

# Training Opportunities for Sustainable Schools & Eco Schools

## Sustainable Schools: Going for Green!

### Working towards the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award

For Eco-Schools co-ordinators/ leadership team. A great opportunity to prioritise actions and explore the steps necessary to achieve Green Flag status. Time will also be given to linking work across curriculum and campus and boosting the schools work around learners' voice and community cohesion.

Tutor: **Rupert Brakspear**

**February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2010**

INSET number 3LT029/01

**Bishops Wood Courses.** For further information and to book on any of the Bishops Wood (BW) courses below please contact: 01299 250513 email: [bishopswoodcourses@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:bishopswoodcourses@worcestershire.gov.uk) or visit [www.bishopswoodcentre.org.uk](http://www.bishopswoodcentre.org.uk)

### Wild Words and Leafy Pages BW10 January 26<sup>th</sup>

Trainer: **Gordon MacLellan**

### Working with Living Willow BW14 February 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>

Trainer: **Mick Petts.**

### Art activities for public events BW11 January 27<sup>th</sup>

Trainer: **Gordon MacLellan**

### Supporting Schools with Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) BW15 March 2<sup>nd</sup>

Trainer: **Jon Cree**

### Whittling for Forest School Practitioners BW12 February 9<sup>th</sup>

Trainer: **Ben Orford**

### Designing Dynamic Learning Programmes BW16 March 3<sup>rd</sup>

Trainer: **Jon Cree**

### Greenwood working with teenagers BW13 February 10<sup>th</sup>

Trainer: **Ben Orford**

### Forest Schools Training

Level 2 and level 3. Various dates, contact Bishops Wood

## District Eco-Schools Meetings

This term there will be a total of **five** district Eco-Schools meetings. Three of these are being held with a special focus on water.

Severn Trent (supported by the Environment Agency) and are offering **Free Water Education Teacher Training** at the district meetings as part of their retrofit and education programme. Many schools across Worcestershire are being fitted with up to **£1000** of water saving appliances.

**Head teachers and/or Eco-Schools Coordinators** are being invited to attend as an opportunity to learn more about the water efficiency work that is being undertaken in schools and to discover how to influence peers and students to save water. There will be free resource packs to take away including assembly plans, DVDs, flyers etc. The Water Education Training meetings will be held at the schools below on the following dates:

- |                                  |                                       |                       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. <b>Wednesday 13th January</b> | Abbey Park Middle School, Pershore    |                       |
| 2. <b>Tuesday 19th January</b>   | Birchensale Middle School, Redditch   | (For times see below) |
| 3. <b>Thursday 21st January</b>  | Red Hill CE Primary School, Worcester |                       |

### General District Eco-Schools Meetings

In addition to the water training meetings, there will be a further two 'general' District Eco-Schools meetings for Eco-Schools Coordinators. These meetings are a great opportunity to catch up on latest developments and share ideas across schools. Dates and locations are as follows:

- |                                  |                                       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 4. <b>Wednesday 27th January</b> | Northleigh CE Primary School, Malvern |
| 5. <b>Tuesday 2nd February</b>   | Stourport Primary School, Stourport   |

**To book a place at any of the five District Eco-Schools meetings please contact:**  
**Amy Lunt** by email: [alunt@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:alunt@worcestershire.gov.uk) or call: 01905 766809  
**Refreshments will be available from 3.45pm and all meetings will end by 5.30pm**

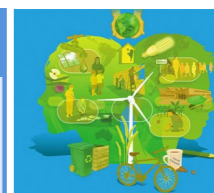


## Learning for Sustainability Newsletter (from the LfS Forum)

### January 2010 (last paper copy)

#### Happy New Year!

We hope you had a restful festive break. The January edition of the newsletter is possibly the last paper copy that we will be producing as the 'Schools Black Bag' is shortly to be replaced by the 'e-Black Bag'. You will need to look out for future editions and updates arriving at your school office by email. We would like to discuss this and other possible communication solutions at the District Eco-Schools Meetings... see inside.



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## News, Events & Information

### School 'GreenER Events Company'

In 2009, Redhill CE Primary School ran three **Mantle of the Expert** projects ([www.mantleoftheexpert.com](http://www.mantleoftheexpert.com)). Class ER were set a special brief to hold an open community event around the theme of sustainability.



The class of mixed year 5's and 6's were allocated their own budget and given as much autonomy as possible. They named themselves the 'GreenER Events Company' and split up into working groups (PR, Artwork, Finance, Wildlife, Entertainment, Board of Directors etc). A hugely successful open afternoon was held by the Company in July '09, with over 400 people attending from the local community, attracting a wide diversity of people.

Activities included; sustainability surveys, art works-shops with recycled materials, guided tours of the school and grounds, seed planting, outdoor games, gardening demonstrations, refreshments of locally grown produce, junk drummers and much more!

**For further information contact:** Karen Munn at Redhill CE Primary School. Tel: 01905 352524. *The new school build at Redhill has been used as a vehicle for education and to promote sustainability across the whole school community. School grounds have also been developed through funding from a BBC Breathing Places grant in 2007/08.*

### Switch it Off!

Switch it Off was a great success this year with every school we visited or met (at District Eco-Schools meetings or training events etc) taking part. 20 schools also participated in the thought provoking Switch it Off Poetry Writing competition!

The County made a 2.8% reduction in electricity consumption over 2 hours (monitored 13/11/09). This was **double the efforts of 2008!** A saving of 10.6MWh was made, equivalent to 176, 667 (60W) light bulbs being switched off for one hour!

Please circulate	✓
Head teacher	
Eco Schools Coordinator	
ESD Coordinator	

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### Green Flag Success!



Congratulations to the following schools who have recently been awarded a Green Flag.

