

Eco-Schools Action Plan 2014- 2015



Topic	Action	Target / Measure	Timescale / Deadline	Responsibility	Actual result achieved / Date
Energy Energy Certificate NI now Level B	Windows	To check if they are closed	All year	Whole School	
	Lights	Power Down Day 7 th November (World Days of Action Campaign)	Nov 14		
	Closing Doors	To keep heat in during the winter	Winter		
Litter	Litter monitor rota	To keep playground clear of litter at break and lunch times	June 15	ECO Committee	
Recycling	Paper/Cardboard	To continue the collection of paper from the recycling bins for ABCouncil bin	All Year	Whole school	
	Clothes	Working with Cash for Clobber to recycle old clothes. Clothing bank in place – emptied whenever full – advertised in school newsletter	Jun 15	Mrs Brown Whole school	
	Compost Area	Learning how to use this with veggie beds	Sept/Oct 14	Mrs Brown and pupils	
	Large Brown Bin	Antrim Borough Council Each class has a brown bin – rota to empty Euorpean Week of Waste Reduction – theme is food	All year Nov 22- Nov 30th	Eco Committee A B Council	
Water	Taps	To check that no taps in the	Jun 15	Whole School	

		<p>classroom or toilet are left dripping – new toilets are scheduled for next year Making sure we have use of hot water for hygiene</p> <p>Outdoor water tap</p> <p>Water Aid assembly</p>	<p>All year</p> <p>Mar 15</p>	<p>Martin</p> <p>Garden Club etc..</p>	
Transport	<p>School Survey</p> <p>Sustrans</p>	<p>To involve the children in the ‘Travelwise’ project A whole school approach – activities for each class Johnny McCrystal’s visits – cycling course Road Safety Challenge Week</p>	<p>May 15</p> <p>2 year programme Nov 14</p>	<p>Whole School</p> <p>Mrs Little</p>	
Healthy Living	<p>Break Times</p> <p>Dinners</p> <p>Exercise</p>	<p>We only allow healthy breaks – no sweets, chocolate or crisps –see healthy eating policy</p> <p>NEELB only allow two choices for dinner – no cafeteria</p> <p>Classes are encouraged to have frequent lessons each week – Extra curricular sports have increased - see ‘Extended Schools’ Activities</p>	<p>Sept 14</p> <p>All year</p>	<p>Whole School</p> <p>NEELB dinner services</p> <p>Teachers</p>	
Bio Diversity	<p>Gardens, Pond and Woodland trail to encourage wildlife</p> <p>RSPB Big Schools’ Bird watch</p>	<p>To be maintained and used for lessons over the year</p> <p>Entering data on-line</p>	<p>All year</p> <p>Jan 15</p>	<p>Mrs Brown/ Whole School</p> <p>Mrs Brown/ Julie</p>	

	Swift Boxes	to be maintained – RSPB links	Apr 15	Parent	
	Forest School	Challenge Fund applied to in partnership with other schools	Mar 15	P5 class	
School Grounds	Gardening club for outdoor activities	A programme arranged for Friday afternoons – diary to be kept	Sept – June	Mrs Brown Miss Murray c’room a’tant Hud (Parent)	
	RHS Campaign for School Gardening – Level 5	Continuing work at this level in all our gardening activities and linking with the new allotment group near the school	June 15	Eric McCrubb Allotment group	
	RHS School Gardening Team of the Year	Enter competition	May 15	Eco Group	
	Garden Show Ireland	Enter competition	May 15	Eco group	
	Poly Tunnel/ Woodland path	Challenge Fund applied to	Mar 15	Adult group	
	Bulb planting/ Grow Wild	Live Here, Love Here grant/Grow Wild grant applied for	Oct 14	Eco Club	
	Competitions	Garden Show Ireland	Apr 15	Mrs Brown and parents, teachers etc	
	Trim Trail	Working on acquiring further equipment for ‘under the trees’ – Awards for All Grant	June 16	Mrs Brown Dr Edwards	
	National Science and Engineering	Outdoor problem solving challenges (Antrim Grammar)	15th March – 24th March	Whole School	

