

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

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

Our Hedgehog champion schools have been making their school grounds wildlife friendly and free from hedgehog hazards this past month. We have also started putting hedgehog boxes in school grounds, and this month we will be installing nest boxes!

To celebrate **World Wildlife Day** we are delivering a virtual assembly on **Friday at 13:30** - [Click here to join the meeting](#)

We will also be presenting one other virtual assembly this year for Earth Day on Monday 22 April, so save the date!

### Upcoming events and competitions:

Grow your own Grub competition – **Sign up deadline Friday 15 March**  
Carbon literacy training – **Thursday 18 April**



*A student from St Joseph's checking their school grounds for hedgehog hazards.*

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

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### 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.



[EnvEducationLeicester](#)



[EcoSchoolsLCC](#)



[EcoSchoolsLCC](#)



[EcoSchoolsLCC](#)



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



[SustainableSchools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:SustainableSchools@leicester.gov.uk)

## 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!



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## World Wildlife Day

Sunday 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**



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## TCV – The Conservation volunteers

TCV Leicestershire and Rutland have a genuine passion for their projects, volunteers, communities, and green spaces. Their volunteers help deliver practical projects transforming green spaces and inspiring people to make a difference!

'We provide a welcoming and inclusive team spirit. We strive to form lasting partnerships with clients. Improve your health and wellbeing, connect with nature and the environment, make new friends, join in have fun!'

TCV meet every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday between 10am and 3pm. Scan the QR code to find out more!

**Do you want to...**  
Learn new skills?  
Connect with nature and the environment?  
Improve your health and wellbeing?  
Make new friends and have fun?

**Then join our conservation workdays!**  
We meet every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday (10am-3pm)- visiting green spaces in Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland.

Scan the QR codes below to find out about upcoming events!

For more info please contact Clive Forty  
Email: [c.forty@tcv.org.uk](mailto:c.forty@tcv.org.uk)  
Phone: 07764655482

Facebook QR code      Website QR code

**Connecting people and green spaces**

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## Clean Air Day – Thursday 20 June 2024

Clean Air Day is the UK's biggest initiative to reduce air pollution. It provides an opportunity to raise awareness about air pollution and take action towards improving the quality of air for a healthier environment. Schools can get involved in a variety of ways from having clean air / green themed activities, special events to even having a street near to the school closed for the day to allow games and activities to take place!

We are beginning the process of organising this year's events, so please get in touch with [matthew.finch@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.finch@leicester.gov.uk) if you would like your school to get involved this year.



## Good News Story – Willowbrook Mead Allotment Clearing

On Tuesday 20 February 2024 a group of volunteers from *Maber Architects, Pulse Consulting, BWB Consulting* and *Olivetti Group* gathered to help clear the allotment space at Willowbrook Mead Primary Academy.

They were faced with a mountain of brambles and a hugely overgrown growing space, but after just a few hours, had managed to fill 1 skip to help reveal the 6 raised beds on site! A huge thank you to the volunteers who gave up their precious time to support the school in getting a fantastic educational resource back up and running.



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## 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).

**Carbon Literacy Project**



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## Tiny Forests 2024/2025

We are currently applying for our final round of Local Authority Treescapes Funding for **Tiny Forests in 2024/2025**. Leicester now has **25 Tiny Forests in schools** across the city! Tiny Forests are fast-growing miniature woodlands that help to connect people with nature, mitigate the impacts of climate change and provide a nature-rich habitat to support wildlife. Tiny Forests cover the size of a **tennis court** and include a space to use as an **outdoor classroom**. Students are involved from start to finish, helping to plant the **600 trees** and then monitoring the impact of the forest through **citizen science** activities. If you are interested in getting a Tiny Forest for your school, please contact [Laura.Barke@Leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.Barke@Leicester.gov.uk).



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## TCV Seed Swap

Do you want FREE seeds? Let's Get Growing project is giving away vegetable and flower seeds this Spring. Grow food on your windowsills, make your garden beautiful, and get free seeds for your school, community garden or mealbarrow!

We are also accepting seed donations if you would like to bring some you collected in your garden!

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 11.30am - 1pm at *Leicester Adult College, Belvoir Street*

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm - 3.30pm *outside Mellor Primary School, Belgrave*

More dates to follow!



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