



Enabling children to grow and love life

The Green Samaritan

The title of our newsletter links with the Christian ethos of our academy and represents the values set out in the Good Samaritan parable told by Jesus in the Gospel of Luke. The Green element represents us as stewards of our environment and our wish to care for our wonderful planet.



Our World, in Our Hands

Issue Number 1

Date: 10th July 2020

I am delighted to introduce this first Trust-wide student Eco newsletter—The **Green** Samaritan which includes contributions from five schools within our Trust. Our students passion for environmental issues is very evident and, over the coming months, they will be sharing with you more of the work that they are doing to put 'Care for our Common Home' at the heart of all our schools. I hope you enjoy reading it!



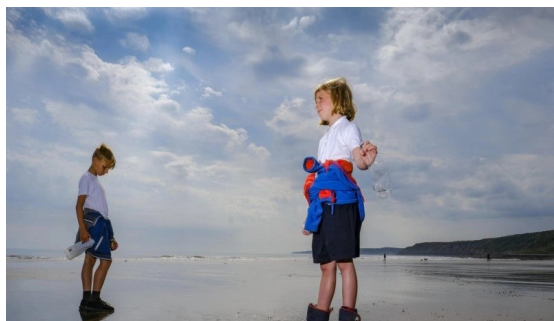
Margaret Land, Sustainability Officer, SMCCAT

The Future Fossils Project

Our whole class was invited to the Rotunda Museum in Scarborough town, we met the curator and we talked all about the environment and what the problems could be if things carry on the way they are at the moment. She asked us to redesign the museum as if it were in the future and everything was terrible!

We worked with a company called Invisible Dust and they allowed us to put rubbish and plastic waste everywhere! We covered up all of the windows and borrowed smoke machines to make it seem as if pollution had taken over the whole atmosphere! We then recorded our voices and when you walked past a certain point in the museum they played over a speaker. We spoke about the impact of bad environmental decisions. We wanted to warn people about their bad choices.

It was terrible in the future because people had not recycled and had used everything up. The water was polluted with plastic and this had killed all of the marine life. The air was thick with smoke because people had cut down all of the rainforests and thick smoke filled the air.



The museum was dark and scary to show what the future could be like, we then took people on a tour and made them think about their decisions – if they made a good decision - things got a little bit brighter and a voice told them the reasons why. This carried on through the tour of the museum and if the people made the right choices they could change the world!

We were really proud to work with the museum and the SAS(Surfers Against Sewage) and hope that people who came to our exhibit thought about their choices and will follow the 3 Rs REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE. Austin, Tigerlilly and Marley went on BBC Radio to talk about the exhibit and to invite everyone down to the museum over the weekend – lots of people came to see what we had done and it made us feel very happy and important. The Town Council put a large fish by the beach and filled it with plastic bottles on the same weekend – it was a really special weekend in Scarborough.

By Year 5 students from St Peter's, Scarborough

Welcome to the first edition of The **Green** Samaritan which has been written by students across our Academy Trust for all our students and their families. Our aim is to increase



awareness of the environmental issues that are affecting all our lives today and how we are helping in our own little way to protect our wonderful world. In recent years we have seen some truly shocking images of the damage humans are doing to the earth and it is up to all of us to help sort this mess out!



Included in this newsletter are all sorts of interesting articles, tips, photos and a puzzle for you to enjoy. We also have a competition for the design of our new logo, so all you budding artists out there can get to work over the summer! See the box below for entry details.

Happy reading and we would love to hear any stories or suggestions you may have for our next edition.

Olivia B, SFX, Student Editor

Competition time...

Can you help us to design a landscape logo for our newsletter? We're looking for your interpretation of the **Green** Samaritan. Please send your design to us at mland@sfx.org.uk by **Friday 6th November 2020**.

We will choose our favourite design and use the winning logo in our next newsletter. Good Luck!

