

Schools news

January 2022



What is Eco-Schools Leicester?

Leicester City Council has a dedicated Sustainable Schools team based in the Energy & 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 linked projects, schools can engage through termly #EcoTeachMeets, staff training, resource planning & workshops, assemblies, Eco-Schools conferences & celebration 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. Learning outside the classroom (LOT) has been identified as 'memorable activities leading to memorable learning and positively contributing to pupil safety'. LOT provides positive benefits to all groups of young people and supports a rich, relevant, broad and balanced curriculum.

Welcome to the January 2022 Leicester Schools newsletter. Happy New Year! We hope you have had chance to charge the batteries for the next term. Last year we celebrated the end of face-to-face delivery or Polli:Gen which has been a very successful project. We welcomed Molly to the team who is leading on the education work in the Saving the Saffron Brook Project and as of 1 January, Laura joins us to take on several low carbon education projects. We are looking forward to getting carbon literacy off the ground again in schools as well. We'll be busy planning our Great Big Green Month which will be taking place in May 2022 as well as our annual litter campaign – this year called Less Litter Leicester! Another tongue twister! **As always, get in touch if you need any support - Lee, Marc, Molly, Hollie and Laura**



Big Schools' Birdwatch 2022

[REGISTER NOW](#) →

How to find out more Environmental Education Team

City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester LE1 1FZ

✉ Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk

🌐 schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools

🐦 [EcoSchoolsLCC](#)

📷 [EcoSchoolsLCC](#)

📘 [EnvEducationLeicester](#)

☎ 0116 454 2271



This year's Big Schools' Birdwatch takes place between 5 January and 21 February 2022. You can sign up for free on their website [now](#).



Finished reading? Pass on to a colleague

Eco-School Awards

Schools can register for Eco-Schools for free at www.eco-schools.org.uk/register

Since September 2021, there have been a number of changes in the Eco-Schools Awards. There is no longer a Bronze and Silver accreditation – schools go direct to the Eco-Schools Green Flag.

Green Flags will now be renewed on an **annual basis with an application window open from 1 May until 31 July every year.**

Applications will be **completely done online** to showcase your environmental efforts. There are more questions and an opportunity to achieve Eco-Schools Green Flag with Merit or Distinction.

The new Eco-Schools application online has a **progress bar** which you can see as you complete the application over the year with the students.

The cost will remain at £200+VAT but on an annual basis. More information available online at www.eco-schools.org.uk/the-eco-schools-programme-is-changing

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 8 April 2022**. 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



Climate change doesn't care about our differences, and that's why people here in the UK and across the world are putting them aside and doing what we can to tackle climate change and protect what we love. In February 2022, join us to show decision makers that we want to see real and rapid action to tackle the climate and nature crisis - for the love of our families, our homes, our livelihoods and our planet.

Welcome to the Team!

Download your pack [today](#)



In November 2021, we welcomed Molly Laycock to the team. Molly is leading on the education elements of the Saving Saffron Brook Project. This is a project improved the environment and peoples' connection to nature in the Saffron Brook and Wash Brook catchment which is in the South and South East of the city running into the county.

In January 2022 we welcomed Laura Barke to the team. Laura is a project officer and will be working on a number of exciting projects including lower carbon lunches, carbon literacy and Grow Your Own Grub and Pumpkin Garden competitions.

We are also hoping to have a couple of DMU graduates joining the team in February to support with a number of projects.

Dates for your diary – Eco events

We now have an annual calendar with all the date for the academic year on. This will be updated on a bi-monthly basis. It will be emailed with the eBulletin.



Event Details	Date	Month
Eco-Schools Training - session 2 - 1:00-3:30pm	Friday 14	January
Green Heart Campaign 2022	All	February
Fairtrade Fortnight Virtual Assembly, 1:00pm #EcoTeachMeet 4:00-5:30pm – Beauchamp City Sixth Form	Monday 21	February
World Wildlife Day	Thursday 3	March
Healthy School Network Champions Conference (hopefully face-to-face) 9:00am-3:00pm	Monday 7	March
International Womens Day	Tuesday 8	March
Grow Your Own Grub Training 4:00-5:30pm	Wednesday 16	March
Global Recycling Day	Friday 18	March
World Water Day	Tuesday 22	March
Earth Day	Friday 22	April
Earth Hour Virtual Assembly 1:00pm	Monday 25	April
Healthy School Network Physical Activity and Healthy Eating Network Meeting 1:00-3:30pm	Thursday 28	April
Eco-Schools Training - session 3 - 1:00-3:30pm	Monday 9	May
Applying for Green Flag Training - 3:00-4:30pm (via Teams)	Wednesday 11	May
Walk to School Week starts	Monday 16	May
Pumpkin Training 4:00-5:30pm Outdoor Classroom Day	Thursday 19	May
#EcoTeachMeet 4:00-5:30pm	Tuesday 24	May
World Environment Day	Sunday 5	June
World Environment Day Virtual Assembly 1pm (via Teams)	Monday 6	June
World Oceans Day	Wednesday 8	June
Healthy School Network Champions Conference (hopefully face-to-face) 9:00am-12:00pm	Thursday 9	June
Clean Air Day	Thursday 16	June
Celebration Event 2022 9:30am-2:30pm (City Hall)	Wednesday 22	June
Grow Your Own Grub Celebration (Abbey Pumping Station)	Saturday 2	July
Plastic bag-free day	Sunday 31	July

- [Leicester - staff training/information](#)
- [Leicester - student activities/events](#)
- **National events**

Eco-Schools Training Session 2

Best practice, ideas for projects, curriculum links & informing and involving

FREE Training course:

Friday 14 January 2022, 1.30-3.30pm

Venue – **Uplands Infant School**
(Attenborough Learning Trust Training Room)

Sign up [here](#)

This training is open to both attendees of the first training session and those who did not attend. There will be another in-person follow up on Monday 9 May 2022.

