

The Keys Federation
Hindley Green Community Primary School

Eco Committee Report- January 2015

Present at the meeting:
K. Laithwaite (Eco - Co coordinator)
Eco Committee Representatives

1. RSPB Big School Bird Watch

The eco committee have introduced the RSPB Big School Bird Watch to the staff within school and asked them to carry out at least the one hour's bird watch with their class. The results of the watch are to be submitted to the eco committee no later than the 6th February 2015. The eco committee will then publish the results onto the RSPB website and analyse the results of the birds that visit our school. The eco committee will use the RSPB graphing facility to analyse the results.

Action:

We are currently waiting until the 6th February to receive the results of the bird watch from all classes. Those classes who have already done the watch have published photographs and work onto their class blog page.

2. Trees

The eco committee have been out supporting the local community in Bickershaw by carrying out tree planting activities on two occasions at the old colliery site. Mr Southern and Mrs Bibby supported the children with their tree planting work.

Action-

In response to this, the children then applied to the Woodland Trust for some 'free trees to schools.' This is a campaign whereby the Woodland Trust will deliver free tree saplings to school during the Autumn term 2015. The eco committee will then be asked to plant these around school.

3. Green Flag/ Ambassador Award

The eco committee have been making their preparations for the next application for the 2nd Green Flag award which will take place in April 2015. The application has now been submitted and we are waiting the eco schools committee to contact us with our assessment date.

Action-

Once we have received our second Green Flag Award, the eco committee wish to research the process involved in us becoming an Ambassador school. This will then mean our school will support others along their eco schools journey. As we are currently working alongside the other schools within the Federation, the eco committee feels we have evidence towards this already.

4. Wildlife Tunnels

The eco committee recycled our old milk bottles to make wildlife tunnels to be placed within the school garden. This will attract local wildlife and will encourage them to leave their footprints behind to allow us to research which animals are visiting our school.

Action -

We placed 6 wildlife tunnels around the school garden during the Christmas holidays, although no footprints were left behind, which we think was due to the cold weather.

Response -

The eco committee will continue to place the wildlife tunnels in the garden throughout the term and assess which animals are visiting us.

5. Fair Trade Schools

The eco committee suggested to members of staff within phase 3 to aim to achieve the first fair trade school award 'Fair Aware.' This involved carrying out an audit into what the children and staff currently understand about fair trade and doing some work in class in order to receive the award.

Action -

The year 3 children went on a mission to find items in their local supermarket that display the

fair trade mark and to research about what fair trade is. The year 4 children delivered an assembly to parents about the work they have done on fair trade.

Response –

We are currently waiting to submit all our work and receive the award.

6. Energy Monitors

All classes throughout school have been assigned an energy monitor for their class. This person will ensure the lights and all electrical appliances are turned off when not in use.

Action –

All classes now have an energy monitor.

Response –

After analyzing our latest energy summary, the eco committee discovered that our use of gas has reduced by 33% in the last year and electricity reduced by 4%. Our DEC reading has also improved from 103 – 101.

7. Bike Ability

After carrying out the transport questionnaire at the beginning of the year the eco committee discovered that the majority of our children would rather cycle to school. We already have secure bike and scooter facilities at school but wanted to supply the children with appropriate cycle skills.

Action

A company was contacted to provide the children in year 4 and 6 with 'Bike Ability' training.

Response

The transport questionnaire will be carried out again at the end of the year to assess whether more children are applying their cycling skills and using their bike to travel to school.