Leaders for Environmental Action for the Future (LEAF)

LEAF is an active student-led environmental group at All Saints RC School York. We have 2 groups across the 2 sites of the school that meet on a weekly basis. Recently a staff LEAF group has also been established, and our staff facilitators feed-back to the pupils at the regular student meetings. We achieved much last year, including receiving the bronze eco-schools award. Last year we established ourselves and got our name known across the school by hosting gardening events. We started to develop the Bill Scriven garden, planting fruit trees that we hope can be used in the Food Technology department. As well as, organising composting facilities for the garden waste. The plants in the garden are types that will attract all sorts of wildlife, we hope! We have encouraged students who had free periods to join the climate strikes in town. For the younger students, that cannot go for safe-guarding reasons, we organised a carousel of environmental activities the same afternoon of a strike. At the end of January, we held a bake sale, raising money to help with the fires in the Amazon Rainforest. In February we ran an anti-plastic campaign, where we put impactful and informative images around the school. In March, we joined science teachers delivering the annual 'science week assemblies', and we informed the school on small actions they can do to help the planet. We are in the process of making our canteen more eco-friendly, and were planning to have a 'metal-fork-swap-day' until covid19 hit and we unfortunately had to put plans on hold. We are working towards achieving silver eco-schools award. The LEAF community is ever growing, and we have big plans on the horizon!

Robin M, Y13, All Saints School, York

LEAF

The overall mission of All Saints LEAF group is to become a more eco friendly place. We are trying to do this in many ways, for example lower site LEAF made an assembly to show to years seven, eight and nine. The assembly was about how the environment is being affected, and simple ways we can help the environment.

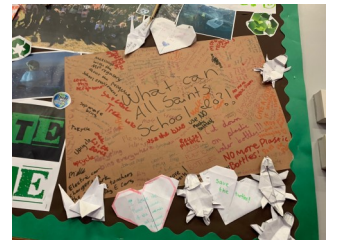
Before the pandemic changed everything, LEAF was planning on doing many things. Such as having litter pickers, putting up posters, and planning fundraisers so that we can afford new recycling bins.

Over Christmas, upper site LEAF organized 'the 12 days of Leafmas', which gave a different eco task to do for twelve days.

All Saints is also planning on switching Google to Ecosia on all the school computers. Ecosia is a search engine that plants a tree for every 45 searches, so it would be great if the whole Trust was doing this!

LEAF is trying to help the environment in as many ways as possible! And as soon as we get back we plan to do much more!

Ada A- J, All Saints School, York



'Moody Skyline.'

I've named my photograph 'Moody Skyline'

I like this photo because the colours all contrast.

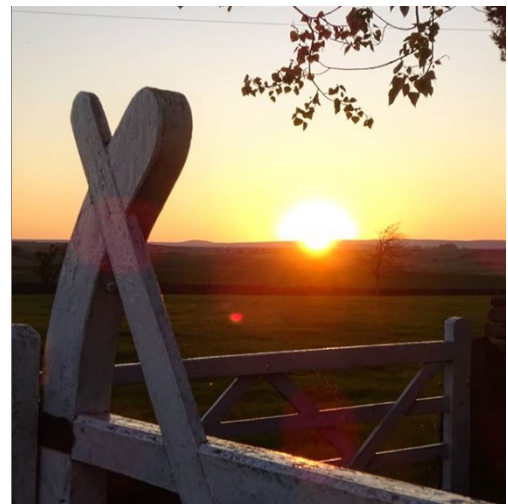
Simon T, SFX School



Lumley Moor at Sunset

I like photography because it lets you zoom in on the smaller beauties of the outdoors or zoom out and see a wide angle of beauty; and the best part is that you can savour it and share it.

Nathan C, SFX School



Nature in a City Centre

Here is our school field, we love playing games on here at playtime. The middle of the field is for running and playing football.

The perimeter of the field is our special wildlife area. Here you will find foxes, owls and geese. There are also all sorts of insects and fungi to look after. We enjoy playing in the wildlife areas and we make sure we respect all of the creatures that live there. In DT we made hedgehog hotels and bee houses, we use the vegetables we grow in our afternoon cookery lessons.

