

Outstanding Conservation School – Netherton Moss

At Netherton Moss, we are committed to ensuring that the experiences the children have in school are designed to give them the knowledge, skills and dispositions they need in order to participate actively and responsibly within the life of their own community and the wider world. An important element for this comes through our commitment to the environment and conservation. Our multi-layered approach seeks to engage and empower all the children to make positive changes in their own lives and that of others.



Waste reduction and recycling is one of the key areas in which the children have taken control of the school's systems and engaged with key staff to rethink the way we work. A visit to the Gillmoor Recycling Discovery Centre gave the children an overview of the importance of correct waste disposal and practical ways to maximise opportunities for recycling. As a result, each classroom now has its own mini



recycling centre and this gives the children a hands-on opportunity to sort the classroom waste into its different constituent parts, paper, plastics and metals are separated out from the general waste and Eco-club work with the Site Manager to ensure these are disposed of appropriately. Our participation in the TerraCycle project also sees the children gathering and recycling classroom



equipment and crisp packets that are made from a mixture of materials and is therefore harder to recycle, such as pens, ink cartridges and certain packaging. These on-going practical opportunities have raised the children's awareness and helped them to develop a new and more responsible attitude to waste and this is being transferred to adults both in school and at home. The children are able to monitor the impact of their work, Eco-Club complete a termly Plastics Audit and have been able to track the reduction in the use of single use plastic over the year, reporting their



findings and continuing to engage the school community. Other initiatives to help with waste reduction see the children take their exercise books with them as they move from one year to the next and continue to use each one until it is full, this along with asking teachers to purchase pens which take refills has had significant environmental benefits as well as financial ones. Parents have been persuaded to help by donating surplus school uniform that is laundered,



sorted and resold in aid of school funds along with other clothing for general recycling. It is through activities such as this, that the children have started to appreciate and look upon these items in terms of energy and resources saved, and gain satisfaction from this as opposed to that which comes from having new things all the time. This shift in their attitude is an especially important part of our work.



Another key aspect of our commitment to the environment, is our Forest School which gives the children opportunities to explore and learn about the flora and fauna of the many and varied native species within our school grounds. This work is vital, if the children are going to develop a passion for protecting and preserving their surroundings and the



wider planet, they must, from the very earliest of ages, learn to love and appreciate the outdoors and everything the natural world has to offer. It is over 20 years since the school had the vision to plant its own forest, it is a huge joy to see the children exploiting every learning opportunity available in this wild and unspoilt environment. It is also an indication of our strong sense of community and history, that the parents of so many of the children who are reaping the rewards of this beautiful natural resource today, were the children who planted the trees all those years ago! During



2019-2020, a successful bid was made via the Nature Friendly Schools Project to enhance and enlarge our woodland. During the year, the children have been working with Mersey Forest to plant over 400 native trees and establish the natural foundations for over 60 metres of wildlife friendly hedgerow within the school grounds.



Cooking and gardening are another of the key life skills that we prioritise. Right next to our cookery room, 'Moss Munch', is the school allotment where the children grow their own fruit, vegetables and herbs, it is great to watch as they pick the ingredients they have nurtured. The global environmental issue of 'Food Miles' is reduced to just a few 'Food Metres' as they prepare and compare a variety of dishes using their home grown ingredients. This engages them first hand in

issues around food sustainability, how different foods are seasonal and the environmental impact of out of season production. These recipes and the clear messages around shopping sustainably are shared by the children as they take their food and enthusiasm home with them.



2019 saw the construction of the school greenhouse. The children collected over 4000 plastic bottles and worked with our Site Manager and the local community to construct the panels that would become our 'green' greenhouse. A building as environmentally friendly in its construction as it is in its contents and purpose. This resource has enabled the children to increase the quantity and range of the food they grow. Despite the COVID 19 pandemic, the children who have remained with us during the lockdown period have worked hard, and the greenhouse is currently full of fruit, salad and vegetable plants waiting to be harvested including chilli, garlic and sweet peppers.