	Week Summer maintenance programme	A time table set up for parents Adult Green Fingers Club	June 15	Mrs Brown Parents etc..	
Global Perspective P1	Birds Seasons Farm Topic (Farm visit) Homes – recycling Outside Play R.E. (God’ s World)	Feeding them in the winter and making birdcake Looking at the changes in the child’s environment throughout the year Care for the animals and their young - environment Enjoying the outdoors and what it has to teach us. How we live in it and look after it	P1	Dr Edwards and Mrs Megarry	
Global Perspective P2	RSPB ‘Wildlife Action Awards’ (gold) (18 different criteria to obtain award) (see teacher’s additional class list)	What’s that flower? Bulb planting Planting and harvesting the vegetable beds Helping Hedgehogs – making a winter home for them Switch it off posters Feeding Birds/Big School’s Birdwatch Planting trees – Woodland Trust Swifts - Karen Shiels RSPB Where Minibeasts live? Visit to Greenmount College	P2	Mrs Brown	
Global Perspective P3	All Change Space Weather Super Me Hero Under the Sea	How to help birds survive the winter What’s beyond us on earth Global warming, Endangered species – polar regions Comparing with other children in third world situations Beaches - pollution	P3	Mrs Little	

Global Perspective P4	Famous people (including transport) Houses and Homes Birds and Bugs	Effects of fossil fuel on the environment. Change in our environment over time due to railways. To think about energy. Sources in our homes, effect on our environment. Birds and bugs habitats and life cycles. Caring for animals.	P4	Mrs Jess	
Global Perspective P5	Planting Trees Early Man Local Study Life Cycles Rain Forests Volcanoes /Earthquakes	Woodland Trust Recycling – rubbish bin experiments - plastic, wood, metal.. Six Mile Water Walk –woodland, river walk - pollution/habitat B’fly, frog, bird, fish, plants – beans Water Cycle Global warming Environmental disasters	P5 May/June 15	Miss Murray	
Global Perspective P6	Solar System The Body Titanic Greeks Europe	What is beyond our world – recording temperatures Healthy eating, exercise Global warming – ice caps Pollution control – sea Preserving antiquities, materials Collating data European Parliament directives	P6	Miss Harper	
Global Perspective P7	Extreme Weather The Body Young Enterprise Big Schools’ Birdwatch	Volcanoes, Earthquakes- environmental disasters Healthy eating, exercise Fair Trade Responsible for collating all the data and entering it in on-line to RSPB website	P7	Miss Gourley/ Mrs Fowler	

	Ancient Greeks To be decided..	Preserving antiquities, materials Collating data etc.			
Climate Change	Sustrans project	Carbon Footprint	2 years	Mrs Little	
Pupil Participation	ECO Action Group	To continue to meet throughout the year and review the action plan – 5th Green Flag	Jun 16	Mrs Brown Mrs Little	
	Best Kept Schools Award	To enter this competition to continue to progress – winners..?	Apr 15	Mrs Brown	
	Rights Respecting School	At level 2	Jun 15	Mrs Jess Mrs Simpson	
	Kids 4 School Charity working in Tanzania	Collecting monies each month in wellies Trying to make Eco connection	Jun 15	Mrs Brown Mrs Simpson	
	Class visits	Greenmount RSPB	Jun 15	P2-3	
	Assemblies	Fair Trade, Water Aid	Feb 15, Mar 15	Mrs Brown	
	Green Gym mornings School Fairs	School Grounds Selling vegetables, decorations and plants at harvest fair, xmas fair and summer fair to raise funds	Oct 14, Apr 15 Oct 14, Dec 14, June 15	Eco Club Eco Club	

Lessons that have been taught in the garden

Autumn Term			
Year Group	Lesson	Learning Intentions	Success Criteria
P1	Autumn Literacy Bread Potato harvesting Animal homes	To gather a leaf collection To listen to sounds in the environment To find grain growing and understand where flour comes from To pull potatoes and see their uses To understand that hedgehogs hibernate	Class taken out for a walk around the grounds Class discussion Making of bread from flour Eating them in different ways – eg chips. mash Looking for suitable hibernation homes outside
P2	Class topic - 'In the garden' Soup making Art Lesson Leaf/Seed collecting Bulb planting Literacy	Harvesting carrots, onions, parsnips etc – literacy lessons too To fingerpaint hydrangeas grown in school To gather a collection for planting next year To show the children how to plant bulbs – shoots up/roots down To read the 'Stick Man' story by Julia Donaldson	Eating the soup hot!! Displayed on school noticeboard Kept and stored in brown envelopes In spring they will see fruit for their endeavours Finding stick men to play with in the winter garden
P3	Parts of a plant and trees too!	To go out and identify the parts from plants and trees in the ground Autumn Animals – hedgehog (hibernation) Migration – swallows journey to S. Africa	Autumn walk Displays in the classroom Displays in the classroom
P4	Art Lesson	To understand that leaves change	Class went on a walk and identified

