



Welcome to the third edition of **schoolsgogreen**

On 30 March the Smarter Travel Richmond upon Thames project was launched at the RFU in Twickenham.

The programme will run for the next two and a half years across the borough and will be operated in partnership by the Council and Transport for London (TfL). It will be the UK's largest and most innovative travel behaviour change project.

This ground breaking project aims to encourage people to walk, cycle and use public transport and by doing so reduce their CO2 emissions and improve their health.



The project provides a huge opportunity for the Council and TfL and has the potential to help shape the Capital's transport policy for years to come. It will only work, however, if we can gain support from our community including; residents, businesses, schools and other public and voluntary bodies.

To start the event, Nelson Primary School was visited by leading officials, Kulveer Ranger (Director for Transport Policy for the Greater London Authority) and Peter Hendy (Commissioner of Transport). After discussing sustainable travel with the pupils, School Travel Plan Champion and the Head teacher, the visitors made their way to the RFU to meet with local businesses, organisations and community groups, which included a number of the borough's head teachers.

Guests at the launch also attended an exhibition that expanded on the various projects being promoted through the Smarter Travel programme.

For further information please contact your School Travel Advisor.

Dates for the Diary

w/c 20 April (for four weeks)

Upgrade pupil and parent/carer packs to be delivered

1 May

Pupil Eco Conference, Hampton Hill Junior School

1 May

Allotment Space Prize Presentation (Presented by Blue Peter Gardener, Chris Collins)

3 May (PM)

Springtime Safari, Orleans House Gallery

3 - 9 May

Home Composting Awareness Week

19 May

Schools Environment Forum, Pembroke Lodge

w/c 22 June

Recycle Now week

4 - 28 June

Love London Sustainability Weeks Festival at Barnes Wetland Centre

5 June

World Environment Day

13 - 21 June

Bike Week

26 June

School Solar Car Challenge, Vineyard Primary School

July

Upgrade Year Seven Teacher packs to be delivered

11 July

Cycle to Secondary School Day

Congratulations to The Russell and Vineyard Primary Schools who recently achieved their Bronze Eco-Schools awards and Orleans Infant and St. Catherine's who achieved Silver.

The Schools Environment Forum

The next Schools Environment Forum will be taking place at Pembroke Lodge in Richmond Park on 19 May. The forum is organised by the Richmond Environment Network in partnership with London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. The aim is to share information, build partnerships and link environmental initiatives in schools. It is a free event to which all school staff, governors and parent helpers are welcome. This year there will be an opportunity to hear talks about ongoing environmental projects in schools and meet the organisations that can help your school in its efforts to become more sustainable. In addition to this, Garden Organic,

the UK's leading organic growing charity, is offering a free workshop. This will include tips on growing fruit and vegetables with pupils, composting and ideas for linking growing projects to the curriculum.

If you would like to attend the forum please e-mail Joe Pecorelli to register.

For more information on Richmond Environment Network please visit www.richenvironmentnet.org.uk/Schools.aspx.





Energy and Water

Related ECM Outcome: Make a Positive Contribution / Achieve Economic Well-being

Take Part in the Richmond upon Thames' Solar Car Challenge 2009

Last year's Solar Car Challenge was a resounding success with students and teachers all round, so this year we're making it bigger and better!

This time, all primary schools in the borough are eligible to enter the challenge where students will have the opportunity to design, build and race model solar cars, all in the aid of learning more about the environment and how renewable energy works. Students will win prizes for Fastest Car and Most Creative Car and, as last year's challenge showed, there is wonderful scope for creativity and fun.

There are 20 places available and each participating school will receive a free solar car kit, including assembly instructions.



To enter your school, or for further information please contact the Sustainability Unit by 24th April.

'Firefly' team from St Mary's CE Primary School, hosts of the 2008 Challenge

Wise up to Water

Forget fashion makeovers, primary and secondary schools in the borough have shown that 'Water Makeovers' are the way to go!

Rather than learning what not to wear, pupils across ten schools have been finding out how not to waste. They've been helping to cut water consumption in a special project coordinated by the Sustainability Unit and Thames Water.

Water use in participating schools has been monitored over a period of months and professional water

audits were carried out to identify where savings can be made. Devices such as urinal controls and regulators for taps have been installed, aiming to save both water and money.

Pupils were also pro-active, carrying out their own water surveys at home and taking part in 'how much does it cost to flush your toilet?' workshops. Students from Orleans Park School were famous for the day when they were chosen to produce a water survey film for the new Thames Water website.