- Are you wanting to find out about best practices for incorporating Eco-Schools into a busy school environment?
- Do you want to learn about successful environmental actions and projects in other Leicester schools?
- Are you wanting to connect with other school staff in Leicester schools and support each other to gain or renew your Eco-Schools 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 52 schools with the prestigious Green Flag Award putting us at number one in England! This training, delivered by Leicester City Council, will provide top tips for working on Eco-Schools, ideas for new projects, and a chance to team up with colleagues. There will also be a focus on Steps 4 and 5 – curriculum links and informing and involving.

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.

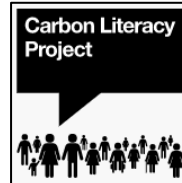
For more information please contact:

Sustainable Schools Team

✉ Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk
schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools
🐦 [EcoSchoolsLCC](https://twitter.com/EcoSchoolsLCC)
📷 [EcoSchoolsLCC](https://www.instagram.com/EcoSchoolsLCC)
📘 [EnvEducationLeicester](https://www.facebook.com/EnvEducationLeicester)
☎ 0116 454 2271



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 to deliver their own course back in school

Training: Mondays 24, 31 January and 7 February 2022
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.



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 2022
- 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

Less Litter for Leicester

Following on from the success of Litter Less in partnership with Keep Britain Tidy, the Sustainable Schools team at Leicester City Council are running an exciting new project called **Less Litter for Leicester**. This project runs from February until May 2022.

We aim for as many schools as possible to take part, running litter awareness assemblies or sessions, carrying out litter picks in your school grounds or local area, and celebrating your achievements at an event in Abbey Park in May as part of our **Great Big Green Month**.



Why participate?

- Receive resources and support to run whole school **litter assemblies** or individual class/form sessions
- **Raise awareness** across your school community of the problems caused by litter
- Receive a **loan of litter picking equipment** for the duration of the project (if required)
- Link to your **Eco-Schools Green Flag** as part of the litter, marine, waste and school grounds topics, helping to achieve your **Green Flag**
- **Have fun and help to keep your school grounds or local area free from litter!**

Your school commitments

- Hold a whole school **litter assembly** or individual class/form sessions (template provided)
- Attend a **training session** at Abbey Park in February, date TBC (optional)
- Carry out at least **5 litter picks** in the school grounds or local area, and record the amount collected (weights or number of bags)
- Attend the **celebration event** at Abbey Park on 23 May 2022, with a group of students (optional)
- Complete a short case study (100 words) after the project ends with two photos – (template provided)



If you would like your school to take part in this project please complete our [eform](#) - Deadline: 30 January 2022

For more information, please contact Marc Tench
Education Officer (Eco-Schools) - Marc.Tench@leicester.gov.uk



Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration 2022

Deadline for
school entry
3 June 2022

Wednesday 22 June 2022 • City Hall, Leicester

Celebrate the work that your school has completed this year by attending the now annual Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration. Bring along up to 6 students to display your Eco-Schools and/or your Food for Life project. Receive your Food for Life award and celebrate your Eco-Schools Green Flag.



Schools can display 2 Eco-Schools topics, 1 of which can include your Food for Life project. As a reminder, the Eco-Schools topics are:

- Biodiversity
- Energy
- Litter
- Waste
- Transport
- Water
- School Grounds
- Healthy Living
- Global Citizenship
- Marine



Food for Life awards will be judged separately and will be a demonstration of work completed so far on the Food for Life journey.

All schools will also be entered into the:

- Judge's Special Award
- Eco-factor Award (voted by students)



The event will run from 9.30am – 2.15pm.

Lunch will be provided on the day.

Approximate timing of the day

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 09.30-10.00 | Students/staff set up stalls |
| 10.00-12.00 | Judges visit stalls and speak to students |
| 12.00-13.00 | Lunch and activities |
| 13.00-14.00 | Presentations |
| 14.00-14.15 | Stalls dismantled and students/staff leave |



Schools will be asked to provide brief information about their display before the day.

Book your place now via our [eForm](#) or scan the QR code.



For more information contact:

Lee Jowett, Leicester City Council

lee.jowett@leicester.gov.uk 0116 454 2271

Lisa Didier, Soil Association Food for Life

ldidier@soilassociation.org 07718 570945



Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration 2022

Wednesday 22 June 2022 • City Hall, Leicester

Additional Food for Life information

You are invited to attend this event to demonstrate the work you have completed so far on your Food for Life Journey.



You can showcase work towards your Bronze, Silver or Gold award or you can show a way you have improved an area of the following in school:

- How you used Food for Life to raise attainment
- How Food for Life has been integrated across the school in a whole school approach
- Increased school meal take up
- The good work of your SNAG and pupil voice
- Show the ethos of healthy eating across the school
- Show the improvement in cooking in the curriculum
- Food growing in school
- Demonstrate how you improved the dining room environment

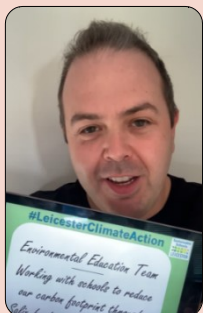
If you would like to achieve Bronze, Silver or Gold by the time this event takes place please contact Lisa Didier. If you would like to display your work from the above categories, then a Certificate will be presented for your work and you will also be achieving criteria B4.2 for their bronze award "we share Food for Life learning with local schools, the wider community and other partners".



