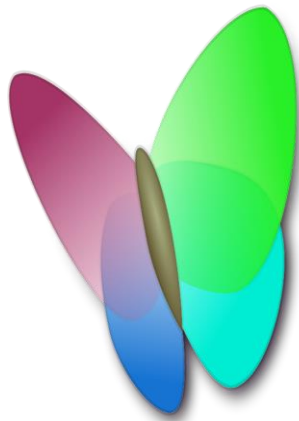


Presentation Primary School, Clonmel,
Co. Tipperary

Green Schools update



This year we are working towards achieving our fifth flag for "Biodiversity". For the Biodiversity theme we are looking to raise awareness around biodiversity in our school and locality. We are asking teachers to study habitats, or do habitat surveys around the school, create a bug hotel or identify ways to improve our grounds for biodiversity. Working in school garden is part of this. We are also hoping to study biodiversity in relation to the river Suir and for senior classes to do a walk by the Suir with local guide and expert Shay Hurley.

Our "Action Plan" includes a number of activities and projects that we need to do to achieve our biodiversity flag. We decided that we wanted to encourage more children to get to know more about biodiversity, both in our school grounds and in our locality. We want to get children involved in looking after our school garden and caring for their environment.

Informing and Involving:

We watched a Powerpoint presentation in our School Assembly on how reducing carbon emissions would help stop the greenhouse effect. We also composed a Green Schools biodiversity Rap and we sing it regularly at Assembly too. It is great fun. We invited local expert Shay Hurley to bring some of the children on a walk by the river Suir and to speak with them re biodiversity.

Every class has planted or is planting seeds in our garden and classes regularly go down to look at the plants there and to water them. The sixth class have

started to paint and decorate the planting beds to make them more colourful and attractive for wildlife. We have put up a nesting box and planted different vegetables and varieties of flowers to encourage biodiversity.

At parents' night we showed them our green school noticeboard and informed them of our latest efforts.

At School Assembly, Staff meetings and at Green School Committee meetings we discussed and prioritised what we think should be our green code for biodiversity. We decided to focus on encouraging pupils to learn more about biodiversity in their local environment and we created a biodiversity trail in our school grounds to encourage this. Pupils are more aware of the part they play in keeping our environment clean and keeping biodiversity alive.

Our Action Plan:

Newsletter home to parents informing them of Biodiversity theme	Principal/Gs coordinator	October 15
Carry out a Biodiversity awareness survey	Gs coordinator	October 15
Habitat map of the school grounds	GS committee	November 15
List of biodiversity in school grounds	GS committee	November 15
Display survey results and make recommendations	GS committee	January 16
Poster competition	GS committee	January 16
Discuss the importance of preserving an promoting biodiversity	Whole school	Ongoing
Carry out mini reviews	GS committee	Ongoing

Objective 2: To identify and investigate biodiversity in our school and local area.

To help preserve and enhance biodiversity in our school.

Action	Persons Responsible	Timeframe
Conduct species survey	All classes	2015/16
Build a Nesting box for birds	caretaker	Sept 15
Create recycled bird feeders		
Create leaf and log pile for minibeasts	Infants/speech and language classes	April 16
Nature trail/orienteering activity	Mrs O'Dwyer, GS committee	April 16

School Gardening Project	Whole school	Sept 15 ongoing
Habitat survey of school	3rd class	October 15
Habitat exploration of local river Suir	3rd - 6th	April - May 16
Explore threats to local biodiversity	3rd -6th	April-May 16
Guided walk and speaker visit	5th 6th	April 16

Some Photos of our Activites!



HOUSE SPARROW

The house sparrow is the most common bird in the world. It is a small, plump bird with a brown head and back, and a greyish-brown breast. It is found in large numbers in all parts of the world.

DESCRIPTION: Length 10-12 cm. Weight 15-20 g. It has a brown head and back, a greyish-brown breast, and a white belly. It has a short, stout beak.

HOUSING: It is a social bird and is found in large numbers in all parts of the world. It is found in large numbers in all parts of the world.



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BLACKBIRD

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We spotted these birds in the school Grounds.

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