

Eco-Council Half Term Update (4)

- The Eco-Council met to review our action plan at the beginning Term 2b. We are extremely pleased with the progress that we have made thus far. It was agreed that one area that we need to focus on now is ensuring that the outdoor classroom is redeveloped and fit for use.
- Primary 6 and 7 entered the Newry, Mourne and Down Environmental Youth Speak. Each pupil had to prepare a 5 minute speech upon the theme, 'I am a climate change champion and it's my mission to stop the planet from heating up.' Mikaela Hanna was the overall winner.
- Conor from Eco-Schools visited us to lead Primary 5/6 and 7 in their first ever Coastal Schools workshop. This highly informative workshop included a presentation to educate pupils on pollution in our seas, followed by a survey and litter pick along our local shore.
- The Eco-Club have finished weeding the area at the side of the chapel and work has begun on planting. The club have been planting a range of plants and flowers to ensure a high level of biodiversity. Primary 4 have also been helping and have been growing and then planting their own peas. They have also planted some lovely tulips in the planters that they were able to use for Mother's Day.
- The Early Years Outdoor Learning area has been developed with lots of new resources to assist with pupil's learning. Classes continue to make the most of our local area with visits to the beach, castle and Gaelic pitch a regular occurrence.
- Primary 6 and 7 have started the Honour Roll Programme delivered by the sporting charity, Sport Changes Life. This programme will help children to develop both mentally and physically by engaging with workshops and sporting activities based around important topics such as team building and online safety.
- Litter continues to be a focus for the pupils of Sacred Heart. Classes have continued with their school ground litter pick rota with great success. At the beginning of April we held our second annual village litter pick. There was a huge turnout from all, with bags of litter collected from all areas of our community.
- Miss Crozier (eco-coordinator) completed her Carbon Literacy Training provided by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.
- Pupils are continuing with the Green Tree Award. This term they celebrated all things trees by having a tree party! They had lots of fun celebrating trees and identifying different trees from their leaves, branches and berries!
- Pupils completed the Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel! Pupils throughout the school made a huge effort to travel to school in an active way.
- Whilst completing the Environmental Review, Pupils had identified the need for a water butt within school so were delighted to receive one from NI Water in early April.