Lisa Didier, Soil Association Food for Life
ldidier@soilassociation.org 07718 570945

Roles and Responsibilities

With our expanding team we wanted to let you know who is best to contact for each project.
For all general enquires you can reach all of the team at Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk



Lee Jowett – Sustainable Schools Manager & team leader
Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk Tel: 0116 454 2271

- Salix funding – Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS)
- Coordinating grants, funding and social value opportunities
- Climate Declarations
- DMU Graduates
- Climate Woods
- Overseeing BESS Energy
- PFI schools environmental work
- Traded services (including MATs)

Molly Laycock – Education Project Officer for Saving the Saffron Brook (Full-Time) Molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk Tel: 0116 454 3187

- Saving the Saffron Brook
- Blue/Green Group
- Sustainable Drainage Schemes (SuDS) work in schools
- The Sea Starts Here



Marc Tench – Education Officer (Term-time, Mon/Wed/Fri)
Marc.Tench@leicester.gov.uk / 0116 454 6746

- Eco-Schools Awards
- Let's Go Zero 2030
- Tree planting
- Tiny Forests
- Polli:Gen
- Litter Campaigns
- Eco-Schools training
- BESS Energy – education support
- Salix – education programme

Hollie Campbell – Graduate Project Officer in Environmental Education (Full-Time) Hollie.Campbell@leicester.gov.uk Tel: 0116 454 4048

- eBulletins & newsletters
- Social media campaigns
- Botanica
- Jane Goodall's Roots and Shoots programme local support
- Promoting events
- BESS Energy carbon reports
- Roadshows & celebration events



Laura Barke – Project Officer (Full-time)
Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk Tel: 0116 454 7156

- Lower Carbon Lunches
- Carbon Literacy
- GYOG and Pumpkins
- Edible Playgrounds
- Young Peoples Climate Board
- Plastic Free Schools
- Re-Think Food Towers

Wild Art Competition Winners



Leicestershire
& Rutland
Wildlife Trust

Back in the summer term, Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust (LRWT) challenged Leicester City primary school pupils to create a piece of art that shows off our wonderful UK wildlife, and they didn't disappoint!

Thirteen schools submitted 59 artworks. They were judged by:

- Graffwerk Aerosol Artist, Izzy Hoskins
- Wildlife Artist and Print Maker, Richard Jarvis
- Graduate Project Officer for Leicester City Council, Hollie Campbell
- Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust's Head of Engagement, Jamie Perry

The judges were very impressed with the artworks so it was really difficult to choose the winners. They said: It was a really difficult task to decide on the winners as the quality of the work was so high. We really enjoyed viewing all of the entries and the wide variety of techniques and materials employed.



In first place was Hedgehog by Yasmine Mohammed, age 11 from Queensmead Primary Academy. Yasmine won an amazing wildlife graffiti mural for her school, created during the summer holidays by Graffwerk street artist Wing Lo.

It features 5 animals chosen by the pupils in bright, vibrant colours. It is visible from the street, so the whole community can enjoy it.

You can see a timelapse video of the mural being painted here: www.wildforestschoool.org.uk

In second place was Raven by Neva Zamen, age 11 from Evington Valley Primary School. Neva won a stunning chainsaw sculpture for her school grounds, which of course had to be of a raven! It was made by local sculptor Peter Leadbeater and was unveiled at the end of October.

In third place was Rosy (a Speckled Wood Butterfly) by Abidah Hossain, age 5 from Medway Community Primary School. Abidah won bumper pack of art materials for her school, selected by her and her classmates.

As well as the prizes for their schools, the top three winners also received their own set of art materials.



The judges were so impressed by the high standard of entries that they created an extra category – commended.

The children who received commendations were:

- Tamica Makawa, age 11 from Dovelands Primary School for Bunny
- Abdullah Al-Tahtamouni, age 8 from Mayflower Primary School for A Robin
- Manav, age 10 from St Barnabas C of E Primary School for The Squirrel
- Divya Patel, age 8 from North Mead Primary Academy for British Woodland Animals

Each of these children received a personally dedicated copy of Richard Jarvis' new book, My A-Z of British Wildlife. To see all of the wonderful artworks, go to: www.wildforestschoool.org.uk/wild-art. LRWT are very grateful to players of People's Postcode Lottery for supporting this competition. Congratulations to the winners and very well done to everyone who took part!

Nature's Climate Heroes

The Wildlife Trusts' new educational guide for 7 – 11 year olds to learn about how nature can help tackle the climate crisis.

The inquiry-based learning resource pack aims to help teachers by:

- Changing the focus of climate change from a scary and overwhelming subject to something that can be tackled through collective action.
- Providing teachers with a structured and comprehensive guide to deliver lessons about how human activities are connected to the changing climate, and why the restoration of nature is fundamental to our future.
- Empowering children to take small but collectively significant actions in their communities.

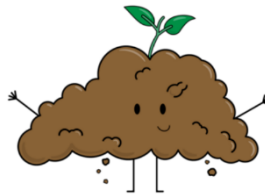
It's designed to support children to:

- Understand the connections between nature, climate change and people.
- Investigate how nature helps our fight against climate change.
- Discover what small and local actions can be taken to give nature a boost in this bigger fight.

To order a copy of the pack, go to [the Wildlife Watch website](https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/education).



wildlife watch



Supports several Eco-Schools topics

Botanica: Pollinators for Schools

An exciting new project has begun, with delivery taking place until July 2023!

Funded by WWF and Air Wick Botanica, Pollinators for Schools will focus on delivering engagement to school pupils and communities around pollinating insects, as well as creating valuable patches of habitat to act as stepping-stones for our native pollinators.

10 Leicester schools in total have been chosen to receive support for implementing a 10m² pollinator patch in March 2022, and a bug hotel on their school grounds. They will also receive resources to take part in an exciting "30 Days Wild" event in June of each year, including the delivery of BioBlitz sessions with children and their parents.

The following schools will be taking part:

- Woodstock Primary Academy
- Hope Hamilton C of E Primary School
- West Gate School
- Medway Community Primary School
- Moat College
- Wyvern Primary School
- Ellesmere College
- Hallam Fields Primary
- Braunstone Community Primary School
- Judgemeadow Community College



BOTANICA^{BY}

RESPONSIBLY SOURCED* INSPIRED BY NATURE



Supports the Eco-Schools biodiversity topic

#EcoTeachMeets in Leicester 2021-22



Monday 21 February 2021 – Beauchamp VI Form, South Albion Street, LE1 6JL
Tuesday 24 May 2021 – Overdale Junior School, Eastcourt Rd, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3YA

Sessions run 4.30-6.00pm

If you would like to host an #EcoTeachMeet in the future
do get in touch via Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk

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

All school staff and organisations welcome!