Adele and Alejandro, St. Georges Primary School, York



SFX School Litter Picking

Over the course of 100 litter picks, we have found lots of litter. Plenty of bags were filled. Some of our most interesting finds have included: a crisp packet dated from 1995: several other old crisp packets: a plastic duck (which we still have, and he has been named, Derek the Duck), just to name a few. If you look at the pictures on this page, you can see some of the other interesting items that we have found on our litter picks.

Derek has also competed in the Richmond Duck Race, and, unfortunately, escaped past the catch net at the finish line and carried on downstream. However, he was located and accidentally entered the Gilling West duck race! Derek was later reunited to us at SFX.



A few months ago, we reached a milestone of 100 litter picks, collecting 2,753 pieces of litter. On the day of the litter pick, we were joined by the St Mary's Primary School Eco Team.

We also invited many guests from our local community including Mrs Noone, our former

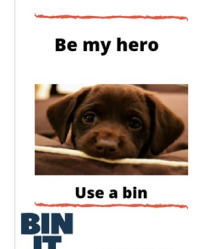
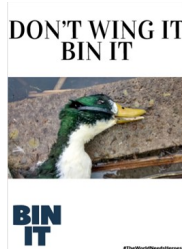
Assistant Headteacher, Mr Madeley (CAFOD), Mrs Mason (Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust), Mrs Barber (Governor), Cllr Parsons and Cllr Rowe (Richmondshire District Council) Mrs Howie (SMCCAT), Father Richard, Mr Huddleston (Richmond Rotary Club), Mr Nutting (Out f The Box) Mr Hastie (GCH



Garden Maintenance) and of course Mr McGhee, our Headteacher.



Just a few months ago, we started working with Dr Matt Sawyer, to think up ideas for anti-litter posters and we had a vote in our team to find out which posters we thought were the best. Here are a few of the posters.



Please let us know which one you prefer!

Harry T, Head of the Eco Team, SFX School.

A Walk With Nature

"We fed the birds. We made bird feeders."

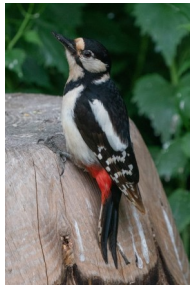
St. Mary's Primary School, Richmond



Looking after Nature

Since the coronavirus, lockdown human activity has dramatically decreased. With humans at home, nature has started to reclaim some of what was humans habitats. A good example of this was in Llandudno in Wales where wild mountain goats took over the streets of Llandudno in their droves! A similar picture has been seen across the UK, with nature beginning to thrive with this new lockdown style of life where humans are not disturbing habitats and causing wildlife to shy away.

At SFX School we have planted more trees and have been keeping the bird feeders topped up for hungry parents as they feed their young. We keep checking the hedgehog trail camera hoping for our first sighting. Unfortunately, we have not sighted a hedgehog yet, maybe this will be a treat



later in the year! Hopefully, when lockdown ceases fully, we will be able to be look at installing a pond at school for our resident frogs and other amphibians.

The rest of us at home are all doing our bit to look after our biodiversity. As a team we have seen a large variety of birds. This includes: dunnocks, woodpeckers and also a Chiff chaff! As bird life can be increasingly heard due to less traffic created sound pollution, an exciting opportunity has emerged. The bird song project is a project to try and collect a catalogue of different bird songs.

If you are interested, then follow this link to the website. <https://theearthproject.world/pandemic-people-and-planet/nature-calls/>



Stanley the Seal

The SFX Eco team was sent this sad but true story about Stanley the Seal by **Steve** who is a surfer from Scarborough. Steve is from the organisation, '**Surfers Against Sewage**' who run the Plastic free Schools programme which we participated in.

Steve's story:

"We had been surfing at one of our local spots and were walking back home. We saw a baby seal on the rocks and when we got closer we could see that the seal had something around it's neck. We realised that it needed help and the tide was coming in fast so I stayed with the seal and a friend ran back to make a phone call to a friend who works at our local SeaLife centre. Within 30 minutes they arrived with a rescue sling to carry the seal back to the seal sanctuary.

