

# ECO NEWSLETTER

March 2016

No 3

## Spring Term ~ Waste

This term the focus has been waste and part of this is our textile recycling which happily covers all 3 of the Rs.



We have booked a textile collection via Wastebusters for **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2016**.

The good news is that this gives you the Easter Holidays to have a 'Spring Clean' of all your unwanted and outgrown clothes. The bags will be delivered to us the week we return from the Easter Holidays.

Did you know around £140 million worth (350,000 tonnes) of used clothes goes to landfill in the UK every year! The textiles we throw away to landfill each year weigh more than 800 Boeing 747 jumbo jets! Recycled textiles are used in many ways. They can be resold to charities or secondhand clothes shops or sent to developing countries. They can also be turned into wiping clothes or turned into paper, insulation, carpet padding and other items.

To finish our Waste Term here are some more 'Did You Know?' facts for you:

- ♻️ Glass is 100% recyclable and can be recycled an infinite number of times without loss of quality, strength or functionality
- ♻️ The UK currently recycles around 50% of container glass (like bottles and jars) and while this figure has doubled over the last five years it still lags behind other countries. For example, both Switzerland and Finland recycle more than 90% of their glass
- ♻️ 75% of the aluminium ever made is still in use today.
- ♻️ Around 12.5 billion steel cans are used annually in the UK. Aluminium and steel are endlessly recyclable so it is important that they are saved rather than dumped.
- ♻️ In a whole year, an individual drinks can could be recycled eight times, saving enough energy to make 160 new cans.

- ♻️ It takes just 7 days for a newspaper to be recycled and come back as a newspaper again.
- ♻️ All of the newsprint used in the UK contains around 78% of recycled paper.
- ♻️ 11 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent emissions were avoided by recycling paper and cardboard in 2008. This is the same as taking around 3.5 million cars off the road.

The final Waste Term project for the children was to make a model using waste materials. These were displayed in their classroom and each child received a sticker and a Recycling Hero award on the Eco Tree.

Well done to:

Aaron, Izzie, Aaryan P, Chloe, Alfie, Robin and Callum

## Spring/Summer Term ~ Grounds



We invited Flower Fairies into our school again this year. Many thanks to:

Chloe, Bobby, Austin, Luca, Tamsin, Mia, Robin, Sidney, Gracie and Aaron who took part.

They each received a sticker and have a Flower Fairy on the Eco Tree in the Link.

We have just completed planting a tomato seed with every child in the school. These will later be sent home to be cared for. Charts will be displayed showing how many tomatoes each child harvested. We will provide more information on this project during the summer term.

All children will be given the opportunity to work in the gardens and help with seeds and growing throughout the school year.



During 2013-2014 we achieved our ECO Schools Green Flag status.

Our Green Flag is now due for renewal March 2016! Part of the Green Flag requirement is that all members of the school community are aware of our ECO CODE ~ you will have seen this around the school. It is to be sung to the tune of 'twinkle, twinkle little star' ~ ask your child to tell you about it ☺

To achieve the Green Flag status involves submitting data and then being assessed by a visiting assessor. There are nine areas to the award: Energy (compulsory), Litter, Waste, Water, Biodiversity, School Grounds, Transport, Global Citizenship and Healthy Living

We will let you know the results of our application when we hear.

If you have a particular interest in any of the areas and would like to help us with our Green Flag and Eco activities please contact Mrs Dodd or Mrs Bowling.

At Charlwood Village Infant School we aim to  
**REDUCE, RE-USE AND RECYCLE**  
as much as possible.

### **ECO ACTION TEAM**

As you are aware we have regular meetings with our Eco Team and invite parents and the wider community to attend meetings too. We consider the whole school community, parents, staff and children as part of our Eco Team. This means that everybody will receive copies of the minutes that are held with parents. We would like everybody to feel that they can attend as many meetings as they would like and to make this easier we will have them at different times. Meetings will be kept very short with just one or two items on the agenda as they will be led by the children.

Please keep a watch on the notice boards and an eye on your email.

**Our next meeting will be at 8.30 a.m. on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016.**

Our Reps are:  
Aaron, Alfie, Callum, Chloe, Izzie and Sophie.

At our last Big Think Time assembly we held a vote and our Eco Team are now known as  
**Eco Warriors.**

If you have any suggestions for our Eco Team please email Mrs Dodd/Mrs Bowling at the school office or speak to one of our Eco Warriors. All ideas and suggestions are welcome.

If any of you are thinning your cottage garden and border plants or have plants that you no longer need we will be happy to give them a good and loving home ☺