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

You can sign up to attend or present using this [link](#)

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



@EcoSchoolsLCC



EnvEducationLeicester



schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools

The World Reimagined Learning Programme is a creative journey for students, teachers and schools towards a future of racial justice.

Do you want to inspire and empower your school community to make racial justice a reality? [Sign up to The World Reimagined today!](#)

[The World Reimagined](#) is a national art education project featuring globally-recognised artists to transform how we understand the Transatlantic Slave Trade and its impact on us all. From August to October 2022 Globe sculptures created by artists and schools will be exhibited in several cities across the UK. But you don't have to wait until then to get involved! Our Learning Programme is an experiential and transformative journey for students, teachers and schools, created with artists, teachers and educationalists, formed of three parts:

- Learning Outcomes
- The Resources
- Teacher Leadership Development

1. Learning Outcomes

The Learning Programme builds the mindsets, attitudes and skills needed to understand racial justice and empower learners to overcome divisions, to replace hatred with compassion, to move from despair to hope, and to take actions that make racial justice a reality in our society.

Each part of the programme will focus on developing one or more of the 5 Cs:

- Compassion • Courage • Critical Thinking
- Curiosity • Connection

Our Learning Programme helps you

- engage with dynamic arts-based learning and integrate it with core subjects in a post-Covid world.
- embed the 'British Values' of Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect and Tolerance, and Individual Liberty into your curriculum.
- contribute to your Artsmark Award



'The World Reimagined', 2021, Yinka Shonibare CBE.

2. The Resources

Developed through unique collaborations between leading creatives and subject specialists, supported by teachers and mental health professionals, the resources contain cross curricular links, have learning journeys mapped out, and are ready to use or adapt to your particular context.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

These resources focus on the theme of Mother Africa - a celebration of the cultural richness and diversity of Africa, including its maths, science, art and agriculture.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

These resources include a module and extension activities for each of the nine themes of The World Reimagined's Journey of Discovery- a journey across time starting at Africa before the Transatlantic Slave Trade, its impact across the UK, through to today and a more hopeful future.

3. Leadership in Teaching

Teachers play a vital role in helping young people engage with racial justice – in the spaces they create for students and the behaviours and approaches they model.

Accessible online, our Leadership in Teaching will give you:

- tips on how to use these resources so that you have the confidence to bring them to life as powerfully as possible for your students
- insights from leading thinkers and practitioners on subjects such as Safe Spaces and Power & Privilege
- reflective practice that will support you as a racial justice leader and role model in your school community.

Our Co-Creators Include:

Cast Members from West End's Hamilton

Inua Ellams; award winning poet & playwright

Matthew Smith; Director of the Centre for the Study of Legacies of British Slavery

Mona Chalabi; data journalist and data editor at The Guardian

Baroness Floella Benjamin

Charlotte Mensah; 3 x Afro Hairdresser of the Year, British Hairdressing Awards

Keisha Thompson; performance artist & producer

Kehinde Andrews; Professor of Black Studies, Birmingham City University

Lanre Bakare; The Guardian's Arts and Culture Correspondent

La Toyah McAllister Jones; Executive Director, St Pauls Carnival

English Heritage & Warwick University
Guildhall Art Gallery & Museum of London
Museum of London Docklands
London Metropolitan Archives

GET INVOLVED!

We want everyone to have the chance to take part in The World Reimagined and so our invitation comes in two parts:

POETIC PROGRAMME FREE

Includes access to all of our resources, in which your students work towards poetic, spoken word or written creative expression. You can submit your students' creative work to us so we can showcase it across our platforms.

Available to all schools across the UK.

THE GLOBE PROGRAMME £850+VAT

Schools have the opportunity to create their own Globes that will feature in their local community as part of The World Reimagined sculpture trails between August and October 2022 (including profiles on our digital platforms) and then be returned to the school as a legacy. You will also have access to extended Teacher Leadership training and modules on designing your Globe.

Available to all schools & colleges who are able to pick up their Globes from Birmingham; Brighton & Hove; Bristol; Greater London; Greater Manchester; Leicester; Leeds; Liverpool City Region; and Swansea.

FIND OUT MORE & SIGN UP [HERE](#)

If you have any questions, please contact keisha.thompson@theworldreimagined.org

By joining The World Reimagined Learning Programme your school can become part of a major step-change in how schools engage with a more multi-dimensional view of our shared history, empowering a new generation to make racial justice a reality.

- Globe Programme [Sign-up!](#)
- Poetry Programme [Sign-up!](#)
- Bursary applications can be completed [here!](#)

Supported by



Artsmark
Partner

Supporting cultural education, endorsed by Arts Council England



Supported using public funding by

ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



Paul Hamlyn
Foundation



Carbon Literacy Offer for Schools

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 the 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 university students to become carbon literate trainers who will deliver training to school students, making them carbon literate. This exciting project is being delivered in the 2021-22 academic year.

We are offering free training to all primary and secondary students in Leicester City and traded service schools. The project is primarily aimed at Y5 in junior/primary and Y8 in secondary schools, however other year groups can be considered.

The training takes place during a normal school day and a whole class can participate at once. The training will be delivered by the team along with university students from DMU and the University of Leicester. You just need to provide a classroom and access to ICT.

Get in touch to register your interest.

Carbon Literacy Project



How to find out more

Laura Barke

☎ 0116 454 7156

✉ Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk



Supports many of the Eco-Schools topics including energy and transport

Sustainability & Climate Change



Sustainability & Climate Change

A draft strategy for the education & children's services systems

November 2021

DRAFT: NOT GOVERNMENT POLICY
Draft Sustainability & Climate Change Strategy

In November 2021, during COP26, the government published a draft strategy for the education and children's services systems.