Through the leadership of our Eco Club the whole school regularly participates in a wide range of local and nation campaigns and surveys from the Big Garden Birdwatch, Switch Off Fortnight even the national Slug Survey. The Palm Oil Project has been one of our most adventurous and effective campaigns to date. Working in partnership with our friends at Chester Zoo, children across the whole school have sought to investigate and educate the entire school community about the



devastating impact the unsustainable production of palm oil is having on some of the most important yet fragile global ecosystems. In the Autumn Term, each class participated in a series of workshops, firstly to discover the background to this important issue and the significant contribution it is making to climate change, then to take a look at the habitats and wildlife that are most at risk from the ongoing destruction of the world's rainforests, to developing an understanding that palm oil production can be sustainable and then most importantly to learn about the practical steps and choices

everyone can take as they shop to bring about global change. The workshops ended with a whole school visit to Chester Zoo, to see first-hand the wide variety of animals and plants that are most at risk. As a result of their investigations and our visit, the children returned with a real passion and commitment for the issue. Additional impetus came from our whole school book study of Greta Thunberg and her mantra 'No one is too small to make a difference'. As a result, the children set about changing, hearts, minds and habits.



As a school, we have always found that one of the most inspiring and effective ways to educate and inform the wider school community is through drama and the arts. It has the capacity to both entertain and persuade, and the children were determined to do that. The older children took responsibility for the script-writing and set to work creating a narrative that would bring together the environmental themes of each year group and educate the audience as to the role they could play in bringing about real change. The resulting whole school performance of 'We can make a difference' saw children of every age collaborate and perform drama, dance and music on the themes of waste reduction and recycling, pollution, deforestation and its impact, species extinction and global warming. Presented with this troubling yet encouraging illustration of a global environmental emergency, audiences responded very positively. The children have been able to monitor the impact their work has had on the community through their attitude survey which clearly shows that the key messages relating conservation issues have hit home and that habits have changes as a result, particularly in relation to sustainable palm oil. The performance and it impact stands as a testament and celebration of the school's commitment to the environment and conservation.



Changing Hearts, Minds and Habits

Netherton Moss Primary School – We Can Make a Difference – Attitude Survey
 Thank you for coming to see our performance at the end of last term. We would ask you to answer the following six questions to help us to evaluate the impact of our work:

Questions (Please Tick)

Q1. How many times did you come and see our performance of We Can Make a Difference?

0	1	2	3
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Q2. Which of the following environmental themes were included in the performance?

Global Warming	Single use plastic	Deforestation	Sustainable Palm Oil	Pollution	Waste reduction and Recycling	Species Extinction
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Q3. Has the performance helped your understanding of environmental issues?

Not at all	Somewhat	Quite a bit	A lot
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Q4. Has the performance made you more aware of the issue of palm oil and it use?

Not at all	Somewhat	Quite a bit	A lot
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Q5. Has the performance made you more likely to check the ingredients in products?

Not at all	Somewhat	Quite a bit
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Q6. Has the performance stopped you from buying a certain product because of its contents?

Not at all	A few times	Quite often
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Netherton Moss Primary School – We Can Make a Difference – Attitude Survey
 Thank you for coming to see our performance at the end of last term. We would ask you to answer the following six questions to help us to evaluate the impact of our work:

Questions (Please Tick)

Q1. How many times did you come and see our performance of We Can Make a Difference?

0%	72%	20%	8%
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Q2. Which of the following environmental themes were included in the performance?

Global Warming	Single use plastic	Deforestation	Sustainable Palm Oil	Pollution	Waste reduction and Recycling	Species Extinction
100%	60%	68%	100%	58%	80%	58%

Q3. Has the performance helped your understanding of environmental issues?

0%	20%	54%	26%
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Q4. Has the performance made you more aware of the issue of palm oil and it use?

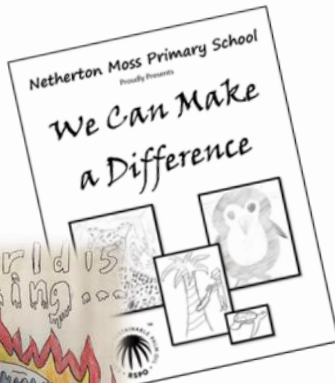
0%	0%	58%	42%
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Q5. Has the performance made you more likely to check the ingredients in products?

0%	28%	58%	14%
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Q6. Has the performance stopped you from buying a certain product because of its contents?

8%	24%	56%	12%
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We Can Make a Difference – Scene 4
 Ann and Del enter the stage
 Ann: Well hello again! And this time we're intrepid explorers in the North Polar Sea. Why don't you tell us about the ice caps and us have...