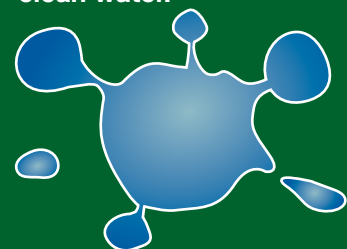
To view the film and find out more about saving water at school, visit www.thameswater.co.uk/wiseuptowater.



Water Wise website

TOP FACTS

1. A running tap can use approximately 6 litres of water per minute.
2. Water consumption alone accounts for 3% of all electricity generated in the UK.
3. On average, each person visits the toilet 1460 times a year - about four times a day.
4. Approximately two-thirds of the water used in schools is flushed down the toilet.
5. Worldwide almost 1 billion people live without clean water.



Source: Thames Water



Travel and Traffic

Related ECM Outcome: Achieve Economic Well-Being / Be Healthy / Stay Safe

Does your school have the WoW factor?

Debra the Zebra and School Travel Advisor, James Hammond have been busy recently visiting many schools and spreading the word about the Walk on Wednesday or Walk once a Week (WoW) campaign in assemblies.

With an increasing number of schools wishing to join the campaign Debra and James have travelled the length and breadth of the borough building a following as they go.

Once pupils have Walked on Wednesday or Walked once a Week for a full month they are rewarded with a cool badge.

On their travels they met Richmond Council's Cabinet Member for



Traffic, Transport and Parking, Cllr David Trigg, who stopped for a photo, before adding:

"WoW is an excellent initiative and a great way of keeping children and parents active and healthy throughout the year.

"The Council does all it can to encourage walking, cycling and other sustainable forms of travel and we are delighted

with the interest shown in the scheme locally."

Schools wishing to take part in the WoW campaign must have an active School Travel Plan (STP).

If you wish to register your school's interest or update your STP please contact your School Travel Advisor.



Never too early to start thinking about the environment

Richmond Safety Education Officer, John Everitt, regularly visits nursery and infant schools, and always makes a point of promoting the benefits of walking, whilst explaining the importance of being sensible when crossing roads with an adult.

"Even the youngest pupils enthusiastically embrace the message that walking keeps you fit and helps keep the air clean," says John. "Hopefully, their enthusiasm will rub off on their parents. I am a great believer in children's pester power – as long as it's for good, cheap family activities like walking and cycling."

Following the introduction, John gets the youngsters on their feet to practise stopping quickly at the edge of a pretend Streetfeet road. Then a rousing poem with lots of actions and stomping gives every

child the chance to practice crossing roads holding hands with a partner at safe crossings on the pretend roads. Some modern Street Safe tunes with a clear road safety message which the children can join in with often complete the lesson.

The session is designed to encourage young children to think for themselves about safe ways to cross the road, whilst emphasising the need to hold hands with a grown-up. As a result the children show enhanced understanding to their parents when they are out and about.

John ends his presentation by asking his young

audience to put up their hands if they plan to continue walking and cycling as they grow up to help the environment and keep themselves fit.

It is good to see so many hands going up as a statement of faith in the future of sustainable transport.





Travel and Traffic

Related ECM Outcome: Achieve Economic Well-Being / Be Healthy / Stay Safe

Try cycling to your new secondary school

We have reached the time of year when Year 6 children know which secondary school they are going to and start to think about how they are going to get there.

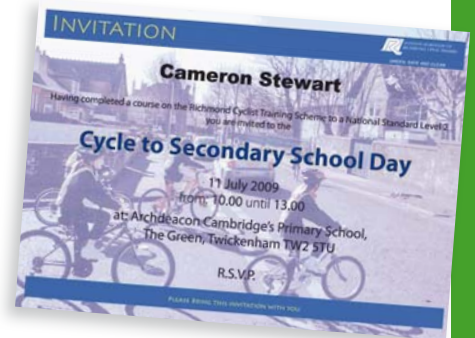
It is important that cycling to secondary school is thought through properly. Cycling Instructors are offering an extra session to children who have completed their Level 2 on-road training in the vicinity of Twickenham Green.

This extra session will take place on

the last Saturday morning before the school year ends and will involve a group ride with children and their parents. This will be marshalled by the cycling instructors and will take place on a risk assessed route.

