



Eco & Sustainability at Martlesham Primary Academy

A small school with a big mission!



At MPA we have come far in the past few years and are proud to say we have firstly achieved the Eco Schools Green Flag award with Merit in 2023 and with Distinction in 2024.



The Eco committee meets every Wednesday and has helped implement new things in school, such as our outside recycling bins, our soft plastics bin, and off site our half termly community litter pick.



2022 – 2023



2023 - 2024



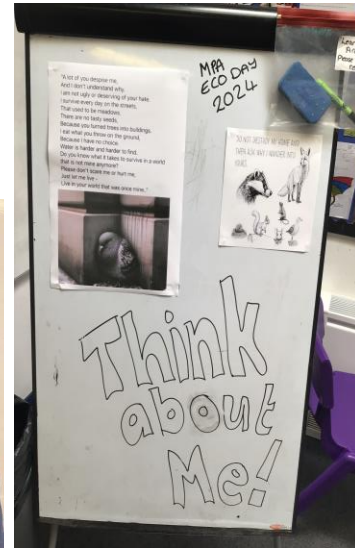
2024 -2025



Eco Days at MPA

- **This year will be the third year we have hosted our ‘Eco Day’ in school. A fun day for all with important messages.**
- **We start with an assembly and then the children spend the morning on activities related to the theme of the day.**
- **Our first year the children and staff made clothes from recycling to wear on the day. Last year we made animal face masks from paper plates that could then be recycled.**
- **In the afternoon, the Eco Committee sets up games that are made from recyclable items to show we can have fun without games consoles and plastic toys! We have games such as lollypop jigsaws, find the eco messages in the sand, crisp packet bunting, plant you own pot plant to take home, paint Eco pictures, Eco word searches made by the children on the committee, made clay turtles with collected seashells and painted stones into Ladybirds!**

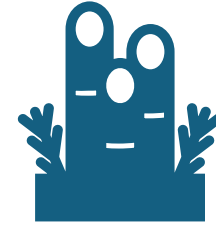
Eco Days 2023 & 2024



In 2023 the MPA Garden and Gardening Club was born.....



An area was dedicated to the new Gardening Club, a vegetable patch was constructed using pallet braces and we made a compost bin for our garden waste from old pallets.



Beside this we made a more relaxing area with flower beds. These were build simply using some unused bricks that had been stored onsite.



Sadly, soon after we had built it, a windstorm did terrible damage to our greenhouse. We had no further funds. A Growing Cabinet was kindly bought for us that allowed us to continue growing that year.



Our Finished Greenhouse



Just a few months later the storm hit.

**With our learning
power of
'Resilience'**

**We had lost all of our planting
in the greenhouse collapse but
we re-planted and that year
grew produce to sell to raise
money for next years seeds.
We sold potatoes, tomatoes,
beans and marrows.**

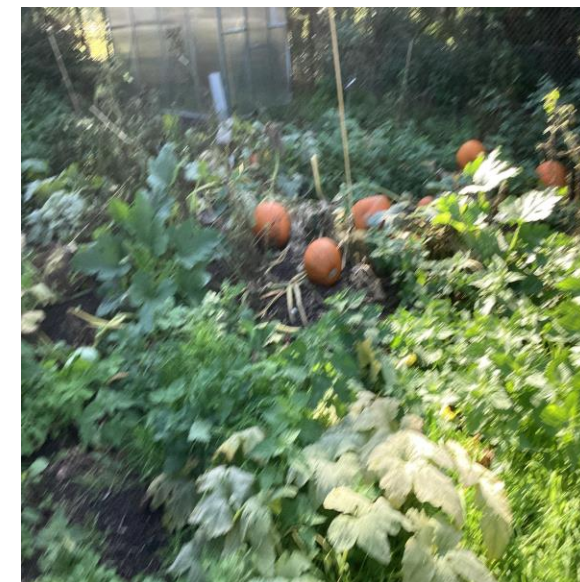


A Secondary project began in 2024....

At the top corner of our field, we had an area that was disused and overgrown. I asked our Headteacher if I could make use of it. She said yes! There began our Wild Orchard.

We cleared the area and then in the holidays, my husband and oldest son, kindly came and helped me literally glue our greenhouse back together. It has survived in its new sheltered spot in the orchard.





Garden club worked on the orchard and planted apple and pear trees. We have now added some plum trees this year. We grew pumpkins in 2023 and sold these in a 'Pumpkin Patch' to raise more funds for garden club.

Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Suffolk Wildlife Trust began working with us when we became a 'Wilder School' in late 2023, Charlie Zakss and her volunteers came in and helped us further improve our grounds for wildlife. They are working with us once a term for for another year.

In April I will work with them on a three day course, to obtain my Outdoor Learning qualification. This will enable me continue the work when they end their time with MPA in July 2025.

We have plans for a sensory garden, a wooded 'summer shade' area and many other things in our playing field project we hope to begin later this year.





Wildlife Only!

We have a Forest School area but wanted to make more areas for the local wildlife, especially as a new housing estate was being built along our boundary. We made our first area near to the other gardens. We added a Hedgehog house, bird table and various areas for creatures and insects to live in.



Gardening at Martlesham Primary Academy



Thank you to

Emma Churchman, our headteacher who always trusts my ideas!

Cathie Paine, our C.E.O, who kindly visited to officially open our garden in 2022 and then took the time to come back and see our progress in 2024.

Suffolk Wildlife Trust for their kind participation in our schools grounds developments

Everyone who has given time and materials to help our garden along the way

To all of the wonderful children past and present of MPA who, without their interest and enthusiaum for all things Eco, the outdoors and gardening none of this would have every have happened.

Thank you for watching our story