

ECO CHAMPIONS NEWSLETTER

February 2025

Environmental Review & Action Plan

Our Eco Champions recently carried out an environmental review of the school, and based on their findings, they developed a focused action plan. They have chosen three key areas to work on:

1. Developing the School Grounds
2. Promoting Biodiversity
3. Litter Management

RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch 2025

On Thursday afternoon, our Eco Champions took part in the Big Schools' Birdwatch. It was wonderful to see the children enthusiastically naming the birds we spotted and discussing how we can improve our school grounds to attract more birds. The children also shared their own experiences of spotting and feeding birds at home.

We counted the highest number of each species spotted at any time – we submitted our results and were thrilled to receive a signed certificate from Sir David Attenborough in recognition of our participation. If you'd like to take part at home, be sure to submit your results by 23rd February. Here is the link: [RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch](#).

Collaboration with the Eco Church

In January, the Eco Champions met with Elspeth and Julie from the Eco Church to explore ways we can work together on these priorities. They shared some amazing ideas, including:

- Making links with the local community, such as donations for bird feeders and attending a litter picking event
- Assigning jobs to our Eco Champions, such as cleaning out the bird bath
- Putting up bird spotting posters



The members from the Eco Church also suggested applying for a grant from Resurrection Furniture to fund resources for outdoor learning. We are thrilled to announce that we were successful in receiving a £500 grant! This generous contribution will go towards:

- Gardening tools for our students
- Binoculars and magnifying glasses
- A compost bin
- Rakes
- A storage area for outdoor learning resources



Mini Eco Conference at Alton College

On Friday, January 31st, our KS2 Eco Champions and Global Ambassadors attended a mini eco conference hosted by ACAN (Alton Climate Action Network) at Alton College.

The event included:

- An interactive presentation by Roland Richardson, a 'waste champion' from Hampshire County Council.
- Two workshops on practical topics: learning how to sew a button and understanding how to sort waste (general rubbish, compost, or recycling).
- The exciting premiere of the Alton Repair Cafe video, which gave us ideas for reducing waste.

Our students returned inspired, equipped with fresh knowledge and ideas to make a positive environmental impact. They will be sharing what they learned during Friday's collective worship assembly as well as launching a competition for all KS2 pupils – please see the flier attached as well as the story board if you would like to take part!

Click here to explore some of the interesting facts shared during the conference and to watch the Alton Repair Café video:

[Primary Waste Superheroes.](#)



Looking Ahead

Our next meeting will be on **March 31st**, where we'll be joined by Cathy Wilson from Alton Natural History Society. Cathy will help us carry out a survey of our school grounds to see what we can improve.

Here is a video of Cathy supporting the eco church with their survey:
<https://youtu.be/yZaNi2kKXJw>

We are so proud of the enthusiasm and commitment our students have shown towards making our school and community a more sustainable place!

With thanks,

The Eco Champion Team 🌍

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or ideas about how we can continue to make a positive environmental impact.





ANIMATION COMPETITION



TREASURE NOT TRASH!



Design a trash-busting superhero and their waste monster nemesis and write or draw an exciting story featuring these 2 characters to educate primary school children on ways to avoid waste.

Participate as an individual or as a group, at home or at school!

Enter for a chance to have your story animated by professional animator Flo Waters.

You can check out Flo's webpage here:



Drop off your work at your school. Don't forget to include your name, year group & school. Good luck!

Closing date: March 3rd 2025



Image of 'The Waste Monster Thing' reproduced with permission by Simon Chadwick.