We Can Make a Difference – Scene 3
 (Phoopy, Jenny, Ann, Emma, Shabby, David) Alighting from Plane
 Year 3 song and Year 2

We Can Make a Difference – Scene 2
 Opens with video of other packing event. All Fathers – very push and not joining in. Eco doing everything.
 Ann and Del enter with mic

We Can Make a Difference – Scene 1
 In the ICT Suite - Eco Club are in there making posters. Others include - children working on ICT topics

Ann: What do you think of this?
 Phoopy: Oh, let me see!
 Jenny: That's good! I really like the words you've used... Reuse, Reduce, Recycle!



Plastic Waste Audit



The pod **Plastic waste audit**
 Count the amount of plastic waste you produce before and after your waste campaign. This will help you measure its impact.

Date of start audit: 25.9.19

Item	Quantity (e.g. #)	Total
Plastic bottles	 	37
Plastic food packaging (e.g. yoghurt pot)	 	22
Plastic cups		3
Plastic wrap (eg. clingfilm)	 	12
Other plastic	 	17
TOTAL PLASTIC ITEMS:		91

Your aim is to reduce the amount of plastic waste your school produces. Why not run the audit once a term to track your performance?

EDF ENERGY EDUCATION Inspiring the next generation

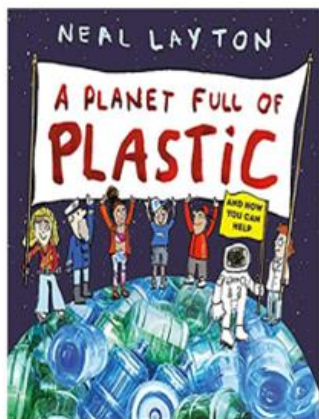
Plastic waste audit Date of end audit: 15.1.20

Item	Quantity (e.g. #)	Total
Plastic bottles	 	21
Plastic food packaging (e.g. yoghurt pot)	 	13
Plastic cups		0
Plastic wrap (eg. clingfilm)	 	14
Other plastic	 	8
TOTAL PLASTIC ITEMS:		56

Did you reduce plastic waste?

Start audit total: 91
 End audit total: 56
 Difference: = 35

We reduced / increased waste by: 35

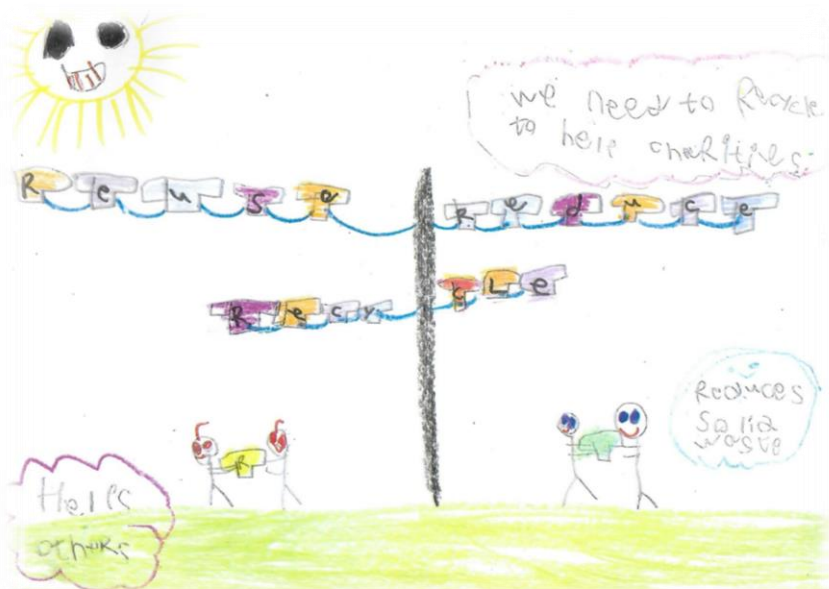


Clothing Recycling



 MATERIAL

 MATTERS



Super Surveys

rspb giving nature a home

How will you #BigGardenBirdWatch?

How many of these birds did you see?

Please write the highest number of each bird species that you see at any one time in the boxes below. So, if you see a group of eight starlings together, and towards the end of your hour you see six together, please write eight down as your final count. Where we don't show male and female birds, the sexes look similar, but not always identical.

Please write the highest number of each bird species that you see at any one time in the boxes below. So, if you see a group of eight starlings together, and towards the end of your hour you see six together, please write eight down as your final count. Where we don't show male and female birds, the sexes look similar, but not always identical.

