

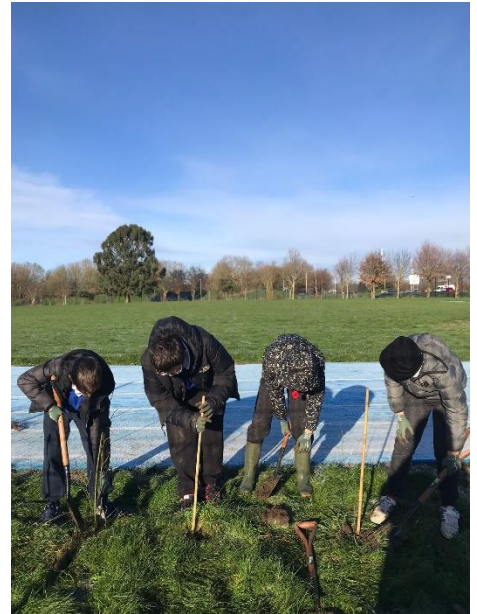
Welcome to the **February Sustainable Schools Leicester eBulletin**.

We hope you have settled in after the Christmas holidays. Last month we were hedge planting at several schools as part of our urban nature project with WWF. We also launched this year's *Grow Your Own Grub* competition and sign up forms are still open [here!](#)

We have lots of exciting events and training planned for the next few months so read on to find out more!

### Upcoming events and competitions:

- Eco schools training – Friday 2 February
- Hedgehog community talk at Lancaster Academy – Tuesday 27 February
- World Wildlife Day virtual assembly – Friday 1 March
- Grow your own Grub competition – Sign up deadline Friday 15 March
- Carbon literacy training – Thursday 18 April



*Hedge planting at Buswells Lodge Primary School*

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

- [Marc.Tench@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Marc.Tench@leicester.gov.uk)
- [Molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk)
- [Laura Barke@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk)
- [Jasmine.Walker@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Jasmine.Walker@leicester.gov.uk)

### Follow us on Social Media

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



## Free Hedgehog community event

On Tuesday 27 February 2024 we will be running a hedgehog community event at Lancaster Academy. We will be joined by hedgehog expert Bev Hart, and Paul and Janey who are representing Friends of Wash Brook Nature Reserve. Students from Lancaster Academy and Sir Jonathan North will also be sharing how they have become hedgehog champion schools. Learn more about hedgehogs and test your hedgehog knowledge with a quiz!

[FREE Hedgehog Community Evening Tickets, Tue 27 Feb 2024 at 17:30 |](#)

[Eventbrite](#)



## Grow Your Own Grub Competition

The Grow Your Own Grub competition is back! [Sign up](#) by Friday March 15 to take part. As always, there will be optional training, support and guidance available throughout the competition, so don't be afraid to sign up if you're new this year!



## World Wildlife Day

The 3 March is world wildlife day! To celebrate we are hosting a virtual assembly on Friday 1 March. The assembly will run from 1.30- 2pm. No need to pre book just [Click here to join the meeting](#) on the day or use the following meeting information:

Meeting ID: 333 209 783 102

Passcode: YAn86r



**WORLD  
WILDLIFE DAY  
3 MARCH**

## World Day of Social Justice Assembly

*Rethink Food* have 250 school subscriptions (worth £200 each) to their learning platform to give away! Tuesday 20 February is World Day of Social Justice and the team at *Rethink Food* have created a special film that can be shared as part of a whole school assembly. The film highlights how young people can take action and create a fair and equal world where everyone can thrive.

All you need to do is register for a free account:

[www.rethinkfoodacademy.co.uk/users/sign\\_up](http://www.rethinkfoodacademy.co.uk/users/sign_up) and complete the special World Day of Social Justice assembly (before 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 24). Once schools have done this their free trial accounts will be converted to complimentary Premium package with access being granted until the end of the school year 2024.

**WORLD DAY OF  
SOCIAL JUSTICE**

Our partners at Rethink Food have 250 school subscriptions (worth £200 each) to their learning platform to give away.

Tuesday 20th February is World Day of Social Justice and the team at Rethink Food have created a special film that can be shared as part of a whole school assembly. The film highlights how young people can take action and create a fair and equal world where everyone can thrive.

For schools to get the subscription and receive access to the Rethink Food learning platform all they need to do is

↓

- register for a free account: [www.rethinkfoodacademy.co.uk/users/sign\\_up](http://www.rethinkfoodacademy.co.uk/users/sign_up)
- complete the special World Day of Social Justice assembly (before 23rd Feb 24).

Once schools have done this, their free trial accounts will be converted to a complimentary Premium package with access being granted until the end of the school year 2024.