It sets out a vision that the United Kingdom is the world-leading education sector in sustainability and climate change by 2030.

There are a number of initiatives identified including a **Climate Leaders Award** and **National Education Nature Park**.

As a team we will be keeping a close watch on the finally policy which is due in April 2022. We'll also be inputting to the draft document via routes including our link with the NAEF.

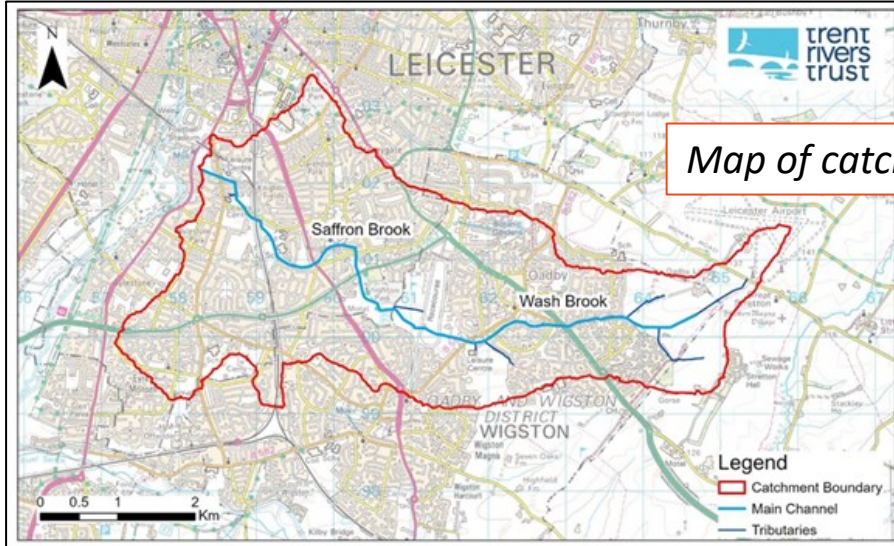
You can read the document online [Sustainability & Climate Change](#).



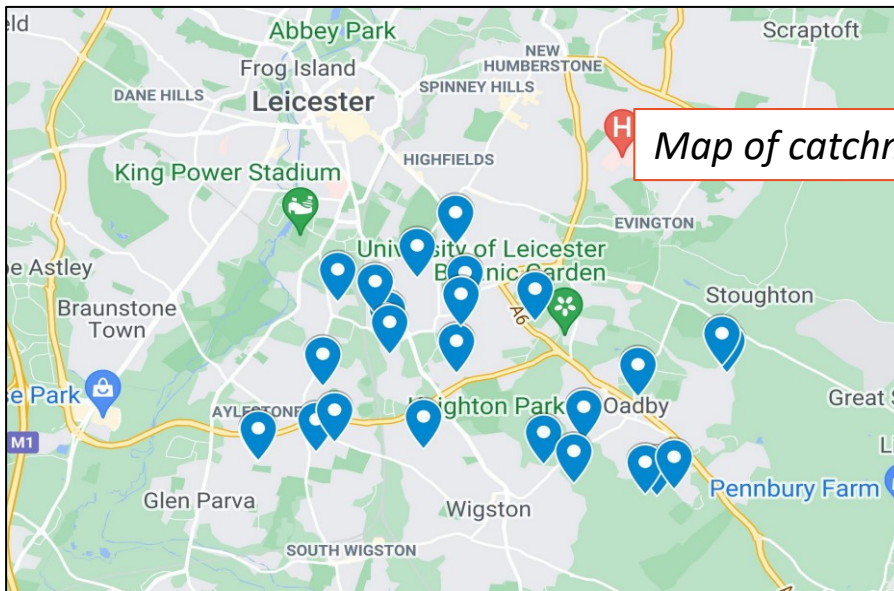
Supports all Eco-Schools topics

Saving the Saffron Brook

This is an exciting new project which aims to transform the Saffron Brook/Wash Brook catchment. We have the opportunity to offer at least 10 schools in the catchment area engagement workshops and activities centred around restoring and protecting the river



Map of catchment area



Map of catchment schools

We will be hosting an information evening on **Tuesday 18 January 2022** at **Overdale Junior School** (Eastcourt Road, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3YA)

This will run between 4pm and 5pm with arrivals from 3.30pm

If you are a school within the catchment area of Saffron/Wash Brook (see map for details) and want to get involved with the project, please contact:

Molly Laycock, Education Project Officer
Molly.Laycock@Leicester.gov.uk Tel: 0116 454 3187

Aims and Benefits

- To transform the Saffron Brook Catchment
- **Restore 2800m of river habitat**
- Restore and create up to 2000m of footpaths
- **Plant 2ha of woodland**
- Create 1.5ha of wetland
- **Create 2ha of species-rich grassland**
- Encourage wildlife and biodiversity
- **Implement 2x Litter Booms**
- Reduce flood risk
- **Engage the local community with the water course**
- Connect children with nature
- **Transform your school grounds**
- Improve water quality



School Workshops & Activities

- **We will be putting on over 150 activities and workshops in total, which will run throughout 2022 and early 2023.**
- These will take place in various locations including schools in the catchment, school grounds such as one of our flagship sites Overdale Junior and Overdale Infant Schools, Knighton park and local Nature reserves
- **The workshops will be on themes related to saving the brook including:**
 - Litter
 - Marine life
 - Water
 - Climate change
 - Biodiversity
 - Sustainable living

Partners of Project

- Leicester City Council
- **Trent Rivers Trust**
- The Soar Catchment Partnership
- **River Soar & Grand Union Canal Partnership**
- Oadby and Wigston Borough Council
- **Leicestershire County Council**
- Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust
- **Environment Agency**
- Leicester Employment Hub
- **Natural England**
- Severn Trent Water
- **NatureSpot**
- Knighton Wild
- **Friends of Knighton Park**
- Leicester University – *and others*



