



ECO- COUNCIL

Hello and welcome to our spring term eco newsletter.

This term has been a very busy one in school as we have been working towards meeting the targets we set out in our action plan.

We would like to take this opportunity to share some of the work with you.

Litter picks with Litter Watch

In February, the KS1 eco-councillors conducted a litter pick inside the school grounds with Sonja from Litter Watch and Mrs. Marsden. Although they collected 4 bags of litter, most of it was found right by the school's perimeter fencing, suggesting that most of it had been thrown over. The councillors were quite pleased with the lack of litter found on the playground, proving that the children at Harvills are respecting their environment by putting their litter into the bins provided. A big well done to everybody.

Unfortunately, the KS2 litter pick was no as successful. They went outside the school gates with Alicia from Litter Watch and Mr. Blakemore. They walked to the Ashmole Road entrance and picked 6 bags of litter from the hedges on their travels! Sadly, they discovered that milk cartons – from our school, accounted for much of the litter collected. This came as a huge surprise to the councillors and they were unhappy about it! They decided that children should no longer be allowed to take milk cartons out of the building. In a whole-school assembly, they shared their findings and explained the new ban that is in place.

In addition to milk cartons, the eco-councillors also witnessing fly-tipping! Being the responsible citizens they are, they took action. A letter was written to Sandwell council to inform them about the fly-tipping. We received a reply from them, thanking us for letting them know. What great citizens we have at Harvills.



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Walk to School Week

May saw us promoting Walk to School week at Harvills. During the launch assembly, Mrs. Marsden shared a lot of information about the benefits of walking to school, including the health benefits and how less cars around the school gates can in fact make the air a lot cleaner.

A survey was carried about before Walk to School Week. A follow-up survey at the end of the week showed that a great deal of children and their parents had made a conscious effort to walk as much of the way to school as possible.

We are hoping that this great work continues and that, if families live quite a distance from school, they remember to park and stride instead. This involves parking a street or two away from the school gates and striding in. This too will help to reduce the air pollution around the school gates.



Wiggly Worms workshop

The children in Reception were visited by Sonja from Litter Watch. She came in to talk to the children about the decomposition process. The children were really excited about holding the wiggly worms in their hands!



Zero Waste Lunchbox workshop

The children in Year 3 were visited by Sonja from Litter Watch. She came in to talk to the children about the amount of food that they waste and how they can make reductions. The children have pledged to make some changes to their lunchboxes so that food does not go to waste. Later this year, we are going to be adding a compost bin into the science garden. We will then start to consider ways in which we could potentially compost some of the food from the dining hall.

