



Newsletter Summer 2010



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Welcome to the Eco-Schools Summer Term Newsletter. This edition focuses on some up-coming key changes and a new fund-raising initiative for schools. You'll also find information about this year's Eco-Schools Show, Bug Month and Green Britain Day plus a competition reminder and Stats Corner.

Eco-Schools Show 2010

This year's Eco-Schools Show takes place on Wednesday 23rd June at the East of England Showground, the Exec, Peterborough. With around 3,000 attendees expected it is the largest sustainable schools event in England. The event is also unique in that our target audience is young people from Eco-Schools committees; all our activities, presentations and workshops are written with that in mind.

This year's show will feature a packed programme of exciting activities aimed at highlighting the fantastic work schools are doing across the country including:

- The Activity Zone where pupils can have a go at a variety of eco activities
- Workshops for both pupils and teachers providing practical advice for schools looking to attain and keep the Eco-Schools Green Flag
- Ask the Experts Area where Eco-Committees can put questions to an expert on a topic of their choice
- A wide range of exhibitors displaying relevant and exciting information or products for Eco-Schools
- Inspiring special guests and special announcements

Why not reward your schools Eco-Committee and bring them along for a fun and educational day out? For further details about the Show and to book your free places [click here](#) **Please note: the workshops and Ask the Expert sessions do fill up quickly so please book early.**

Energy to Become Compulsory

Schools are responsible for 15% of public sector carbon emissions and the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) are supporting Eco-Schools in a bid to reduce emissions and to help schools save money.

From September the Energy topic will be compulsory for all Eco-Schools. This means that any school applying for their Green Flag award after the 1st January 2011 must demonstrate how they have tackled Energy as part of their Eco-Schools project work. For more suggestions on how to tackle the Energy topic why not visit The Pod, EDF Energy's programme for Greener Schools www.jointhepod.org

Schools will also be required to provide details of their Display Energy Certificate (DEC) when applying for the Bronze, Silver or Green Flag awards. [Click here for more information on Display Energy Certificates and how they affect you.](#)

As part of our work with the Department of Energy and Climate Change we will also be launching a brand new Act on CO₂ School Award in September to reward those schools that can demonstrate energy savings of 10% or more.

Eco-Schools News in Brief

Website Changes

From the start of the new school year you will notice a few updates to the Eco-Schools website. The main change will be the ability to apply for your Green Flag online via a simple user-friendly form; there will also be a separate shorter form for those schools applying for a Green Flag renewal. This will make things run much more smoothly whilst reducing the amount of paper used.

Also available from September will be the new Green Flag Health Check, this is a simple online check list for those schools that think they might be ready to apply for the Green Flag. On completion of the check list you will be told if you are ready to apply or whether some areas need a little more work.

We will no longer accept paper forms **AFTER** 1st October 2010

Green Flag Ambassador Award

Soon to be launched is the Green Flag Ambassador School Award.

This new award recognises those schools that have made progress in all nine Eco-Schools topics and have fully embedded sustainability into the life and ethos of the school.

Ambassador Eco-Schools will be expected to have successfully delivered change in the culture of the school, be able to demonstrate successful pupil and community interaction and have used their knowledge and experience to support and share information and advice with their local authority and other schools.

The application form for the Ambassador Award will also be online.

Fund-raising for Eco-Schools with the Carbon Advice Group

The Eco-Schools team have worked together with the Carbon Advice Group to develop the chance for organisations and individuals to calculate their carbon footprint via your school website and then make a suggested donation to one of your own Eco-Schools projects. The donation can either be to one of your Eco-Schools projects to help you progress towards Green Flag, or the Eco-Schools Programme nationally which would enable other schools to get started on their journey towards sustainability.

[Click here for more information and to get started with your own fundraising.](#)

Green Flag Applications

Thank you to all the schools who applied for the Green Flag Award before the 1st March. We had a huge number of applications and we are now working hard to allocate assessors to you all before the end of the Summer Term. Please be patient with us, we will get through them as quickly as we can.

If you didn't make the March deadline then please note that the Summer Term is usually when we receive the most applications and we cannot guarantee that schools applying during this period will be assessed before the summer holidays. All of our assessors are volunteers, many with full-time jobs and trying to match up a school with an assessor nearby is quite a task! We will do our best to arrange your assessment as soon as possible but you can help by being flexible with the dates and times you can make available for an assessor to visit.



Please note we now have an updated Green Flag application form on the website, [click here](#) or on the icon to the left to download it.

The form asks you to list any dates which you are unable to have an assessment visit.

Please help us by filling this section in accurately.

HSBC Eco-Code Poster Competition Reminder

Eco-Schools in England is part of a larger project on Climate Change with ten other International Eco-Schools countries and HSBC. To celebrate the end of the first year of the project we have launched a poster competition, the winners of which will be entered into an international competition with the

winners of the ten other countries. For more information and to register for the competition go to www.eco-schools.org/climateinitiative

The closing date is Friday 28 May 2010.

The British Council

Would you like to bring a Global Perspective to your Eco-Schools work?

Eco-Schools has teamed up with the Department for Children, Schools and Families Global Gateway to offer schools in England an amazing set of options for getting a global perspective into their school with a school link or an international project on an environmental issue.

