



Education For Sustainable Development Newsletter

March/April 09



United Nations Environment Programme World Environment Day 2009

World Environment Day is celebrated every year on 5 June in more than 100 countries. The theme for 2009 is climate change and the broader consequences of environmental change, and what societies can do in response.

Every individual's efforts, no matter how small, can contribute to the sustainable development of our economies and communities around the world. On this day, individuals, non-governmental organizations, community and youth groups, business, industry and the media organize activities to renew their commitments to protect and develop the environment. They organize activities such as clean-up campaigns, tree planting, colourful street rallies, green concerts, essay and photo competitions in schools, and recycling efforts.

Why not get your school involved? Register your school at <http://www.unep.org/wed/2009/english/>



Local Government Review

As of April 1st 2009 Cheshire County Council will be split into two new authorities; Cheshire West & Chester Borough Council and Cheshire East Council. Below is a list of contacts for both authorities. There are still some roles to appoint, so in the next edition of the newsletter we'll provide a further update.

West

Emma Edwards 01244 607262
Stefania Isbell 01244 607263

East

Lucinda Hodges (waste education) 0845 1133311

Staff covering East & West

Safer Routes to School, Angela Hewitt, 01244 976740
Healthy Schools, Ellen Weaver, 01606 274304
Liz Ellis (Waste Education) 0845 1133311

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Over St. John's enjoys "Food around the World" Day

Over St. John's is still really busy being green. Pupils seem to have taken the message of how important it is to recycle, reduce and reuse any resources. We encourage this in the curriculum and in after school clubs. We have an active Eco Committee, a very enthusiastic eco friendly club, as well as an excellent gardening group and vegetable club.



Trying to build on the success of last year's Green Day which was based on Recycle, Reuse and Reduce, we have just had a "Food around the World" Day using the wonderful resources that we were given by the Development Education centre.

In Reception the Seed Story was used as a starting point and all the children were involved in making bread. They also had the opportunity to eat bread from different nations. In Key Stage 1 children focussed on "Let's Eat" and thought about what Thembe's day in South Africa was like in comparison to their own day. Year 2 children expanded their understanding of where they get their food from by using a range of websites.

In Years three and four we thought about our favourite food and where in the world it may come from. We placed a range of products on a world map and thought about the food miles that they travel from source to table. The best part of the day for many of us was making a fair trade banana and mango lassi and a fair-trade chocolate cake using the recipes from the "Let's eat" book. It gave us the opportunity to discuss fair trade and why it is important to support it.

Years 5 and 6 researched fair trade using the lap tops, created a fair trade chocolate fridge cake and a created rap about the importance of fair trade.

Finally the Eco Friendly club made some collaged fruit representing some of the food we had discussed including bananas, chocolate and cocoa beans. A display of the activities that the school has taken part in is already up.

We are hoping that the activities we have taken part in will encourage the pupils to think about where food comes from and what difference they can make by buying fair trade products, especially in the run up to Fairtrade fortnight.



Dates to Remember!!

- **World Water Day** 22nd March
- **World Health Day** 7th April
- **World Fairtrade Day** 9th May
- **National Walk to School Week** 18th May-22nd May



If you would like your school to feature in the ESD newsletter email your article and school details to jensimpson@cheshiredec.org

Walk to school week 18th-22nd May

Let's stop the Walk to School from becoming something of the past!

Parents who drive short journeys to school can make up a large percentage of the rush hour traffic. Think of the noise, the pollution and the congestion that creates - not to mention the danger to pedestrians, especially children. Walk to School Week 2009 is rapidly approaching. Our theme is "Walk 'n' Talk" as we want to highlight the social side to walking to school; it can be fun and fascinating! For more information contact the school travel team on 01244 977231 or email schooltravelteam@cheshire.gov.uk

Pumpkin Seeds

Free pumpkin seeds are available to all schools on a first come first served basis. Sow April to May to harvest September to October. To request your seeds (20 seeds per pack) contact emma.edwards@cheshire.gov.uk , 01244 607262.

Water Butts

Help reduce your schools' water bill for gardening projects. Subsidised water butts are currently available for £16.68 including delivery. To purchase contact Evergreener on 0845 1306090, quoting reference CCS 002L.

Top Tips for Sustainable Purchasing in Schools

Did you know that schools account for 8.5 million tonnes of CO₂ per year; 42.1% of which is a direct result of purchasing?

The DCSF has recently produced this booklet providing schools with practical advice and guidance on more sustainable purchasing practises.

Copies are available from emma.edwards@cheshire.gov.uk , 01244 607262.

For more information on the National Framework for Sustainable Schools and The Eight Doorways look to the following web site;

www.teachernet.gov.uk/sustainableschools



Free SUSchool posters

Worth £9.99, available on a first come first served basis. Illustrated poster, produced by the Alternative Technology Centre, Hebden Bridge, listing 71 ways your school can be more sustainable. For more information, or to request your copy contact emma.edwards@cheshire.gov.uk , 01244 607262.



Look out for the next ESD newsletter
available from
Monday 8th June 2009

