

ECO SCHOOLS ACTION TEAM

THURSDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2014 at 8.30 a.m.

M I N U T E S

1. Ryan welcomed everybody to the meeting and listed the names of all that were present : Ryan, Ellanna, Jennifer, Mrs Bunn (Parent), Robin, Mrs Bowling (TA), Ben, Mrs Jordan (SNA) and Mrs Dodd (School Secretary).

2. **WASTE WEEK 2014 - MARCH**

Waste Week takes place any time during March when we will be thinking about waste in general but with a special focus on plastic. Mrs Bowling asked the children to think about what waste means. Robin suggested wasting time and Ben said wasting electricity. Mrs Bowling explained that another word for waste could be 'rubbish' and Ellanna then mentioned wasting food. We talked about what we do in school to avoid waste and the children tried to remember all the things we do. We compost our snack time food and recycle paper, cardboard, printer cartridges, milk bottle lids, milk bottles, plastic drink bottles, plastic bags, shoes and clothes via 'Phil' the Bag. We discussed what happens to rubbish that isn't recycled and reused and we will have pictures of landfill sites ready to show at the next ECO meeting and ECO assembly. The children were asked to think about what we could do with all the plastic we recycle and if we could make something. Ellanna suggested an animal and Ryan suggested a robot or giant spider. Mrs Dodd explained that we think about our school gardens a lot and was there something that we could put out there? We decided to make a scarecrow and possibly a windmill at a later date. The scarecrow will have plastic bottles for arms and legs, a plastic black rubbish bag filled with other plastic bags for a tummy and head. Lids will be used for buttons and eyes. He will wear wellies on his feet and have plastic gloves for hands. We will then place him by the bath, where we will be growing strawberries, to keep the birds away.

3. **Green Flag**

Mrs Dodd told the children that an Assessor will be visiting our school on 12th March 2014 to see if we had earned our Green Flag. He will be shown around the school and grounds by the Eco Team children and will have lots of questions for everybody.

4. Re-cap of Activities this school year

Litter

The children are trying to remember to take the bin out but have forgotten a few times as so many playtimes have been held inside due to the wet weather. They will make sure it goes out whenever they do.

'Phil' the Bag

Our collection was in November and we raised **£87.50**. As this was so successful we will ask parents if they would like to send further items into school during waste week that we will store for our next collection. We will not arrange a collection for March as this may be too soon after our last one but we will give parents the opportunity to send in items and not throw them away.

SwitchOff Fortnight

This was revisited in Big Think Time yesterday, 5th February. The children made their pledges about energy saving on leaves that will then go on our Eco Tree. We had sent the leaves home during SwitchOff Fortnight but only received 17 back. All of the children in Year 1 and Year 2 have now made their pledges.

5. Any Other Business

Mrs Bowling spoke about holding a toy swap/sale. This had been mentioned before. Children will donate any unwanted toys and games and we will hold a sale with items ranging from 5p to £1. Larger items will be sold to parents for bigger amounts. This will probably be held during March as part of our waste week activities.

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held after the half term holidays and we will let everybody know the date when it is decided.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND