

# Schools' monthly eBulletin

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



Dear Nosaiba,

Welcome to the **July Sustainable Schools Leicester eBulletin**. We have been delivering our Summer Reading Challenge workshops in schools over the last month, tackling issues from plastic pollution, to litter, to carbon emissions! A huge thank you goes out to the Library Services team for helping to bring books to life for all the children we met along the way. There were smiles all round at the launch event (pictured).

The team also really enjoyed the Clean Air Day events at schools across the city. You were all doing your bit to bring attention to the issue of air pollution in very creative ways, which we loved



to see. Hollie and Amy even delivered earthworm survey workshops at Catherine Junior School and got very muddy hands in the process!

This month is Plastic Free Month, with 3 July being Plastic Bag Free Day. There is a lot of attention on reducing plastic use, so why not take a closer look at your habits?

# In late August we'll be shared a full calendar, but for now - upcoming events and competitions:

- Grow Your Own Grub Celebration Event Abbey Pumping Station, Saturday 3 July
- Great Big Green Week 18 September 26 September, including:
- Environmental Film Festival Phoenix Cinema, Monday 20 Thursday 23 September
- Secondary School's Conference online, Tuesday 21 September, <u>eForm</u>
- Great Big Green Litter Pick and Climate March Abbey Park, Friday 24 September, eForm
- Documentary Media Centre Newsroom online (Facebook page), Wednesday 29 September

Have a restful summer and look forward to working with you in the autumn term. Do take care and, as always, if you need any help or support email or contact us.

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There is still time to complete our annual end of year survey. This survey helps us to understand how best we can support schools and plan activities for next academic year. You can complete the survey via our <u>eForm</u> – this typically takes 10 minutes to complete (deadline to complete – Friday 16 July 2021)

#### July Newsletter

The latest newsletter can be downloaded from the schools' extranet (and attached to this email).

It contains information about all the upcoming events as well as:

- Litter Less
- Dates for your diary 2021/22
- Environmental Education Team roles and responsibilities
- LOROS Rocket Round Leicester
- Wildlife Trust Green Influencers Scheme
- Polli:Gen updates
- BESS Energy
- Great Big Green Week
- Much more....

You can read the newsletter on the schools' extranet.





# Summer Reading Challenge mini challenges

From 12 July – 20 August, we will be hosting weekly mini challenges for the Summer Reading Challenge on <u>the schools' extranet</u> and social media channels. Each challenge will feature a different animal and environmental issue to tie in with the Wild World Heroes theme of the main challenge!

If you would like more information ahead of the event, please contact the Environmental Education Team at <u>Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk</u>.



#### Livin' Farms

Introducing... **The Hive Explorer**! Livin Farms has created a plug-and-play mealworm farm designed especially for education within schools, with the ambition of closing the food waste loop. The Hive Explorer is an easy-to-use device that will take you on a journey of up-cycling food waste, producing natural fertiliser and learning how to live sustainably from our oldest allies: insects. All from the comfort of a desk, table, or floor!



You can find out more information about this fascinating programme at <u>The Hive Explorer website</u>, or contact Sovina at <u>sovina@livinfarms.com</u> to discuss your school's needs and book a demonstration.

## Grow Your Own Grub Celebration – 12noon-3pm, Saturday 3 July 2021

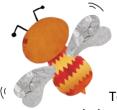


This year the Grow Your Own Grub celebration will return and be at <u>Abbey Pumping Station</u>.

The event which will be attended by around 25 mealbarrows will be an opportunity for this year's entries to showcase their growing wheelbarrow and menu.

Fifty percent of the score is achieved on the day – so do come along and pick your favourite mealbarrow. We'll send out a further flyer in a couple of weeks – but do save the date as it will be a fantastic opportunity.

#### **LCBee Depot**



As part of the greening the courtyard initiative at LCB, they'll be introducing a hive of bees from July, called the Elsie Bees! There will be a **launch event at the LCB Depot on Thursday 15 July**, 2.30-4.30pm for children aged 5-11. This will include a talk with a beekeeper and a book reading, among other bee related activities!

To make the new bees feel at home, BBC Radio 2 are also holding a **Big Bee Challenge**. Can you help them draw some Big Bees to populate the garden? Send them (no bigger than A4) to LCB Depot, 31 Rutland Street, Leicester, LE1 1RE.

BBC Radio 2 are also asking for garden designers around the country to design their perfect garden for bees. The closing date is **6pm on Monday 5 July 2021**. For more information on all these exciting events, visit <u>the LCB</u> <u>depot blog</u>.

### Young Co-operator Awards

The Central England Co-op have launched their first-ever Young Co-operator Awards – a celebration of amazing young people who have gone above and beyond for their local community during the last year.

You can nominate any young person aged between 0-17 living in the catchment area of Central England Co-op. There are 10 awards categories (Young Environmental Hero of the Year caught our eye!) to nominate for up until **2 August 2021**. The winners will be announced in September, and all have the

chance to win a trophy and a huge range of other prizes. They will also be invited to work with the Co-op as ambassadors!

For more information on the Awards and how to nominate, visit the Awards webpage.

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