

Next Eco Meeting: Thursday 12th March 2020, room 115 13:15

SWA ECO NEWS

28th February, 2020



@eco_swa



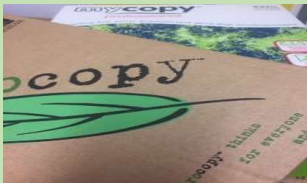
swaecoschools

Top Tips to be an Eco-Student

- Use the recycling bins available: Crisp packets, pens, batteries, contact lens packs, sweet wrappers
- Bring a reusable water bottle
- Bring a packed lunch with home made goodies packaged in reusable containers
- Make choices in the canteen and shops based on the amount and type of packaging. Less is best!
- Use school equipment with respect – don't waste glue, break (green) pens
- Walk or cycle to school if you can

From the Reprographics room...

By Simon Franklin



OUR PAPERS:

Here at SWA we use two main types of white paper for general printing. For A4 printing we use a product called 'envirocopy'. Although not recycled paper it is sourced from 100% managed forestry. Recycled paper tends to be expensive to produce for printing on (white paper). This option is from sustainable sources with a low carbon footprint. Our A3 is similar, it's called 'my copy' and comes from PEFC forests – which are those that are managed to the highest ecological, social and ethical standards. Of course both papers can be recycled at the end of their useful life. We recycle all our packaging and waste paper here – more of that another time.

I hope to, via this newsletter, to be able to share some of the ways we are encouraging everybody to think more environmentally when it comes to printed materials for lessons and learning. We need to print but it's how and what we print that it's important.

Forest of Marston Vale: Valentines trees

On Friday, 14th February, Valentines day, Mrs Ambrose, Mr Edwards, Miss Moffat and Mrs Dunham accompanied by 10 students, planted a massive 200 trees as part of the 2020 tree challenge. The trees were planted in association with the Forest of Marston Vale. Their current planting site is in Wilstead, however their main base is the Forest Centre in Marston Mortaine.

They are a charity that work across Bedfordshire to plant trees to help fight climate change. Please follow this link to read the lovely blog they wrote about our students after we planted the trees.

Indeed, the staff from Forest of Marston Vale that were in attendance, commented that our planting skills were of a very high quality. Must be all the practice we are getting!



<https://www.marstonvale.org/news/students-planting-2020-trees-in-2020>

More sponsors, More Trees

We have had more local businesses support our 2020 tree challenge. FB chain, an eco conscious manufacturing company in Letchworth, sponsored us a massive amount and offered our students the opportunity to have an article about why companies should be green, published on their website. There is still time to take advantage of this if any students would like to be in with a chance. Contact Mrs Ambrose for details.

We will be in receipt of our 200 trees from the Woodland Trust for planting at school within the next week and we are off planting 20 trees at Cliftonbury Farm on the 28th February. We are still looking for land and sponsors to achieve our 2020 target but we are making sound progress.



MORE NEWS

What can being in the Eco-Committee do for you?

Joining the eco-committee has so many benefits for students: take part in lots of fun trips and activities, have your voice heard and make a difference around school. If that isn't enough, your participation speaks volumes about the kind of person you are, especially to further education opportunities and job applications. It gives you something to say: this is what I stand for, these are my values, these are the skills I have. It is your involvement in extra curricular activities that set you apart from the crowd. So if you have an interest in your planet and yourself, come and join in. Meetings are open to everyone, they take place on Thursday week B lunchtimes in room 115.

Submit articles for our newsletter and have evidence of being published, plant trees, help litter picking, make plans for future projects, manage projects, be a team member, get in touch with local businesses, be the official photographer – however you want to take part, we want you.

Interview with Mr Edwards By Adam

What do you do at home to be more eco-friendly?

We do all the normal recycling organized by Central Bedfordshire Council. We use Langford Farm shop to get our fresh produce, we take our own bags and they use paper bags in store. To get my grains and other non fresh items we use Bamboo Turtle refill shop in Letchworth. Our family are big fans of all things vintage and retro, so a lot of our clothes are bought second hand off ebay and through charity shops. We also buy much of our furniture second hand to get the authentic style we are after.

What recommendations do you have for purchasing second hand items? Ebay, charity shops and there is a fantastic vintage fair in Cambridge where you can buy clothes by the kilo. There is one coming up soon. A relative also runs a high end vintage fashion website using DEPOP. Download the App and explore! <http://www.judysvintagefair.co.uk/vintagekilosale/>



Please take part in our survey to help us better deliver green solutions: <https://forms.gle/v8zFMxtTnz eBYk8J8>

THANK YOU! The eco-committee wants to say a massive thank you to the netballers, who donated money from their sponsored netball event to the tree fund.