	RSPB visit	colour To go on a wellie walk	'deciduous and evergreen' trees. Leaf collection for use in an 'autumn' collage. Showing visitors around the school grounds
P5	Art Lesson	Cave paintings – natural objects, sand etc from outdoors – archaeological dig!	Materials collected from outdoors
P6	Art lesson Sustrans project PDMU	Junk models – solar system To encourage cycling to school instead of cars To care for the world	The children will gain certificates to help them with their skills Citizen of the world –strategies for the environment
P7	English Writing/Art	To use the term of personification of the seasons through poetry To invent a new Eco Code through report writing – relating the themes that the garden has brought to the school	Oral discussion about the changes of the seasons Making posters to put up around the school with the new code displayed on it
Nurture	Art lesson	To use natural materials for an art lesson from the woodland area	3D art picture

Spring Term			
Year Group	Lesson	Learning Intentions	Success Criteria
P1	Bird Watching Soil digging Textures of winter twigs	To identify and record the most common birds around the school grounds To experience the properties of soil using hands and spades To observe different types of twigs with no leaves	Entering the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch Enjoying the mud! Being able to see the differences
P2	Bird Watching Creative Clay lesson Shoots walk Planting seeds	To identify and record the most common birds around the school grounds To build snowmen To create a nest for birds out of clay To be able to name spring bulbs that are appearing In the playroom we've set up the propagator	Entering the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch Snowmen built Creating the nest after outdoor observation Enjoy the colour spectacle that they bring Watching the seeds germinate
P3	Bird Watching Spring Walk Trees Senses walk	To identify and record the most common birds around the school grounds To identify the seasonal changes in the garden To identify parts of a tree To use our senses to identify smells and sounds in school garden	Entering the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch Looking for the new shoots – bulbs Being able to name the different parts Enjoying the walk and taking time to smell and to listen
P4	Bird Watching Local Area walk	To identify and record the most common birds around the school	Entering the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch

	Birds Bugs and Beasts – wellie walk Garden designs	grounds To identify plants and minibeasts in the school grounds To draw up designs for the raised bed competition	Being able to observe and name the different habitats they live in Being able to plant up and see their designs come to fruition
P5	Bird Watching Planting seeds QUB Belfast project	To identify and record the most common birds around the school grounds To observe where you plant seeds and what conditions they need to grow	Entering the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch Finding out which conditions allow seeds to grow best
P6	Bird Watching Raised bed designs	To identify and record the most common birds around the school grounds To design for the competition what would go into the P6 bed – art lesson	Entering the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch Planting up of the bed by June to see the fruition of their designs
P7	Bird Watching Garden design Photography	To identify and record the most common birds around the school grounds To measure perimeter and scale of raised bed and what planting is suitable for it Using cameras to capture the Spring Show in the school grounds	Entering the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch In June, seeing the fruits of their designs in the raised bed allocated Being able to use natural light successfully to produce pictures for an exhibition
Nurture	'Change over' time for this class		

Summer Term			
Year Group	Lesson	Learning Intentions	Success Criteria
P1	Raised Bed	Planting wild flower seeds in painted tyres	Seeing them grow – one tyre worked the other tyre needed to be replanted!
P2	Raised Bed competition Completion of RSPB Wildlife Action Awards	Painting their own designs on flower pots Evidence sent away	Creating the two flower pot men for the P2 class – amazing Certificates arrived in the post...
P3	Raised bed competition	Sowing seeds – the frost got the better of them Sea-side theme – blue flowers	Help came from other sources and the bed was restored
P4	Raised Bed competition	Planting up their designs from seed World War 2 – dig for victory	They created a wonderful display with the P4 letters spelt out using their produce
P5	Raised bed competition	This class planted their seedlings in the polytunnel Companion planting	Their class name was spelt out using lettuce plants with different varieties
P6	Raised Bed competition	To create a design using their class topic	Titanic was spelt out using stones and the raised bed became very creative
P7	Raised bed competition	To create their own unique design	The P7 children planted their own bed up without any help from adults

