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**Martlesham Primary Academy**

# **Eco Council**

## **Newsletter**

Issue 5 – May 2023

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Hello to you all and welcome to our 5<sup>th</sup> newsletter.

This edition is going to be something rather special. Since September 2022 we, as an Eco club, have worked very hard on submitting an application to become an Eco Schools prestigious Green Flag holder. We have spent many many hours on reviews, plans and work for this application.

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May we received the email below and we feel so incredibly proud we would like to dedicate this newsletter to sharing it with you.

## **Congratulations on passing your Eco-Schools Green Flag!**

Congratulations!!!

Fantastic work!

We are very pleased to tell you that you and your Eco-Committee at Martlesham Primary Academy have been successful in meeting the requirements for the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award.

We reviewed your application and noted the following:

Electing an Eco-Committee democratically is a mature and fair approach that will raise the status of committee members, building their confidence and empowering them to deliver environmental action – exactly what the Eco-Schools process aims to achieve. It's brilliant to read that the Environmental Review helped your pupils appreciate everything that your school is already doing to benefit our environment and identify areas to work on in the future. Your Environmental Review is full of insightful comments and it's clear that completing it helped develop ideas for future eco-activity. Your Action Plan shows that your Eco-Committee have carefully considered how they can involve their entire school in their planned Eco-Schools' activities to achieve maximum impacts and raise awareness amongst their school community. We enjoyed hearing about your plans to install new bins around the school for recycling. What a lovely idea to use these materials for gardening equipment such as watering containers. You have provided practical and fun curriculum examples, which impressively build on the projects you have worked on in your Action Plan. This is a great way to add context to your Eco-Schools work, it means young people at your school are given the opportunity to learn about important environmental issues and then the chance to work on these issues – a great dual approach. You have worked with a variety of different

individuals and organisations including Road Safety Week and the RSPB Big Bird, relying on their expertise and passion to enrich and inform your Eco-Schools journey. No doubt this was a mutually beneficial experience for all, as these individuals and organisations must have also been inspired by your dedicated Eco-Committee. The parental quote provided is wonderful, and we hope educators in your school take pride from it – Well done to Lyla who requested her own litter picker for her birthday so she could keep the neighbourhood clean! It is wonderful that Lyla loves being a part of the Eco Council. Resourcing eco-actions is a hurdle many educators face. Your actions have faced this challenge and made brilliant choices to adapt to them. SMART choices and a committed Eco-Committee have overcome any obstacles and you should be proud of your achievements this year. Your Eco-Code is very punchy, clear and easy to digest for those that see it. It's a direct call to action. We love this! We loved reading about your environmentally-themed day of learning, this is a great way to make eco-education a community event. Thank you so much for submitting such a terrific application. We have loved reading about your journey and are incredibly impressed by all you have achieved. We have no hesitation in awarding you an Eco-Schools Green Flag with Merit, congratulations!

As always THANK YOU very much for your hard work, we are so proud of all our schools and the collective achievements they have made to protect our planet for future generations. We look forward to working with Martlesham Primary Academy again next academic year to help you expand on your eco-actions and successes of this year.

The Eco-Schools Team

Of course our hard work does not stop here.

We will work again in the next school year and submit a review application next year to keep hold of our new flag!

We just need a flagpole now!

Have a wonderful half term and we will see you for our final newsletter of this school year in July.

