

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

We have lots of exciting celebrations and events over the next month so read on to find out more!

Wildlife Friendly Schools Celebration, Highfields Adventure Playground – **Saturday 8 June**

Clean Air Day – **Thursday 20 June**

Eco-Schools Celebration, University of Leicester – **Thursday 27 June**

Grow Your Own Grub Celebration Abbey Pumping Station – **Saturday 6 July**

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

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*Students from Bridge Junior School litter picking as part of the Less Litter for Leicester project*

### **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)

## Wildlife Friendly Schools Celebration

Leicester's Wildlife Friendly Schools Celebration is on Saturday 8 June 2024 11am-3pm at Highfields Adventure Playground, Spinney Hill Park, Mere Road, LE5 5GQ.

This event is free and open to everyone, and there will be a range of activities and stallholders including facepainting, seed bomb making, a treasure hunt, and lots of other fun!

Please note there is no car parking facilities available at the park, and limited roadside parking. There is no food available, please bring a picnic. For more information, please contact [Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk)



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## Eco Schools and Less Litter Celebration

Bring your eco-team over to the University of Leicester to showcase all of your fantastic work from the past year. Schools are invited to display two of their actions from the past year and work will be judged by a range of special guests. The event is taking place on Thursday 27 June from 9:30am – 2:15pm. Please note, due to the election the venue has now changed to the University of Leicester, close to de Montfort Hall at City Hall.

Prizes:

Overall winning school – Year group (or more depending on school size) tickets to Twycross Zoo

Judges Special Award – Class set of litter picking equipment

Eco-Factor Award – £75 Co-op vouchers

Sign up using the [eForm](#).



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## Leicester's Mealbarrow Extravaganza!

As part of the Grow Your Own Grub competition for schools, we are holding our Mealbarrow Extravaganza on Saturday 6 July 2024 11am – 3pm at Abbey Pumping Station. Join us for this FREE event and view the mealbarrows created by local schools and vote for your favourite! Enjoy a ride on the train as part of Railway Day, and visit the new electric book bus and enjoy some free activities! Have a look around Abbey Pumping Station, with free entrance to the museum.



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## Carbon Literacy Project

We have been using the Carbon Literacy Project for the last 5 years to raise awareness of the climate emergency, 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! Our next sessions are in person on Thursday 10 October; Tuesday 4 February; Friday 16 May 9am – 4pm at City Hall, Charles Street, Leicester. 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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## 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!



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## BESS Energy

Worried about increasing energy costs? Wanting to save money and improve your environmental credentials? Energy makes up one of the biggest spends for schools after staffing. Leicester City Council has worked closely to develop tools and reports to empower staff and students to take control of their energy use. We have offers of BESS Energy Core, BESS Energy Enhanced, and BESS Energy Academies. Visit our [website](#) to find out more, and sign up [here](#).

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## Biffa Bees – FREE wildflower seeds

Biffa Bees is a campaign aimed at promoting biodiversity through the planting of wildflower habitats, which have seen a 97% decline in the UK.

We first launched our Biffa Bees campaign in 2019 since then we have distributed over 24,000 packets of seeds and 35,000 bulbs Nationwide to our sites and local community groups. This equates to 4 acres of wildflowers which is the size of 4 football pitches! Fantastic progress was made during the first two Biffa Bees campaign with many great bee-friendly spaces created at Biffa locations and in the wider community, expanding our network of 'bee-lines'.



We have taken the positive feedback from previous campaigns and will be distributing packets of wildflower seeds to our sites to share with employees and local community groups again in 2024. If you would like to receive some free wildflowers for your school gardens and green spaces, please email me at [sophie.glover@biffa.co.uk](mailto:sophie.glover@biffa.co.uk) and we shall be happy to send you some out, along with some information and resources such as how to make basic and advanced bee hotels, planters, bee and plant feeders, as well as planting instructions and some general bee facts.

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