

Congratulations On Passing Your Eco-Schools Green Flag!

Congratulations!

We are very pleased to tell you that you and your Eco-Committee at Cassiobury Infant and Nursery School have been awarded an Eco-Schools Green Flag.

We reviewed your application and noted the following:

- We love your inclusive and democratic approach to appointing the Eco-Committee members whereby one boy and one girl from every class in the school were either chosen by the class teacher or voted in to be the class Eco-Committee members by their classmates depending on their developmental levels.
- Your approach to the Eco-Committee and encouraging students to discuss eco issues in class and vote for representatives demonstrates a proactive and assured approach to the programme. It is impressive to see!
- We also like how your Eco-Committee communicates their work back to their class once a month during snack time! We like that teachers are told in advance what they will be talking about so that they are able to support the children with what they said and by offering prompts. It's great that you also communicate to the wider community through your - whole school assemblies, through Twitter, your weekly school newsletter and through your Eco-Board! This comprehensive approach shows how valued and embedded the ideas underpinning the Eco-Schools programme are in your school!
- It was really great to read how your Environmental Review provided the basis for the projects in your Action Plan and helped you realise what actions were needed. This approach demonstrates a reflective and considered approach to your Eco-Schools work - this is a great skill that many adults can learn from!
- You've clearly taken great efforts to connect your school grounds, energy and waste projects happening across the school and embedding work into curriculum and everyday school life in a really impactful way. This is really inspiring and clever.
- Your Action Plans are great! The actions that you planned out were really SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time Bound). This is important as it helps to achieve progress and empower your Eco-Committee. It was also great to see accountability and monitoring and evaluation clearly marked in your Action Plans. You also went back and RAG rated your work so far. Great work! We also loved the fun and engaging poster of your Eco-Code!
- Your curriculum links were really clear and creative and you used a cross-curricular approach with eco-work spanning across different subjects. For example, using PSHE and Science to teach children how and why to recycle. We love how your children have been learning about the different plants and animals that grow in and around your school including in your garden and your forest school. Creating learning opportunities around these fun activities is wonderful to hear about! This kind of creative pedagogical work helps these young children to create lovely memories and hopefully approach this important topic in a fresh and relevant way, and is a great way to encourage them to take pride and ownership of their local environment.
- You've clearly tried to engage both internally and externally. It is wonderful to hear your Eco-Committee also held assemblies for projects such as Veolia UK, Recycling Workshops; Earth Day Assembly, Toy & Book Swap, Keep Britain Tidy - Great Big School Clean, Sustrans - Big Walk & Wheel. Such work with internal and external stakeholders is an example of the collaborative approach we will all need to adopt to help our world - your application made us feel really positive for the future!

Your achievements this year have been great to hear about. It is wonderful to see that your children are keen to protect the environment, and this is in large part due to the actions and attitudes of your staff in regards to setting an example in raising the importance of taking care of our planet. It is wonderful to hear about so many initiatives like your recycling week, litter picking and your bug hotel and gardening club. It is also great that each child has a reusable water bottle and that you took part in national initiatives like Switch Off Fortnight and 'The Big Battery Hunt'! Congratulations to everyone for the great work you have managed to do. You should all be very proud of your amazing work and the great application you have submitted. You've really earned your Green Flag Bronze Award accreditation!

As always THANK YOU very much for your hard work, we are so proud of all our schools and the collective achievements they have made to protect our planet for future generations. We look forward to working with Cassiobury Infant and Nursery School again next academic year to help you expand on your eco-actions and successes of this year.

Have a great summer break,

The Eco-Schools Team