



## School News from Copley Junior School



### Developing Environmental Awareness at Copley Junior

At Copley Junior we have a very enthusiastic Eco Council, led by an equally enthusiastic Miss Walker! Two representatives from each class are elected to the Eco Council every year and they take part in a wide range of initiatives to raise environmental awareness and promote care of our environment.

#### Active 'Travel to School' Fortnight

We promote active 'Travel to School' fortnights through the year. In October we saw the percentage of children walking to school rise by 20% from 60%-80%. As well as the benefit of fresh air and exercise, the reduction in car journeys helps to protect our environment.

#### Bulbs4Kids

We registered to be one of the 800 schools in the UK to receive a free box of 600 flower bulbs (200 tulips, 200 daffodils, 100 crocuses, and 100 grape hyacinths). Eco Council members were very busy planting the bulbs and we hope for a lovely display in the spring. Thank you to Mrs Gray, our Eco Schools governor, who helped us with the planting.



#### Learning from the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust



We were very pleased to welcome two external specialists from the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust to lead a whole school assembly about the environmental importance of trees and woodlands. We learned a lot about how trees support the environment and different species of wildlife and we learned about different types of trees. We have so many trees in our school grounds and we are delighted that our application was successful so that the Eco Council can plant and see some new trees grow.

## RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch 2019

Our Eco Council spent one hour counting the birds in our school grounds, helping to create a 'snapshot' picture of bird numbers in the UK. We submitted our results to the RSPB who can then create an overview of which birds are making the most of school grounds across the UK.

Over a period of time we stocked up our bird table with tasty treats to tempt the local birds to visit us. This had great impact as we spotted the following bird species during our one hour of observation: wood pigeon, magpie, robin, blackbird, magpie, starling and blue tit.



## Woodland Trust 'Tree Champion' Competition

Miss Walker and the Green Team launched a whole school competition to design a Woodland Trust 'Tree Champion', following our brilliant assembly led by the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and our recent successful application for new trees for the school grounds. The Eco-Council wanted the children to think carefully about how their champion cares for trees. Well done to Allegra with her winning 'Pixie Tree Saver' design!

## National Awards

As a result of our many initiatives and the impact of these, our Eco Council has been successful in gaining two national accreditations - the Silver Eco Schools Award and the Woodland Trust 'Green Tree School' Silver Award. Well done to the Eco Council!



We look forward to sharing more of our school news soon.

*E.A. Crayton*  
Head teacher