The Global Gateway has lots of schools overseas that are keen to work on projects about environmental issues. April's featured school is [Kavya School in Nepal](#). If you are interested in linking with this school or one like it please get in touch with the partner finding team at editor@globalgateway.org.

Further News

Green Britain Day 17 June 2010



For Green Britain Day this year, Eco-Schools and the Pod are challenging schools across the UK to use Pod activities to help save energy and water in schools, to re-cycle more rubbish, to travel in an environmentally friendly way and to conserve biodiversity. We've set some targets in these areas that we want all schools to help us reach by Green Britain Day.

We also want your pupils to inspire friends, family and the local community to do things differently too. We've worked with the team at the Pod to create a whole suite of free campaign materials including letter templates, leaflets, posters etc that pupils can use to tell people about the things they've learnt about in school and to encourage them to do similar things at home or at work.

Sign up at www.jointhepod.org to take part and for the chance to win some great prizes, the first 2500 schools that sign up to the challenge will receive a free Green Britain Day celebration pack.

Bug Month – Build your Bug Hotel



The Pod has launched a brand new biodiversity topic area with free activities, lesson plans and resources to help you build your very own bug hotel.

Bug Month is running between 19 April and 21 May, by taking part you can support the whole schools' interest in biodiversity; it will help towards your next Eco-Schools Award and with accreditation from the Big Wildlife Garden too.

There are also a number of great prizes to be won in the free prize draw including:

- A trip to the 2012 Olympic site and lunch with an athlete.
- A mentor from the Eden Project or Eco-Schools to support your schools sustainability project

To take part visit www.jointhepod.org and request your free campaign pack which includes posters, stickers, magnifying glasses and much more!

Stats Corner

Total

Total No. of Schools Registered with Eco-Schools 13,880

% of English Schools Registered with Eco-Schools 63.8%

Award Numbers

Current Green Flag Schools	1,034
Current Silver Award Schools	4,507
Current Bronze Award Schools	3,506
Total no. of Eco-Schools Registered with The Pod	5,792

Registered Schools by LEA

LEA	Reg'd	%
▲ 1 London Borough of Southwark	110	97%
▶ 2 Redcar and Cleveland	58	97%
▲ 3 Herefordshire	108	95%
▲ 4 Stoke-on-Trent	98	93%
▲ 5 Wigan	127	91%
▶ 6 Oldham	105	88%
▼ 7 Corporation of London	7	88%
▼ 8 Worcestershire	254	87%
▼ 9 Blackburn with Darwen	78	86%
▲ 10 Manchester	163	83%

Registered Schools with Green Flag

LEA	Flags	%
▲ 1 Wigan	28	20%
▼ 2 Worcestershire	55	19%
▶ 3 Herefordshire	16	14%
▲ 4 Redcar and Cleveland	8	13%
▼ 5 Tameside	14	13%
▲ 6 Newcastle upon Tyne	14	13%
▼ 7 Oldham	15	13%
▼ 8 Leicestershire	32	11%
▼ 9 West Sussex	34	10%
▲ 10 Derbyshire	42	9%

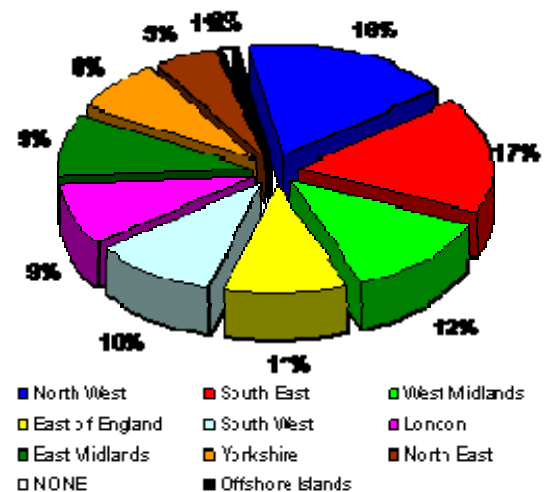
This School Year

Total Green Flag Assessments Carried Out since September 2009 341
 Total No. of Schools Registering with Eco-Schools since September 2009 1,860

Top Performing LEAs this School Year

LEA	GF	S	B
▶ 1 Kent	23	16	24
▲ 2 Worcestershire	17	10	8
▶ 3 Surrey	15	19	21
▼ 4 Lancashire	13	37	52
▲ 5 Warwickshire	13	10	16
▲ 6 Suffolk	11	14	23
▲ 7 Wigan	11	7	6
▲ 8 Staffordshire	10	10	14
▼ 9 Oxfordshire	10	10	12
▲ 10 Derbyshire	8	15	25

% Registered Schools by Region



Contact Eco-Schools

Telephone: 01942 612621

Email address: eco-schools@keepbritaintidy.org

Website: www.eco-schools.org.uk

If you wish to change the lead role or email address for your school please [contact us](#) including your school name and Post Code and include any changes you would like to make.

Note: With regards to email addresses, Eco-Schools prefers schools to use generic school email addresses when registering rather than personal Hotmail, Yahoo, Aol and Google mail types.