi.co/climate-course>



PARTNERS & FUNDERS



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## Sustrans Champions

Sustrans have an exciting incentive to encourage schools to sign up and record journeys for at least one day (all schools can choose the length of the challenge, it can be one day, one week, two weeks and individual classes can participate). All schools that sign up and enter one days' worth of journey data will be entered into a PRIZE DRAW for a visit by....

<https://extrememountainbikeshow.co.uk/danny-butler/>

It's an incredibly exciting show and will, if successful, be offered to you in the Summer term in your school's playground! For information contact:

[Anna.Singleton@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:Anna.Singleton@sustrans.org.uk) or [Mel.Gould@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:Mel.Gould@sustrans.org.uk)

We would love to share a link with you to the International Women's Day Interviews with school teaching staff from several Leicester schools! Here's the link to the interviews

<https://www.facebook.com/704340226291515/videos/3280381392062555/>

Thank you so much to all those who took part, sharing your tips on how to combine cycling to work with a busy job and hearing your stories was inspiring.



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