The route this year is running from Archdeacon Cambridge CE Primary School to Teddington School. This should enable children and their parents to gain experience on how to assess the cycle journey to their new secondary school.

This year pupils from Archdeacon Cambridge's CE Primary, Trafalgar Junior, St James's RC Primary, St Mary's and St Peter's CE Primary, Stanley Junior and Hampton Hill Junior Schools will take part from 10.00-13.00 on Saturday 11 July.



New anti-speeding campaign

Youngsters across the borough of Richmond have joined a nationwide campaign to drive home a vital road safety message – Kill Your Speed.

One talented lad from Barnes Primary School has had his design for a campaign banner made up professionally and displayed outside the school.

The schools initiative follows on from the new £3.2 million Kill Your Speed campaign which features a series of harrowing adverts focussing on drivers having to live with the consequences of their actions if they drive too fast.

Cabinet Member for Traffic, Transport and Parking on Richmond upon Thames Council, Cllr David Trigg, visited the Cross Street school to present winner Teddy Coward with a

goody bag for his efforts.

Cllr Trigg said: "We have a proud record of casualty reduction in the borough, however there are still a minority who put their own and others' lives in danger by driving too fast.

"Junior Safety Officers (JSOs) at all of our primary schools are certainly doing a grand job of delivering the Kill Your Speed message to their surrounding community.

"Teddy's banner is absolutely spot on – a punchy message, simple design and easy to read. It's worthy of a professional design studio and I'm happy so many youngsters are taking the road safety campaign to heart."

The banner is the first of what will be three winning designs created by

Richmond upon Thames pupils. The banners will be put up at schools across the borough on a rota basis.

Principal Safety Education Officer, Sam Merison added "Our JSO's are always keen to get involved and add a local slant to the big national campaigns, and their message is very clear, kill your speed and keep our roads safe".

Cllr David Trigg presents Teddy Coward, 10, with a goody bag, flanked by Junior Safety Officers Ronan Harvey-Kelly, 10, left and Holly Muirhead, nine



Resources Delivery

For teachers:

- ✓ Year Six teachers' packs were distributed in the two weeks prior to the Easter Holiday (w/c 23 Mar).
- ✓ Year Seven teachers packs will be distributed in July, during the last two weeks of the Summer term.

For pupils and parents/carers:

- ✓ Pupil 'goody bags' will be distributed in the four weeks following the Easter holidays (w/c 20 Apr).
- ✓ Parent/carer packs (Year Six) will be distributed in the four weeks following the Easter holidays (w/c 20 Apr).

If you have any questions relating to the Upgrade resources please contact your School Travel Plan Advisor.





Purchasing and Waste

Related ECM Outcome: Make A Positive Contribution

Recycle, Reuse, Reduce & Respect!

Recycle your waste
And save our world,
We have to make haste
Young boys and girls.

Reuse your old things
And mend your shoes,
Some hope ought to spring
Don't get the blues.

Reduce what you use
And save the Earth,
Switch off all your lights,
Show what Earth's worth.

Respect this planet
And what lives here,
Do not get upset
Don't live in fear.

Zara Hussein 6HY HHJS

Sustainability

Sustainability is such a long word! Not many children know what it means, it's hard for little children to read and it's difficult for older children to spell! However, it's an extremely important word which we are using a lot at the Vineyard School at the moment.

Our school council is focusing on sustainability, but it is important that the whole school understands what we are trying to achieve. To make it simple we could say that we are 'saving energy and water to help save the environment'

To become a sustainable school we all need to work together on a lot of different areas. We have already been busy! We have conducted an audit of lights throughout the school and have introduced a sticker system for the

light switches. We held a competition to design a poster to encourage people to switch off lights and save energy. We have already achieved our Eco-School Bronze Award and our Level 1 Sustainable Learning Award which is exciting!

We aim to introduce 'Walking Wednesdays' and are going to recycle textiles, computer cartridges and mobile phones. We've been busy, but there's still lots to do.

Sustainability - it's easy when you understand it!

*By Isobel Walker aged 10
(The Vineyard School)*



The Winners of the Energy Saving Poster Competition

Teddington Pupil wins National competition



design a poster for national use

As we head towards a BREEAM excellent school and in the spirit of using BSF for educational opportunities, one of our students has won a national competition to

in the near future. From 191 schools that entered the competition one of our 20 entries (all of which were excellent) was the winner.