When the vet inspected the pup he found that the fishing line had caught around it's neck and , as the seal had grown, it had cut a couple centimetres into the flesh. Luckily the vet managed to cut out the line and stitch up the wound. The seal, who ended up called Stanley (AKA Frankenstein's seal because of the big stich marks around his neck), got to recover in the seal tank at the centre.

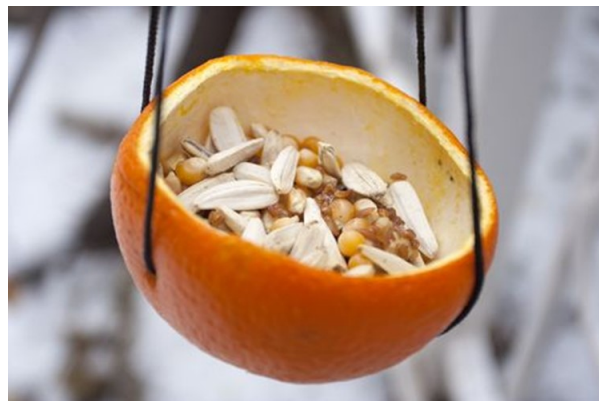
This is a story with a happy ending because both we and the seal were lucky enough to meet at the right time so we could help. The truly sad stories are all the ones who aren't found in time and die because of our inability to manage our waste. That our carelessness causes this kind of harm must stop and we can all do our bit with how we use, and dispose of our waste and how we conduct our lives'



How to help wildlife thrive in your garden

One part of wildlife that you will find no matter where you go is birds! Birds play a huge part in the natural world, they are part of the food chain and help with pollinating flowers. It is nice to see what types of birds are in your area and the easiest way of doing this is by putting out bird seed for them. However, it can be hard to get a bird feeder, or a place to put it. A simple solution to this is to make your own!

All you need to for your own bird feeder is an orange and bird seed. Simply cut the orange in half (with adult supervision) and hollow it out with a spoon. Now, you could either eat the orange or make it into a drink. Once the skin no longer has anything left in it, carefully make four holes in the skin at opposite ends (you can use a knitting needle for this). Then thread some jute (a biodegradable string) through the holes and tie it off at the top with enough to hang it on a tree. If you don't have anywhere to hang it, the just leaving it on the ground will do. Then just fill it with bird seed and put it in the garden for the birds to eat. Once all the seed has gone you can either put more in or leave it out and the jute will be turned into compost. The orange skin will bio degrade into the earth or get eaten by other animals.



Mathilde I,
Joint Head of Single -Use -Plastics,
SFX School,

Nature inspired Word Search

Please send your answers to mland@sfx.org.uk The winner (first correct one returned) gets a slot in our next newsletter

T O C M T M F L N I J J U S M
Y R E Q X R X L L Y Q Y W T F
A K N P J R E H M V N X D N O
F U A O A X U E T G B Q H A R
W F V D I M H E S S Z W M L E
S P J W A T W J J U R D Y P S
L V N N R A C T U H G O O Q T
A J S A S W G N P L A S T I C
M Y E T Q N E D I G K W A T Y
I U E W I U Y A U T U A M H P
N U J M B Z U G T D X T U X S
A N R E T T I L R H M E N X Z
A A O C E A N G Z E E R L C C
W Q C I F F S Q V Y N R D Z F
U W E Z Q A Z W G R Q E H C E

ANIMALS

EARTH

ENERGY

EXTINCTION

FOREST

HUMANS

LITTER

OCEAN

PLANTS

PLASTIC

TREES

WARMING

WASTE

WATER

WEATHER

In the next edition:

- * Top ten tips on how to become more eco friendly,
- * Eco friendly Christmas decorations,
- * Current environmental issues.



Got an interesting story or idea? Send it to mland@sfx.org.uk The star entry will receive a small festive prize. All entries to be received by Friday 6th November 2020 for the next edition.