



London Schools Environment Award

Learning to care for London's Environment 2006–2007

September 2007

newsletter

Hackney schools win recognition for environmental excellence

Grazebrook Primary School – £2000 Distinction award

Holmleigh Primary School – £1000 Highly Commended award

Grazebrook Primary School entered under the Litter and Local Environment Quality, and Energy and Climate Change themes. For the litter theme the whole school participated in a 'Tidy Up Day' with each class responsible for a designated area in the school. Under the Energy and Climate Change theme pupils, teachers, parents and local community group Ecoactive were proactive in lobbying and working with their local MP and Hackney Council to change the electricity supplier of Hackney schools to a green supplier. As a result, 26 schools now have a green supplier and the council buildings are supplied electricity through a Hydro supplier. This is an outstanding achievement. All classes studied energy issues, with nursery pupils looking at energy use to Year 5 pupils focussing on the effect of climate change. Students also took energy efficient light bulbs home and were asked to do home electricity readings as part of a school electricity charter.

Holmleigh Primary School's wildlife club was particularly active in LSEA projects, writing a song 'Don't Drop Litter,' which the whole school learned. The club also carried out anti-litter pledges for students, a litter survey, and came up with innovative litter and recycling games. The game 'Sticky Toffee It' proved a hit, with the club



teaching it to other year groups. For the Biodiversity theme, pupils carried out many activities such as developing a wildlife garden and building a 'frog hotel' from recycled materials to attract frogs to the school pond. Pupils also further developed the school grounds with a 'wild garden' and making feeders to attract birds.

Congratulations to winning schools and all schools that submitted an entry. Your efforts are making a real difference at school, home and to your communities. Good luck next year!



Capital Standards



MAYOR OF LONDON



London Schools Environment

Register for the London Schools Environment Award 2007/2008

The LSEA is now in its 5th year. The scheme has grown each year. In 2006/7 over 750 schools registered for the scheme! Registered LSEA schools are given support, motivation, inspiration and a focus. They get back what they put in and more – saving money on bills, engaging with the local community, and enabling pupils to shine as they gain confidence from taking positive action to

improve their own environment. Entering schools can also benefit from a whole-school approach to the environment and sustainability, as there are links between entering the LSEA and the criteria of Every Child Matters, DfES Sustainable Schools, the National Curriculum/QCA Schemes of Work, and Ofsted's SEF.

What support is available to LSEA schools?

Borough Link Officer

Your Borough link officer is:

Anna Portch
Waste and Recycling Education Officer, Neighbourhoods & Regeneration, 263 Mare Street, Hackney, E8 3HT
Tel: 020 8356 7956
Fax: 020 835 68011
anna.portch@hackney.gov.uk

They are the first person to contact if you have any questions, and are there to offer advice and support.

Environmental Toolbox

Registered schools are sent a free, practical environmental toolbox to inspire and motivate.

Booklet

The LSEA booklet will be sent to your school in September 2007. It sets out all you need to know about the LSEA – it has curriculum links, a list of resources, contact details and judging criteria. It should answer all your questions about the scheme.

Website

The LSEA website has all the information about the awards and contains great links to other environmental education web sites that have ready made lesson plans, resources designed for children and ideas for projects.

Volunteers

Every registered school is asked if they would like volunteers to help them with their projects during a volunteer week in the Spring term.

Schools' Comments

"The toolbox was an excellent motivator, the booklet provided plenty of ideas. Thanks. We've had fun and our school has really made some huge changes.",
Environmental Action Club leader, St Patrick's RC Primary School, Greenwich

"The children have really shone. They have taken it seriously and it has helped them to have ownership over their school environment."

Teacher, St Mary of the Angels RC Primary School, Westminster

"The booklet is extremely helpful."
Class Teacher, Croydon.

"I thought that the toolbox was fantastic! I opened it with my class and it really fired us up and sparked off discussion on why we should work on. It would be impossible for me to think about how to improve it because it was excellent!"

Teacher, Westminster

"This project has made a wonderful impact to our school and has been a great success."

Deputy Head Teacher, Barking and Dagenham

"It is a brilliant idea to get schools and our young people involved and aware of environmental views."

School Support Staff Governor, Bexley

"It has focussed us more to action the things we wanted to do."

Environment Co-ordinator, Enfield

"The toolbox is great, a good talking point for children to bump start us into action."

Teacher, Warren Road Primary School, Bromley

How do I register?

Register by 12 October 2007

Every school in London with children aged 4-11 are invited to register their interest in the LSEA. There are three ways to register your school for the LSEA 2007-2008. If possible please use the online form, as this is paper-free. The online form can be found at:

www.london.gov.uk/mayor/education/lsea

By post - complete the form and mail it for free to:

FREEPOST 15799, London Schools Environment Award,
Post Point 1, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, More London,
London, SE1 2AA

By fax - complete the form and fax to 020 7983 4008

Registration Form

Title First Name Last Name

Telephone Number Fax Number

Name of School

School's Address

.....

..... Postcode

Borough Number of Pupils

Themes

Please indicate below one main theme, in addition to Litter and Local Environment Quality, your school is interested in:

Litter and Local Environment Quality – Compulsory

Waste and Recycling

Water

Energy and Climate Change

Transport to School

Biodiversity

LSEA Ceremony 2007 entertained, inspired and rewarded



The Mayor addresses winning schools; Chris Packham with Thames Water characters, and sharing his curiosity cabinet.



Children representing winning schools at the LSEA awards ceremony are entertained by Chris Packham.

On 4 July 2007 Mayor of London Ken Livingstone presented the London Schools Environment Awards. In its fourth year, a record 752 schools across the capital registered for the scheme. The Mayor was joined by TV presenter and wildlife photographer Chris Packham at City Hall, where 60 London schools were praised and celebrated for their environmental work.

Speaking on the awards, the Mayor said: 'It is important that children learn at an early age how to protect the environment by being aware of the threats posed by climate change and what they can do to make a difference. The age of an individual Londoner does not alter the impact that they can have on climate change - young and old are involved in the fight against global and local emissions. By educating children at primary school level, the London Schools Environment Awards foster children's sense of responsibility for their environment and at the same time influences the next generation's consciousness.'

Chris Packham entertained pupils, teachers and borough link officers with rare and unusual items from his curiosity

cabinet. The pupils handled items ranging from seal bones to dung balls! One lucky pupil took home a fossilised beetle. Chris spoke with passion about his career working with animals and raised the importance of preserving habitats, and water conservation. Chris said: 'The London Schools Environment Awards are going from strength-to-strength each year and I am thrilled to be a part of them this year. It is really encouraging to see the variety and detail of projects that children from across the capital have been involved in to improve the environment and combat climate change. This group of children is the future generation and it is great that they are concerned about the environment now and being proactive in tackling climate change.'

Thames Water's Miss Toothbrush and Mr Tap helped pupils consider water efficiency issues. Supported by Wateraid's Humphrey the Camel they all proved a big hit at entertaining the winners. Pupils and teachers left the award ceremony proud of their achievements, enthusiastic about LSEA 2007/8 and armed with a winners' bag full of environmental goodies and information!