One of the judges said the following; "We were all so impressed with Jess's design and because it was so clever, thoughtful, colourful and textured (due to it being a collage) that instead of them printing it as a graphic in one colour they will probably print it in full colour as a large sticker to go on the side of each bin".



Global Dimension

Related ECM Outcome: Make A Positive Contribution

Hampton Junior School's Malawian Adventure



How many computers do you have? Do you have pets at home? Have you heard of Dr Who? The pupils at Hampton Junior School had so many questions for the children at their partner school, ShareWorld Moral Elite, in Malawi.

Since establishing their successful partnership, pupils from both schools have been lucky enough to find out the answers to their many questions and have had a taste of Malawian and British lessons and culture when staff crossed continents as part of a teacher exchange. African dancing, exotic foods and traditional tales were just some of the activities experienced by pupils and staff at Hampton Junior School when Mr Chulu visited from ShareWorld.

The partnership has allowed pupils in both countries to develop their global awareness by finding out about similarities and differences that exist between them. It has been the perfect way to introduce the global dimension

to the curriculum at HJS and been the starting point in their aim of achieving 'The International School Award' through the British Council's programme.

... And the answers to the children's questions: We don't have a computer at home, but we have some at school; I have four chickens and a dog; I haven't heard of Dr Who, but I know who Dr Livingstone is!

Stacey Shepherd, Hampton Junior School





Local Wellbeing

Related ECM Outcome: Make A Positive Contribution

Love London, Love Sustainable Sculpture

The opening ceremony for the Love London Sustainability Festival 4 - 28 June will take place at Barnes Wetland



Centre, with a show of recycled art sculptures put together by Anthony Wilson. To encourage up and coming artists, Anthony is holding a local competition. Community Arts Co-ordinator Sophia Reidy has entered 7 GCSE students from Teddington School to make their own recycled art sculpture with entries being displayed as part of show at the Barnes Wetland Centre.

The photo shows Anthony Wilson presenting a workshop in the school, showing examples of his own recycled art sculptures to inspire the students.



Hug a stag beetle

We are exceptionally lucky to live in a borough with a great

variety of different natural habitats that support a wonderful diversity of species. Some, such as the Stag beetle, are relatively common locally but nationally rare. The stag beetle has an amazing life cycle that includes a long period as a delightful looking grub feeding on the fungus growing on rotting wood. The story of this interesting beetle is the subject of an assembly offered free during the summer term in which we also promote the Springtime Safari. The safari is a free family event in the lovely grounds of Orleans House Gallery, a celebration of the borough's wildlife. This year's safari will take place on the afternoon of 3 May and will include plenty

of live creatures such as newts, owls and hedgehogs. There will also be representatives from local environmental organisations on hand to answer your wildlife questions as well as craft activities and storytelling.

Please email Joe Pecorelli if you would like a Stag Beetle assembly, suitable for KS1 and 2.

The Springtime Safari is a partnership project of LBRuT Arts Service, Richmond Environment Network and the Richmond Biodiversity Group.



Families enjoying Springtime Safari 2008



Buildings and Grounds

Related ECM Outcome: Enjoy and Achieve

Do you comply?

In late 2006 the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act) came into force which set out a new duty for local authorities (and public bodies), section 40 of that act states;

“Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity”.

This duty encourages public bodies to consider biodiversity conservation as a cross-cutting agenda that can be

integrated with the delivery of a wide range of services. It recognises that biodiversity conservation should not be viewed solely as an environmental issue, but as a core component of sustainable development contributing to a range of quality-of-life indicators across various related local authority service areas.

Within schools and education facilities this can be done through the promotion of biodiversity through education and biodiversity assessment/indicators. More hands on methods are by increasing wildlife provision within school grounds and encouraging the children to get involved.

For more information about the NERC Act see <http://www.london.gov.uk/gla/publications/environment/dutybound.pdf> or ring the Parks Department at Richmond Council on 08456 122 660.

Kew Gardens Wildlife Pond





Food and Drink

Related ECM Outcome: Be Healthy



Working Towards Fresh Sustainable School Food

Sustainable Schools wants 'all schools to be model suppliers of healthy, local and sustainable food'. Richmond is taking steps to achieve this goal and recently met

with Stephanie Wood of School Food Matters, together they will set up a working party of heads, governors and parents.

Cllr Eady said: "I am glad to have met Stephanie Wood and I and colleagues look forward to working further with her to realise our joint aspirations of raising the standards of school food, and of increasing pupil awareness about food production and sustainability.