Green Recovery Challenge Fund

Lower Carbon Lunches for Schools

Climate Action Waste Workshop

Leicester City Council's Sustainable Schools Team are launching a workshop for students to raise awareness about the climate impacts of food and to reduce waste associated to school meals in the city. *Workshops will take place in February 2022 onwards.*

The workshop will cover four core themes:

- **Energy use** - 40% of a schools carbon footprint is energy and its estimated and average of 20% is wasted due to inefficient use.
- **Food waste** - It's estimated that 30% of the food we produce globally is wasted. If we were to stop food waste it would eliminate 8% of our total global carbon emissions.
- **Packaging waste** - The embodied carbon emissions in packaging also have an impact and we are considering all packaging not just plastic waste.
- **Plant-based meals** - Animal agriculture and intensive farming account for a significant proportion of greenhouse gas emission and we will explore the benefits of increasing plant based meals in school.



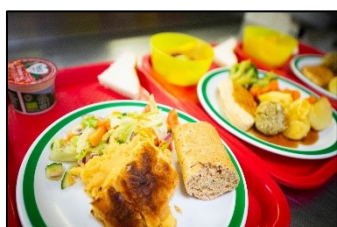
Following the workshop your school will choose to focus on at least one of the core themes and will be supported by the Environmental Education Team to develop an action plan and implement changes.

The workshop is primarily aimed at Key Stage 2/3 but can be adapted for other stages. The workshop can be delivered for up to 30 students and would work well for the school's Eco-Team.

For more information please contact:

Laura Barke, Project Officer
Environmental Education Team

- ✉ Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk
- 🌐 schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools
- 🐦 [EcoSchoolsLCC](https://twitter.com/EcoSchoolsLCC)
- 📷 [EcoSchoolsLCC](https://www.instagram.com/EcoSchoolsLCC)
- 📘 [EnvEducationLeicester](https://www.facebook.com/EnvEducationLeicester)
- 📞 0116 454 7156



Climate Action: Race to Zero Competition

The Roots & Shoots team have another competition to offer - in partnership with Climate Action: Race to Zero, the Climate Force Challenge can help young people finance their innovative environmental projects.

Five winners will get £1,500 by making efforts to cut down on CO₂ within their lifestyles – and here's how:

- Reduce – this might include reducing electricity usage by turning off lights at school/ home or saving water (and hence energy)
- Reuse – this might include using a re-usable water bottle or coffee cup, Tupperware instead of clingfilm, etc.
- Recycle – e.g., plastic and glass bottles, cans, textiles, etc. Learn why it is important to recycle properly and how it affects our environment if we don't.
- Plant – Individuals can offset their own CO₂ emissions by planting six trees per month. So, green your local area to offset CO₂ emissions!



The deadline is Friday 11 February 2022, and the winners will be announced on 19 February 2022. If you have any questions, please contact Jasmina Georgovska at jasmina@janegoodall.org.uk



Supports several Eco-Schools topics



Supports the School Grounds and Biodiversity Eco-Schools topics



The Queen's Green Canopy Tree Planting

A maple was planted at Alderman Richard Hallam Primary School as part of plans to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire Michael Kapur OBE and the Lord Mayor of Leicester Cllr Deepak Bajaj joined children at Alderman Richard Hallam Primary School to plant the tree in the school grounds on Friday 15 October 2021.

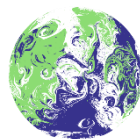
The maple tree was planted as part of a project called The Queen's Green Canopy – a nationwide campaign to encourage people to 'plant a tree for the Jubilee', which will be commemorated in 2022.

For more information about the Queen's Green Canopy project, visit queensgreencanopy.org

COP26 and Eco-Schools Roadshows

Facts and Figures

- 360 – approximate number of students involved
- 30 – number of schools involved
- 19 – number of workshops that took place
- 3 – typical length of morning (hours)
- 7 – number of workshops providers
- 6 – number of roadshow events



UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



Workshop providers

- National Space Centre – Solar panels
 - Food for Life – farm to fork
- TCV – growing food in a climate future
 - Sustrans – travelling sustainably
- Leicester Libraries – Climate Change research/quiz
 - Air Quality Education
- Green Influence via Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust (with Rushey Mead Academy students)



Supports several Eco-Schools topics

During COP26, the Sustainable Schools team delivered 6 roadshows across Leicester City. Our events were kindly supported by our six host schools: St Paul's Catholic School, Soar Valley College, Rushey Mead Academy, Moat College, Castle Mead Academy and Beaumont Leys School. We would also like to say thank you to other secondaries that offered to host including Orchard Mead Academy and The City of Leicester College.

The roadshows involved nearly 30 schools (including 9 secondary schools). The morning went exceptionally well and we have started planning for our roadshows in 2022/23. We had lots of feedback and will be looking to improve even further with the potential to extend to whole days.





Great Big Green Week

Facts and Figures

- 25 – number of events that took place during the week
- 3500 – approximate number of people directly attending events
- 200 – number of people attending the film festival
- 183 – number of people attending the climate march



Events

- Secondary conference (online)
- 18 events delivered by schools (Leicester and Leicestershire)
- Jane Goodall Roots and Shoots 'Letter to the Future competition'
 - Film festival at Phoenix Cinema – over four nights
- Eco-Schools and Food for Life annual celebration (online)
- Climate march and plastic free picnic
- DocMedia Newsroom



Media Coverage

- Several **press releases** from Leicester City Council
- Coverage in **Leicester Mercury** (online and printed)
- **Social media** coverage
 - Facebook- reach 1,428
 - Twitter - 15.2k impression, engagement 2.6%, 35 retweets and 149 likes (compared to a normal week of average £2k impressions)
 - Instagram – reach 52
 - YouTube – 370 views
- **Climate march** – East Midlands Today, ITV Central - lunchtime and evening, BBC radio Leicester – two slots



During September 2021, the Sustainable Schools Team delivered a whole week of exciting events throughout Leicester with support from 28 unique schools (many participated in more than one event). We had a fantastic time appears on several local news channels and radio! You can find all the photos on our [Facebook page](#).

