

Sustainable Development Education Report / Wider Achievement

A reminder that the Eco Group collects and sells unwanted blazers and revision books. If your child is changing stage and needs a blazer or revision books or has some to hand in, please make enquiries/hand in donations to the office or the Support for Learning Base.

April - May

Rag Bag update – Orchar came from behind to win the event, pushing the consistently good Reres into second place. Even with the amount per kilo going down to 30p we were still able to raise £177.90 which will support improvements to the school grounds and greenhouse area. Shelter remain very happy to maintain this link as it provides a good source of secondhand clothing that they can sell to support homeless and poorly housed people and families.

Meru Beads – two S3 pupils, Anna Bennett and Robyn Archibald, sold jewellery on behalf of the Meru Bead Company at the St Stephen's Fair during the holiday. They raised over £30 for Meru School in Kenya.

Grow Wild youth applications – both pupil groups submissions for funding were successful. Group 1 are designing flower fairies and other mythical creatures that represent plants or structures in the garden. This will be used to create a mythical creatures trail. The new gabion bench has been finished off with a beautiful bench top thanks to the skills and hard work of Mr Gibson in the Technician's department.

Group 2 – The Green Growers have been busy removing mountains of ground elder at the Shiell St site. The pupils put in a new path in the cleared area followed by a session with the Great Beginnings Nursey pupils sowing wildflower seed and planting sunflowers. Both groups really enjoyed the collaboration.

If there are any parent who would like to get involved in these garden projects, please get in contact with the school.

Greenhouse area and orchard – the Community Payback Team were in over the Spring holiday creating 4 new raised beds at the back of the greenhouse. A&J Scaffolding generously donated the scaffolding boards used to make them. These now need painting with wood preservative, filling with compost and planted up. The Biology Department are hoping to further develop the area by making it into an outdoor classroom and generally increasing access and use of the area.

The Payback team also cleared the bases of the fruit trees in the orchard which have now been covered by wood chip by an S2 group who have been using this beautiful wild area for outdoor learning, pitfall traps and quadrat surveys. They also carried out an identification of the existing plants and will use this to create identification keys.

Scarecrow Event - Eco Group has used the contacts made through the Keep Scotland Beautiful Champions of the Environment to kick start a scarecrow event to take place during Gala Week. A number of nurseries, primaries and other community groups have indicated a willingness to join in. The event is open to anyone, so feel free to make and display your own scarecrow, just let the school know where to find it! Following Gala week, the scarecrows will make a collective appearance at Duntrune Gala Day on Saturday, 16th July.

LFA Ambassadors - Lucy McArthur and Antonia Holligan (both S6), hosted an evening with Ziggy, an Auschwitz survivor, on the 22nd March. This was a moving and uplifting evening shared with a hall full of pupils and parents. The ambassador's final act took place in the Windmill Garden in Broughty Ferry where they were joined by a small group of pupils who planted up the memorial garden with flowers and recited a poem of remembrance. The memorial was put in place last year in a special ceremony led by last year's LFA Ambassadors.

Community involvement by the Nat 4 group – Alison McGinnes has used her developing relationship with Moyness Nursing Home by helping them get the summerhouse painted. The paint was kindly donated by P.S. Ridgeway, the hard labour by the Nat 4's. The pupils provided a focus of interest for the residents who sat out in the sunshine and chatted with the pupils.

The Nat 4's have also signed up for a Broughty Ferry beach clean with Keep Scotland Beautiful to take place early this week. Snacks provided by Gregg's in the Ferry.

YMCA project – a group of S2 pupils have been working in collaboration with an artist linked to the One World Centre designing a mural for the wall in the newly developing YMCA garden. The wall has been primed and the pupils will begin spray painting their designs in-situ this week.

Eco School Scotland Pocket Garden Competition – Natanya Lin (S2) has had a pallet garden design for a One Planet Picnic selected by judges. This has now to be built and will be on display at the Gardening Scotland 2016 show in Edinburgh in early June.