"Children do better with good, healthy food and our aim is to provide even better delicious, nutritious

school food at a price that is value for money for their parents".

Meanwhile, Sodexo are looking at ways of supporting schools that wish to serve food freshly prepared on site and are now preparing and cooking fresh vegetables in all schools within the contract. Sodexo has also been given accreditation from the Marine Stewardship Council for their menus. This means that their fish is sustainably sourced.

Sheen Mount's New Meal Service

Last term, Sheen Mount launched its new school meal service. The school now has an amazing 350 children taking school lunches 3 days a week (that's over 85% of the school) and 250 opting for a hot lunch every day! Caterers, Restaurants at School, must be getting something right with their fresh, locally-sourced lunches all cooked on site. But some of the credit must go to the school staff and

governors who have worked tirelessly to get the dining room operation just right. SFM was able to advise on this important piece in the school meal puzzle, and the school now has new square tables, trays, plates and bowls to replace the dreaded flight trays, cutlery and brightly coloured cups and water jugs - all contributing to making lunchtime fun. The queuing has been kept to a minimum with staggered play



times, and the few children still having packed lunches can sit with their friends eating a hot lunch - many have since been tempted to join the hot meal crew.

St Stephen's Are Awarded FFLP Flagship Status!

Congratulations to St Stephen's, Twickenham. They have been awarded Flagship Status from the Food for Life Partnership for their hard work with school food and food education. They will now receive support from FFLP to fast track them through the marks and you can watch their progress by going to the Food for Life Partnership website - you'll find them amongst the London schools.

www.foodforlife.org.uk



Growing Ideas

Look out for a new page on the School Food Matters website (www.schoolfoodmatters.com) which will have handy pdfs to download to inspire you to get your school growing.

There will also be a page dedicated to School Farms - the ultimate Growing Idea! This new page will also watch the development of Grey Court School's school farm project.



Inclusion and Participation

Related ECM Outcome: Make A Positive Contribution

Inclusion Development Programme

The National Strategies is responsible for taking forward the commitment made in Removing Barriers to Achievement by providing a four year programme of Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

This is designed to increase confidence and expertise of mainstream practitioners in meeting high incidence of SEN in mainstream settings and schools.

The aim of the programme is to support schools and Early Years settings

through web-based materials including teaching resources, training materials and information about sources of specialist advice.

For further information and to download documents please visit <http://nationalstrategies.standards.dcsf.gov.uk/node/116691>.

Funding Opportunities

Eco Schools Improve your Community

This initiative will enable you to have some fun whilst implementing a local environmental project within your school or local area – and for the best project we will offer £1,500 to a school in each area to make a difference to your community.

Get your thinking caps on - this is a great way to get together and come up with some great ideas. The projects

must come from the students, be project managed by the students and deliver clear environmental benefits for the school, the students and their families or the local community itself.

Closing date for proposals is noon on 24 April.

For further information go to www.eco-schools.org.uk/news/index.aspx?ID=51

Funding For Growing Projects

Nine Richmond schools have applied for funding through Waitrose's Community Matters programme. This funding initiative has been co-ordinated by School Food Matters and if chosen, local schools will receive small grants to further their growing projects.

Event Update

Sustainability Conference for School Coordinators

Over 30 delegates attended the borough's first ever sustainability conference for school coordinators held on 30 January 2009 at Hampton Hill Junior School.

The aim of the event was to develop existing school activity and inspire others to embed sustainability issues by promoting support and resources available, sharing ideas and further defining the role of a 'sustainability

coordinator' within each school.

It was a fantastic event with positive feedback from school representatives who attended - they welcomed the opportunity to network, pick up useful contacts and evaluate their existing activity. Eight schools in the borough presented practical examples of what they have achieved, providing plenty of encouragement and motivation to others.



Please visit the Go Green website to see the presentations online www.richmond.gov.uk/gogreen.

Sustainable Development in Action

At the London Sustainable Schools Forum (LSSF) in March, David Gardner from the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) enthused the audience with an inspirational presentation relating to the new curriculum planning guides for schools.

David explained how the Children's Plan relates directly to global dimension and sustainable development and explained that they are non-negotiable for children's wellbeing, among other things.

David's two new publications are;

Sustainable Development in Action – a curriculum planning guide for schools and Cross-Curriculum Dimensions – a planning guide for schools.

For further information or to download the guides please contact the QCA, www.qca.org.uk.

Contact Details

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