



Eco schools

News

Hello again and what a busy summer it has been. We are now already thinking about Christmas! Weather forecasters are predicting a harsh winter so you may want to get your class making bird cake as a fun activity, with a serious reason in mind. If you care for wildlife in your school it's a good idea to provide clean food and fresh water year-round. A regular supply of food can mean a better chance of survival, particularly to fledgling birds in spring. Remember to clean the containers daily and remove old food to prevent the spread of disease.

How to make Bird Cake

Choose any of the ingredients below:

Wild bird seed, raisins, cranberries, fruit, grapes, apples cut into small pieces!, oatmeal, breadcrumbs, bacon rind, cheese, peanuts (take care with **children and allergies**) You will need melted suet or lard.

What to do

1. Put all the ingredients in a bowl and mix together
2. Pour the warm suet or lard over the mix (equal mix to suet or lard)
3. Spoon into chosen container, these can be yogurt pots, coconut shell etc
4. Put in fridge over night to set
5. Hang out next day- watch the birds come and feed.
6. Do not reuse containers and dispose of carefully.

Junior, Merton Junior, Oakley CofE Junior, Overton CofE Primary, St Johns CofE Primary, St Mary Bourne Primary, and St Marys CofE Junior School.

The schools were provided with a kit to build a moving model, using a solar cell and recycled materials of their choice.

During the morning the teams presented their models to the judges and audience in turn, the pupils were marked on;

- the quality of the presentation,
- the concept and relevance of their model including the written description.
- the technical aspects of the model and how the original solar kit has been modified.
- the choice of materials used to build it, and what type of recycled items used.
- how it was decorated and was there a theme?

The quality of the models was of a very high standard as were the presentations and the judges had a particularly difficult job deciding two winners to represent the borough at the finals in Winchester.

Over lunch the three judges; the council's Cabinet Member for the Environment, Cllr Elaine Still, Rob Eveleigh, Head of Department, Engineering & Automotive Technologies at BCOT and Gary Livingstone, Managing Director from LG Motion Ltd, made their decision and the two schools Bramley CofE Primary and St Mary Bourne Primary were announced at the end of the afternoon. The Mayor of Basingstoke Cllr David Leeks awarded each of the schools a certificate and congratulated them all on their hard work.

The day was rounded off with the pupils enjoying some activities provided by BCOT students.

Hampshire solar challenge 2011 Area finals



This year's Hampshire Solar challenge competition was in two stages; due to the large number of entrants it was decided to hold area finals in each of the boroughs participating.

In Basingstoke and Deane the event took place at Basingstoke College of Technology on Monday 20 June. Eleven primary schools took part including; Bramley CofE Primary, Four Lanes Junior, Great Binfields



The participating teams and judges



Members of the borough recycling and education teams also ran a 'road show' visiting local primary schools and pre-schools distributing information to parents and recycled pencils to school children; they also dressed up in the character costumes Dr Fizz and Miss Print.

Dr Fizz and Miss Print at the Priory Primary School

Hampshire Solar Challenge Intech Winchester

The borough finals took place on 6 July at Intech Science Centre and Planetarium, Bramley and St Mary Bourne Primary School pupils both performed extremely well and impressed the judges with their models. Bramley's (A.I.C) 'Arachnid Information Centre' intrigued the judges and received some excellent comments, and we must congratulate St Mary Bourne Primary School's team for their 'Solar Saver' model which took first place overall in the competition.

Well done to Venetia Smith, Elizabeth Ball, Patrick Case, Thomas Boxer from St Mary Bourne Primary School, Summer 2011.



They gave an excellent presentation and received the trophy from this years sponsor Chris Nixon, the General Manager at Southampton Audi.

What out for next year's solar competition, letters will go out January 2012

This year the Recycle for Hampshire team invited all schools across Hampshire to take part in some recycling fun to help local charities. Schools were able to organise a non-school uniform day with a difference! Instead of pupils and staff bringing in money to wear casual dress they were asked for a donation of one or more items of clothing, textiles or shoes. These items were donated to Bag it Up for Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance for them to sell on and raise much needed funds. This year all schools in Hampshire were invited to take part, including all primary schools in Basingstoke and Deane.

Merton Infant School at Popley was the winning school collecting 105kg of textiles. The Mayor of Basingstoke presented a certificate and trophy at the school assembly on 26 July. As you can see from the photograph the children were very proud of their achievement, well done to Merton recyclers!



Eco schools information

If you require any information regarding eco-schools please contact me on 01256 845427 or email marilyn.davies@basingstoke.gov.uk Marilyn Davies Environmental Education Officer. Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council

Reduce –Reuse- Recycle -Reduce –Reuse- Recycle -Reduce –Reuse- Recycle-

National Recycle Week 2011

During National Recycle Week 20 to 25 June several activities took place across the borough. Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council supported the week by holding a 'Textile Tuesday' where employees could bring in unwanted items to donate to Hampshire Air Ambulance.

Eco youth forum

Do you have any future environmentalists in your class? Would they be interested in joining a new 'Youth Eco Forum' this group will be aimed at year 6 and above. Please contact QMC student Sammie Standley email samantha.standley@virgin.net or email marilyn.davies@basingstoke.gov.uk

Did you know?

- Hampshire residents can take advantage of 'Insulate Hampshire' offers of loft and cavity wall insulation at a reasonable cost, check out www.insulatehampshire.co.uk
- It is National Tree Week from 26 November to 4 December, why not do something for your biodiversity topic!