Blackbird (your number should combine males and females) **Blue tit** **Chaffinch** (your number should combine males and females) **Coal tit**

Female chaffinch **Male chaffinch** **Female house sparrow** **Male house sparrow**

Collared dove **Duncock** **Goldfinch** **Great tit** **House sparrow** (your number should combine males and females)

Greenfinch **Long-tailed tit** **Magpie** **Robin** **Starling** **Woodpigeon**

How often do you see other wildlife?

You may not see the creatures below in your hour (especially hedgehogs, slow worms and grass snakes, which may be hibernating), but we'd like to know if any have visited your garden or local park in the last year and, if so, roughly how often. Please put the appropriate letter from the key (right) in the box next to the animal. Please don't leave any boxes blank, so if you don't know write "F".

Thank you for helping us find out more about your local wildlife.

Key

A Daily **D** Less than monthly
B Weekly **E** Never
C Monthly **F** Don't know

Some species do not occur in all parts of the UK.

Other birds and wildlife seen:

a) in your hour? SEAGULL

b) at any other time? _____

If you didn't do the Big Garden Birdwatch at home, where?

Postcode LS30 3

How many people took part?

Adults Children

Coloured dove by Paul Cheserfield; female blackbird and woodpigeon by Chris Comerball; robin, male chaffinch, great tit, male and female house sparrow, coal tit, blue tit, male chaffinch, goldfinch, toad by Andy Hay; greenfinch and male blackbird by Nigel Drake; long-tailed tit by John Briggs; magpie by Graham E. Ray; collared dove, starling and ring-necked pheasant by Ben Andrews; grass snake by Steve Kneil; hedgehog by Eleanor Bental; mole by David J. Baker; great crested newt by David Norton; grey squirrel and tree deer by Ben Hall; frog by RSPB; all rspb-images.com.



Have you seen these slugs?

There are three large patterned slugs you are likely to find in your garden:

Yellow cellar slug (*Limacus flavus*)

Clear yellow slime

Long yellow stripe running along centre of tail

Green-yellow bodies

Blue-grey tentacles

Green cellar slug (*Limacus maculatus*)

Clear yellow slime

Yellow stripe not present or very short

Leopard slug (*Limax maximus*)

Clear slime

Tail often heavily striped

Brown-grey body

Red-brown tentacles

Images approximately to scale.

Both species of cellar slugs are not considered plant pests and may be beneficial to gardeners. After taking your photographs we ask that you return any of these slugs to where you found them.

To take part and find out more visit: rhs.org.uk/slugsurvey

All images © Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales.



Netherton Moss Primary School @netherton_moss - 20 May

Today the children at Netherton moss have been learning about the importance of bee's as it is #WorldBeeDay - the children have created some bee related art & watched the bee movie! What a fantastic day 🐝🐝🐝

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Enjoying the Great Outdoors at Forest School



Netherton Moss Primary School @netherton_moss · 16 Jun

Another fun filled day at Netherton Moss - we are so lucky to have a fantastic forest school area! 🦋🐛🌳🍂

yet male stag beetles to lay eggs. We found lots of mini beasts in the soil and under logs - we think we might have even found Stag Beetle larvae. We also built a fence to protect some newly planted trees. Then we finished off the day with some roasted marshmallows and hot chocolate!

👍 13



Forest School Grounds Development Plan
Netherton Moss Primary School

Work site services including location of drains
Measurements approximate and may be subject to change
By: steph.hepworth@merseyforest.org.uk November 2019

- Wildlife Friendly Hedge 2 lengths of 6 metres
- Wildlife Friendly Hedge 50 m
Plant where there is space - screening from road
- Underplanting beneath existing mature trees to create an understorey and provide Forest School resources, creating paths using large branches.

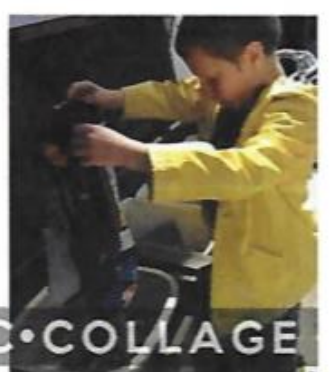
Forest Schools
IN THE MERSEY FOREST

THE MERSEY FOREST
WOODLAND TRUST

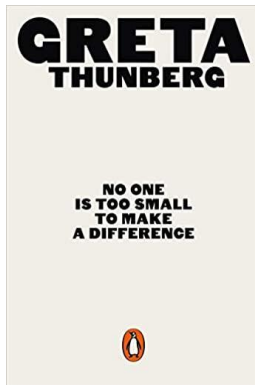
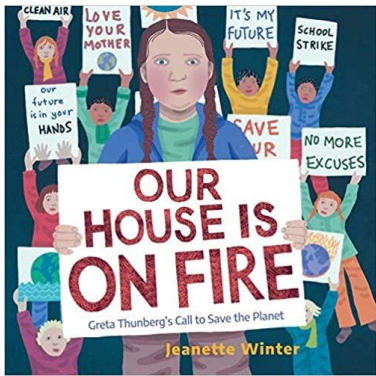
Area of new planting
New hedge



Hands on Conservation



Whole School Book Study



Protecting Planet Earth



Greta and the Giants!

I think Greta is kind because she helps the animals. Greta is brave because she tells the king about their behavior.



Greta Thunberg

Greta Thunberg is a 15-year-old climate change activist who went on a school strike in front of parliament in Sweden to raise awareness about the importance of climate change.



What can we do?

Reduce the use of your car as much as possible. Instead, environmentally friendly ways to get around are to walk or to catch public transport.

Remember to switch off the lights when you leave a room. The electricity that powers the light bulbs in your house are probably burning fossil fuels.

If you have a car, arrange to travel in a group, especially if you have friends who need to go where you are going.

Heating water produces pollution, but water only when really necessary, making sure you don't waste any!

Have a shower that also bath, it's a simple way to save electricity.

Packaging, paper, and recycling pollute the environment, the less packaging it comes in, the better!

Art Mirrors Action

Each class contributed to the displays that surround the performance space. These reflect the themes of the individual performances made by the children and enhance the action in the play.

Jazz Class



Tin Forest - The problem of dealing with the waste we produce is explored through this compelling story performed by the children of Year 4

Poppy & Clover Class



Step into the Rainforest - Accompanied by an original song and lyrics composed by Year 3 and performed with the help of the children in Year 1 we explore the risks faced by this beautiful habitat

Daisy Class



Orangutans Under Threat - Our Reception Class look at how deforestation is destroying the habitat of this important species.

Ruby Class



Forests on Fire - The current issue of rainforest fires in South America are explored by the children in Year 5 as they explore its impact on the wildlife and its wider global implications.

Sunflower Class



Ice, Ice Baby - The melting polar ice caps as a result of global warming and pollution threatens the habitat of the Polar Bears in the North and Penguins in the South.

Scarlet Class



The Gods take over - The problems of the global climate emergency are explored with the help of the Gods of Ancient Greece as the Year 6 children test the audience to check they have been listening and ask them to choose the kind of future they want!



Box Office Bonanza

In keeping with our aim to involve everyone the stagecraft and publicity team are responsible for every stage of designing and producing the Tickets, Programmes and Posters for the performance.

Netherton Moss Primary School
Presents
We Can Make a Difference!

This year's Christmas Performance, **We Can Make a Difference!** will be on:
Wednesday 11th December at 6:30pm
Thursday 12th December at 6:30pm &
Friday 13th December at 9:30am
Tickets are free and will be available from Friday 6th December
(Only 2 tickets per family in the first instance)

Please complete and return the slip below to order your tickets, they will be brought home by the children at the end of the day.
Any spare tickets will be available from the School Office on Tuesday 10th December on a first come first served basis.

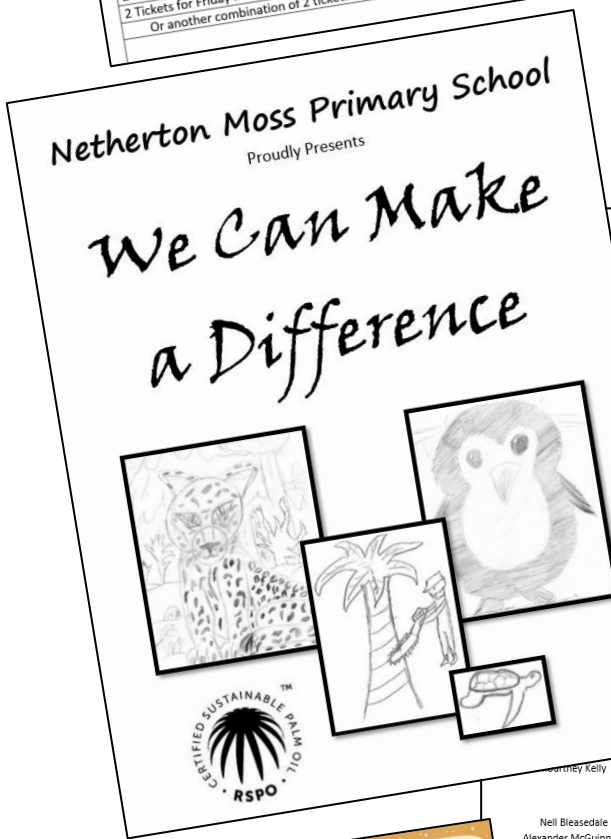
Please note that **no children under 5 will be allowed in the audience during the evening performances** and a crèche will be available for toddlers during Friday morning's performance.