- **St. George's Catholic Primary**
- **Deford cum Besford CofE Primary**
- **Fairfield First**
- **Regency High School**

## News, Events & Information...

### Free Flood Awareness Sessions

The Environment Agency is teaming up with the Duckworth Worcestershire Trust to offer Free Flood Awareness Sessions for primary Schools in flood risk areas across Worcestershire. The 45 min session, is aimed at key stage 1 and 2 students and will look at where flooding is likely to happen and what we should do if it does.



The Environment Agency's Community Engagement Officer Phil Smith believes "With climate change likely to make flooding more frequent it is important that those at risk know how to prepare and help themselves. The current national flood awareness campaign has highlighted families with young children as a group that are particularly vulnerable to the effects of flooding so we are happy to support The Duckworth Worcestershire Trust in taking our messages into schools"

**To book your FREE sessions please contact** Laura Chapman at the Duckworth Trust Worcestershire on 01905 734980 or email: [education@dwt.org.uk](mailto:education@dwt.org.uk). For more information about the Local Flood Awareness Campaign please contact Phil Smith on 01684 864313 or email: [Phila.smith@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Phila.smith@environment-agency.gov.uk)

### Orchard Education Days

During October 2009 over 140 pupils from Bewdley Primary and St Anne's Primary took part in two days of exciting orchard education, organised by the Learning for Sustainability Team and Wyre Forest District Council.

The children took part in a range of educational activities from map reading to demonstrations on tree felling and how to tell the age of a tree. They also got the chance to explore the orchards through photography, learning about eco-systems and handling bugs and slugs! Other children made Orchard inspired craft items, colourful collages and modelled mini-beasts from clay.

If any schools in Wyre Forest are interested in visiting the site at Bewdley, please contact Elaine Halford-Bishop on: 01563 7325762.



### Stupid or not: Education for a Smarter Planet!

ActionAid, together with The Age of Stupid director Franny Armstrong, have developed a resource pack 'Stupid or not: Education for a smarter planet.' A new multimedia resource on climate change for learners aged 12+ supporting geography, science, citizenship and film studies.



**Special offer** – secondary schools! Sign up to 10:10 and receive a free copy of the resource! **For further details call:** 01460 238000 or go to [www.actionaid.org.uk/101751/the\\_age\\_of\\_stupid.html](http://www.actionaid.org.uk/101751/the_age_of_stupid.html) For information about 10:10 go to: [www.1010uk.org](http://www.1010uk.org)

### The Pod!

The Pod, EDF Energy's Programme for Greener Schools, provides free, interactive online teaching resources. All activities have easy-to-use reference material, lesson plans and resource packs. They're all linked with the Eco-Schools awards, so can count towards your schools' application for a Bronze, Silver or Green Flag Eco-Schools Award. Pupils can share what they have learned on The Pod.

Any teacher can join The Pod, go to: [www.jointhepod.org/join-in](http://www.jointhepod.org/join-in)



## News, Events & Information...

### Dates for your diary...



#### Eco-Schools Conference!

The annual Worcestershire Eco-Schools Conference will be held at Bishops Wood on 1st July (for High Schools) and the 5th, 6th, 7th July 2010 (for Primary, Middle and First Schools). More details to follow!

#### Spring Term District Eco-Schools Meetings

Five District Eco-Schools meetings are planned for January/February 2010. Three of these will involve free Water Education Training by Severn Trent Water. For dates, details and locations see overleaf! (Training Opportunities)

#### Swap Shop dates

Worcestershire County Council are inviting residents to a series of 'Swap Shops' across the County in January to exchange those unwanted gifts or unused belongings. Residents can attend the Swap Shops to find a good home for their unwanted belongings and get their hands on something for themselves, for free!

Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	Kidderminster Town Hall	10am — 2pm
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Worcester Guildhall	10am — 3pm
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Newstarts, Willow Road, Bromsgrove	10am — 12noon

**To find more information** about swap shops or other waste prevention initiatives call 01905 766883 or visit [www.wastemissionimpossible.org.uk](http://www.wastemissionimpossible.org.uk)

## Funding & Competitions

### WRE Competition!

The Worcester Resource Exchange (WRE) is an 'aladdins cave' of low cost reclaimed resources for creative projects!



Design and/or make a mascot for WRE that promotes reuse, creativity and fun! The mascot can be 2D or 3D, but must be made from items that would usually be thrown away and the finished item must be small enough to fit inside a shoebox. Entries can be submitted by email, post or brought in to the scrapstore.

**Deadline:** Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2010

**Prize:** 1 year of membership to WRE, plus a voucher for scrap resources!

Competition entries will be posted on our website. Please inform us if you do not wish your entry to be shown. Don't forget to include your name, school and contact details with your entry. Good luck!

Worcestershire Resource Exchange, Unit 9a, Shrub Hill Industrial Estate, Worcester. WR4 9EL  
Email: [beth@wre.uk.com](mailto:beth@wre.uk.com) Tel: 01905 726796

### Free Educational Trips and Materials for Schools!



Reciproc8™ is a recycling company that provides **FREE** products and experiences to schools and education organisations throughout the UK through a recycling rewards scheme. The Reciproc8 Rewards™ programme offers a wide range of products and experiences to support schools in curriculum delivery and associated Growing Schools activities. **FREE** transport enabling schools to visit locations across the country (including **Bishops Wood!!**) **FREE** visits to venues such as farms, field study centres, botanic gardens, museums, historic houses, places of worship, theatres, galleries and zoos. **FREE** courses on the Growing Schools and RHS Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programmes.

Details of the full range of rewards available and further information on the scheme is available at: [www.reciproc8.co.uk](http://www.reciproc8.co.uk), or you can call the Reciproc8™ team on 0845 194 8288.