Due to the kind generosity of several sponsors and organisations we underspend our budget – meaning that we are now able to deliver a Great Big Green month in May 2022! This will include an environmental competition, film festival, further £100 grants for schools and finally a celebration event due to take place in Abbey Park at the end of the month linked to our litter campaign.



May 2022

More
details to
follow



Is your school ready to cut down on single-use plastics?

12 million tonnes of plastic are pouring into the ocean every year

Plastic Free Schools is a system shaking, change making pupil led education programme that gives your students the tools to create positive, lasting environmental change



Sign up to the programme and form a pupil led committee to research single-use plastics at your school

Work towards plastic-free accreditation by creating an action plan to tackle the single-use plastics identified



Reach out to local businesses and community groups and ask them to do the same – help save our oceans!



Register for free now on the [Plastic Free Schools website](#) to be part of the solution - not the pollution!

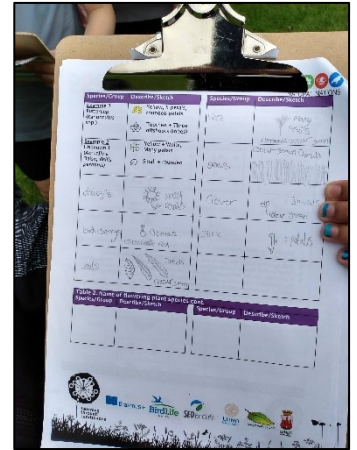


Polli:Nation for the Next Generation (Polli:Gen)



Working in partnership with the Sustainable Schools team at Leicester City Council, and the Wildlife Gardening Forum, environmental education charity, Learning through Landscapes have been working with 23 schools and a number of community groups across Leicester City. Each school has had a dedicated project officer working with them from May until December 2021, delivering 2 hour sessions each week to the same group of pupils.

In the summer term sessions focused on building knowledge of pollination and pollinating insects as well as carrying out plant and invertebrate surveys in the school grounds. In the autumn term, sessions have built upon these knowledge and skills as well as planning and implementing changes to the school grounds to make them more friendly to pollinating insects.



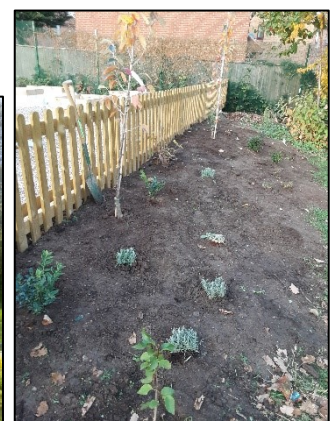
Each school had a grant of £750 to spend, and the pupils chose how that would be spent with guidance. This included buying gardening equipment such as gloves, trowels, secateurs, planters, soil and compost; plants including trees, pond plants, flowers, bulbs and seeds; educational resources such as FSC guides and bug pots; and resources for building pollinator homes such as bug hotels and bee banks.

The pupils at each school have been instrumental in implementing the changes, by planting trees and bulbs, spreading wildflower seeds, creating ponds and building bug homes.

Most schools were also connected with a local community group, and pupils visited the group and their outdoor spaces for a reciprocal exchange of knowledge. They were also given the opportunity to help the community groups make their outdoor spaces more pollinator friendly.

The project officially ends in March 2022, and each school will have one final visit from their project officer to help them create a sustainable plan for the school grounds.

**Sustainable
Schools
LEICESTER**



Leicester Salix Programme



The Salix programme is designed to carry out carbon reduction schemes in maintained schools and other council-owned buildings such as libraries and leisure centres, with a total of 93 sites across Leicester.

A total of 70 sites in the Salix programme will have new LED lights installed, which will be a combined total of approximately 18,000 individual LED light fittings in this programme of works. So far, installation has been completed at 51 sites across the city.

Installation of solar PV panels has recently been completed at Barley Croft Primary School, Glebelands Primary School, and Wyvern Primary School, making them the first sites to receive solar panels under the Salix programme. The remaining sites will have panels installed in 2022. The Salix Team recently visited Wyvern Primary School alongside Cllr Adam Clarke and representatives from PV installation company, Feed It Green.



Taylor Road Primary School LEDs



Solar PV panels at Wyvern Primary School

A proposed total of 35 sites will also have an air source heat pump installed under the Salix programme. These will generate approximately 7,500kW of decarbonised heating. Works to lay the concrete foundation prior to the installation of Air source heat pumps have recently begun at 4 sites in Leicester:

- Beaumont Lodge Primary School
- Oaklands School
- Whitehall Primary School
- Evington Leisure Centre

Each site has a dedicated project manager (Alan Evans or John Squires). However, if you have a general question or need to get in touch with the Salix Project Team email us at Salix.Project.Team@leicester.gov.uk



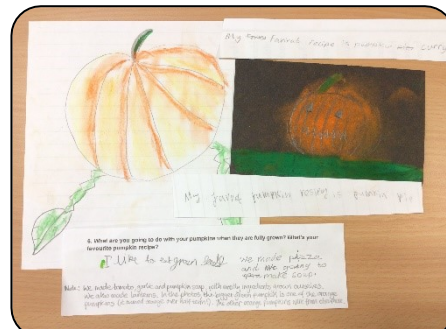
Air source heat pump being installed at Beaumont Lodge Primary School



New promotional banner held by students of Beaumont Leys School

Pumpkin Garden Winners

Congratulations to **Evington Valley Primary School** that came first place in this last calendar year's Pumpkin Garden Competition. The judges were also very impressed with **Abbey Mead Primary Academy's** entry – which received a judges' special mention. We'll be launching this year's competition very soon – so watch this space!



Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust needs your help!



Leicestershire & Rutland
Wildlife Trust

Get the chance to win a prize worth £175 for your school by helping to shape LRWT's future outdoor learning plans. The Education Team at LRWT already delivers 15 outdoor learning sessions a week and works with over 1,000 children a year, but we want to do even more! That's why we have created a survey that will not only help us to better understand how we can support outdoor learning in schools, but also means we can create a funding bid to reduce the cost of our services and connect more children with nature.

The prize

As a thank you for your time, we will enter each school into a prize draw, with the chance to win one of the following:

- A full day visit (1 assembly and 3 workshops) from one of our Education Officers to your school, with a large choice of environmental education workshops to choose from
- A Forest School taster day for one class (transport not included)
- A nest box with nest camera AND some pond dipping or sweep (minibeast hunting) nets



To take part

Complete our online survey (most suitable for Headteachers and Eco-Schools/Outdoor Learning leads) **by Friday 11 February 2022:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PQKB2MN>

Thank you! Martha Rose, Senior Education Officer:
mrose@lrwt.org.uk

Applications for The Tree Council's Young Tree Champions programme are now open! APPLY NOW and be a Force for Nature.

When you join the Young Tree Champions programme, delivered in partnership with M&G plc, your school will receive an amazing package of free resources to help you deliver a project that will have a real impact - both in your school and beyond!

The deadline for applications is 6pm Thursday 20 January 2022. Head to [The Tree Council website](#) now to find out more and start your application.

Young Tree Champions Programme



Supports the Eco-Schools school grounds and biodiversity topics

Carbon Literacy Training at the City of Leicester College



In November and December 2021, Lee and Marc presented the carbon literacy course at the City of Leicester College.

Over 25 sixth formers participated and will be carbon literacy accredited with carbon in 2022. It was a great way for students to explore the different parts of a their carbon footprint and the school carbon footprint. Each student now has an individual and group action to reduce carbon. If you would like to participate in a similar course get in touch.



Supports many of the Eco-Schools topics

Keep Britain Tidy are pleased to announce that the seventh annual #GBSpringClean and #GBSchoolClean will take place from **25 March – 10 April 2022!**

Details of how to take part and the goal for the 2022 campaign will be announced in the new year, but in the meantime, keep these dates free!



**25 MARCH -
10 APRIL 2022**

The Sea Starts Here...



In order to support Eco-Schools, the Flood Risk team at Leicester City Council have launched 'The Sea Starts Here' project, which aims to increase awareness on the impacts of single use plastics and litter within schools and their wider community.

Plastic can be found everywhere and takes thousands of years to fully degrade. In particular single use plastics such as cigarette butts, straws, and plastic bottles, are often discarded directly into the environment as litter, which ends up in our parks, rivers and oceans.

Accumulation of plastics can:

- Lead to blockages and flooding in our rivers
- Increase risk of disease and illness
- Impact plants and animals through consumption and habitat destruction
- Lead to the generation of micro-plastics which can end up within the food we eat

Structure

- A **pre-recorded presentation** which includes an introduction to the project, the impacts of plastic pollution and steps to improve sustainable behaviour.
- Activities including **mapping drains** in the school grounds, a **multiple-choice quiz**, and Sea Start Here **poster design**.
- **Stencilling drains** – A stencilling work pack including semi-permanent paint will be provided as part of the project and will contain instructions on how to set up the stencils and use the equipment.

This project takes approximately 3 hours and can be completed as a self-led morning or afternoon session. It contributes towards the marine, waste, litter or water Eco-School topics. Spaces are limited to 10 schools for the remainder of the academic year.

To sign up please contact Alex Cameron
at Alex.Cameron@leicester.gov.uk



*Supports the marine and waste
Eco-Schools topic*

Help Save Our Planet

Why not have your primary school pupils join Leicester-based secondary school and college students in their peaceful protest demanding government and corporate action to fight climate change?

The 11th February 2022 marks three years of the **Climate strike Leicester** movement, and we would like to invite teacher-supervised groups of primary school children to participate in a march from Leicester Clocktower to Jubilee square, which will be followed by music and speeches and all managed by trained student stewards. We will also have cake to celebrate the occasion! We encourage children to make and bring their own climate banners and believe that this will be a wonderful opportunity to teach and engage our young people in climate change and peaceful activism.

The march will take place at 1.30pm on Friday 11 February 2022 at Leicester clock tower.

Let us know that your school or group will be attending or ask for more information by emailing us at: climatestrikeleicester@gmail.com

We will see you there! **Climate Strike Leicester**

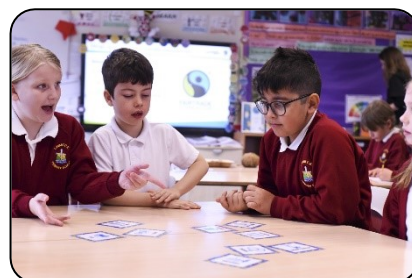


Supports most Eco-Schools topics

Fairtrade Fortnight 2022

This Fairtrade Fortnight, we invite your school to stand with farmers and workers seeking climate justice. We have created new films, lesson plans and activities that will help you to explore the inequalities at the heart of the climate crisis, and learn how governments, businesses, schools and individuals can take collective action for a fairer future.

- **Teach about Fairtrade and the climate crisis** If you're new to the topic of Fairtrade and the climate, check out our '[Climate, Fairtrade and You](#)' topic packs.
- **Come along to the Choose The World You Want Festival 2022** From online panels to bake-offs and coffee mornings, the [Choose The World You Want Festival 2022](#) will take place online from 21 February to 6 March.
- **Get involved in the 2022 Fairtrade Youth Exhibition** The [Fairtrade Youth Exhibition](#) will be re-opening for entries after the Christmas holidays, this year with a different exhibition theme



Supports the Eco-Schools global learning topic



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