

Eco Council minutes: 24th May 2017

Present: KL, LW

Councillors: AB, TC, SC, MZ, EP-A, ER,
E B-S, MO-R, MH

KL opened by apologising for the long hiatus of pupil voice meetings. We reviewed the previous action plan and minutes before LW appointed in November. We agreed that the actions detailed had either been met (Appoint new outdoor learning teacher) or had become superfluous (example).

MO-R and MH invited to tell us what they know and remember about the last green flag application process. MH said it was simply a matter of doing what we do as a school, but polishing it and making it obvious for visiting assessors.

We looked at the 9 project areas we would work on for this application and decided on 5 as a group.

Water: TC, MO-R, EPA raised issues of water bottles being overfilled and wasted, children drinking too much and going to the toilet all the time. KL reminded the children that our toilets are flushed with rainwater, but at this time of year it may not always be possible, however it is important for hygiene to always flush the toilet.

Litter: Children shared that they didn't think that the school had a litter problem, partially due to the fact that 'wrapped' snacks are not allowed at playtime, only fruit. However some litter exists and SC and AB said they thought this as coming from parents/older siblings collecting at home time. It was noted that the fruit bins are not being consistently emptied and taken to compost. Several councillors said they would be happy to take this job on, LW to check re: H&S. Several children mentioned they have heard their peers express reluctance to walk any distance to use a bin.

Healthy living: We are healthy except for dinners, especially dessert. However fruit pots always available. year 6 are running a healthy tuck shop from net week. majority of children take part in sports clubs. LW asked children how we keep our minds healthy and children were unsure.

Biodiversity: discussed the meaning of Biodiversity. How can we become more biodiverse? Children noted that we have bird feeders that are rarely filled (LW explained due to finance) and a bird bath that is always empty.

School grounds: children happy with school grounds in general, ties into litter topic to keep it looking its best, older children willing to help with the upgrade of the EYFS playground using recycled and reclaimed materials.

Other: as TC, MH, and MOR leaving in July, SC and EBS to recruit one extra year 5 member each in conjunction with their class teachers to then help take the lead on the eco schools process going into November.

Next meeting Scheduled: Thursday 7th May

Action points for next meeting:

LW to look into resources and area for a bird sanctuary, chase re: hedgehogs, look into H&S implications for children emptying bins.

Children to think about what steps can be taken to address non-pupils leaving litter.

Children to act as 'Water spies' in their individual classes and to report back on what they have observed next meeting.

LW to look into to year 5/6 helping to renovate EYFS playground: speak to teachers.

Children to note their activities over half term and note how different activities make their minds feel.

LW/KL to discuss dinners, if appropriate then to discuss with kitchen staff.