We would ask that any parents who chose to bring young children into the Friday performance be mindful of the hard work of the performers and kindly keep children seated and quiet during the show. If your child does begin to cause disruption, then please take the opportunity to step outside in order to prevent the experience being spoilt for the performers and other members of the audience.

We Can Make a Difference!
Please tick or describe your ticket order below and return the slip to school by Friday 6th December

Please could you send me:

2 tickets for Wednesday Evening	
2 tickets for Thursday Evening	
2 Tickets for Friday Morning	
Or another combination of 2 tickets as stated in the box below:	



Netherton Moss Primary School Proudly Presents We Can Make a Difference Friday 13th December @ 9:30am	Netherton Moss Primary School Proudly Presents We Can Make a Difference Friday 13th December @ 9:30am	Netherton Moss Primary School Proudly Presents We Can Make a Difference Friday 13th December @ 9:30am
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Cast

Jack Doyle (writer)
Abbie Miller (writer)
Olivia Roberts (writer)
Chloe Kent
Mia Kendal
Charlotte Lewis (writer)
Freya Milligan
James Metcalfe
Caleb Woodruff
Peter Glenton (writer)
Daniel Gelhardt
Harvey Jones
Jamie Kilpatrick (writer)
Katie Hindley

Zach Perkins
Kasey-Leigh Cardwell-Speed
Molly Horrocks-Brennan
Zara Rafferty
Darcee Duggan
Chloe Lewis

Tyler Speakman
Lucas Kellow-Webb
Shea Farley

Drama Club

Emily Lee Turner
Alfie Roberts
Lucy Kendal
Layla-Mae Cairns
Bobby Coggins
Livi-Ella Lewis
Charlie Anson
Ella Longman

Stage Craft Club

Neil Bleasdale
Alexander McGuinness
Connor Webster
Izabelle McPeak
Erin Dwyer

Myles Leather
Harry Dutton
Stevie Jo Davis
Liam Johnson
George Johnston

Dominic Conlon
Jess Connolly
Jacob Smith
Charlie Comer

We Can Make a Difference

Working in partnership with our friends at Chester Zoo the whole school has spent the Autumn Term exploring the issue of **Unsustainable Palm Oil** and the impact its production has on the planet. Through the destruction of natural habitats, it is hastening the extinction of a number of important species as well as contributing to global warming. Through a series of fascinating workshops provided by our Chester Zoo Ranger, the fabulous Naiara, the children have learnt how they can tackle the issue of unsustainable palm oil production. Our visit to Chester Zoo allowed the children to see and appreciate some of the animals that are under greatest threat. As a result of all our work, the children are committed to tackling the problem by increasing the demand for **Sustainable Palm Oil** by choosing only to buy and consume products that contain Certified Sustainable Palm Oil. Our performance this week **'We Can Make a Difference'** will help encourage you to do just that. You too can play your part in helping to protect wildlife and habitats all over the world. Please see the back cover of the programme for details of the simple steps you can take this Christmas to make a start. In the Spring Term the children will be carrying out a survey in order to discover the impact their work has had on the choices we all make when we shop.

Jazz Class

Tin Forest - The problem of dealing with the waste we produce is explored through this compelling story by the children of Year 4

Poppy & Clover Class

Step into the Rainforest – an original song and lyrics composed by Year 3 and performed with the help of the children in Year 1 we explore the risks faced by this beautiful habitat

Daisy Class

Orang-utans Under Threat – Our Reception Class look at how deforestation is destroying the habitat of this important species.

Ruby Class

Forests on Fire - The current issue of rainforest fires in South America are explored by the children in Year 5

Sunflower Class

Ice, Ice Baby - The melting polar ice caps threatens the habitat of the Polar Bears in the North and Penguins in the South.

Scarlet Class

The Gods take over - The problems of the global climate emergency are explored with the help of the Gods of Ancient Greece.



We Can
Make a
Difference



We Can Make a Difference