## Rethink Food Tower

We still have a food tower available for the remainder of this school year!

*Rethink* Food towers are an innovative way for schools to help teach about the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals whilst looking at growing foods in a sustainable way. The soil-free method increased yields by as much as 30% and triples the speed of growth, while using only 10% of the water and space. The lights on the tower garden allow you to grow plants indoors all year long. There's less hassle and clean up because it doesn't use soil. You can wheel the tower from the classroom to the playground, to the kitchen to the dining room! Get in touch to find out

**RETHINK FOOD TOWER**

We have food towers available to rent for the spring and summer terms.

Our sustainable school team will set up the tower, supply materials, provide training and guides for staff, and deliver a workshop for students. We recently delivered a workshop focused on the UN's sustainable development goals.

**Food tower prices**

- £250 per term
- £500 per year (3 terms)

- Encourage children to eat more fruit and veg!
- Teach children how to grow their own food!
- Empower children with sustainable knowledge!

**Quote from Linden Primary School**

*Our class really enjoyed taking part in the food tower project. We were able to see how food can be grown indoors in such a short time and how this could be a potential solution in the future, if food continues to be taken away for housing, development and animal farming.*



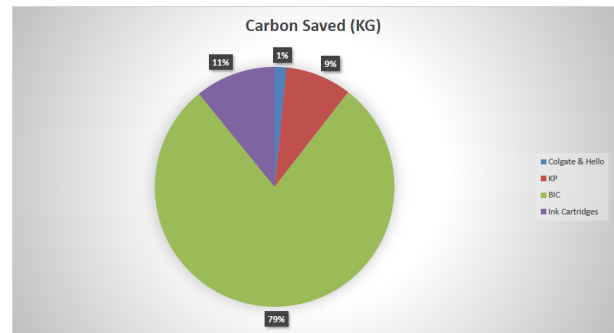

Planting the saplings in the tower (that had been grown separately for 2 weeks) and 8 weeks later

For further information please email [Molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk)

## COG – recycling audit

Over the past few years through collecting pens, ink cartridges, crisp packages and dental products, COG has saved 2549.6 KG of carbon! This is approximately 4 return flights to New York worth of carbon!

Scheme	Carbon Saved (Kg)
Colgate & Hello	40.71
KP	222.83
BIC	2003.98
Ink Cartridges	277.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>2549.60</b>



## Carbon Literacy Project

To raise awareness of the climate emergency, we are using the Carbon Literacy Project as a way of accrediting school staff to become Carbon Literate. By 2025, the DfE have said that each school will have a sustainability lead who will have taken part in Carbon Literacy Training. By joining us, you will help put your school ahead of the rest! We were fully booked for our January training, but we still have a few spaces available for our next session, taking place on 18 April 2024 at Gateway College from 9am – 4pm. Complete the [eForm](#) to book your space or for more information, contact [Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk).



## Earthwatch Teacher Training

Earthwatch are offering a free four-part CPD course on building knowledge and confidence to lead environmental and outdoor education. This course is open to all teachers, teaching assistants and informal educators in Leicester. The course runs from April to September 2024 and consists of a mixture of in person and online sessions. Sign up for the programme [here!](#)

**earthwatch education**

**Teach Earth**

**Teacher Training Programme**

Are you an EYF5, Primary or Secondary teacher or informal educator based in Leicester?

Want to build your knowledge and confidence in leading inspiring environmental and outdoor education? Join our FREE four-part teacher training!

What value does the training bring?

*"All the ideas shared about how to bring nature to children (and vice versa) in simple and achievable ways"*

*"The activities you can use throughout the curriculum"*

*"The outdoor time to reflect"*

**When?**

CPD programme dates:

- 17th Apr - Introduction webinar, 3.30-5pm, online;
- 21st May - Full-day training, 9.30am-3.30pm, Queensmead Primary Academy;
- 18th Jun - Action workshop, 3.30-5pm, online;
- 18th Sep - Action workshop, 3.30-5pm, online.

Scan the QR code and register to the Eventbrite collection today!



edu.earthwatch.org.uk/teachearth, education@earthwatch.org.uk

---

*Copyright © 2024 Leicester City Council - Sustainability Team, All rights reserved.*

You are receiving this email because it provided information about Environmental Education. We send monthly eBulletin and termly newsletters.

**Our mailing address is:**

Leicester City Council – Sustainability and Energy Team  
115 Charles St,  
Leicester LE1 1FZ  
United Kingdom

To unsubscribe, please click email [molly.laycock@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:molly.laycock@leicester.gov.uk)

