



Broadwindsor Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

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3rd October 2018

Eco Schools Newsletter Autumn 2018

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

BEACH CLEAN

The Eco Committee got stuck in straight away this autumn with a beach clean on September 14th at West Beach, West Bay. The event took place as part of the Great British Beach Clean organized by the Marine Conservation Society and our results will contribute to a national survey. The eco children from Broadwindsor, Salway Ash and Thorner's schools worked together to clean the beach and this gave the children a great chance to share ideas with their peers.

The beach clean was a really positive event and the children worked with care, purpose and enthusiasm to clean the 100 metre survey site using equipment on loan from the Dorset Waste Partnership. Whilst on first sight, the beach looked clear of rubbish, over two hours the children collected 508 items of litter in total, which weighed nearly 4 kgs. Most of the litter was fragments of plastic items which had accumulated in the tide line. The children found a whole range of recognisable objects including toothbrushes, Christmas decorations, Lego, golf tees and shoes. They found a total of 51 cigarette ends and a lot of fishing line and netting. All of us were surprised by the range and number of the litter items found and together we now plan to write to the Dorset Waste Partnership to campaign for more recycling bins in the West Bay area. Hopefully the beach clean can become an annual event and the children will have the chance to monitor litter levels on our local coast for years to come.

RECYCLING PENS

Since September instead of throwing away dried up felt tip pens and dry wipe markers we have been saving them with the support of a company called Terracycle. The company then collect our old pens, glue sticks and other consumable plastic items, turn them into new things and pay us for it. You can imagine we use a huge number of pens every year so this will significantly reduce our contribution to landfill and gain some valuable funds for school. Great!

SWITCH OFF FORTNIGHT

To support our ongoing initiatives in school to reduce energy consumption the children will be taking part in 'Switch Off Fortnight' during November. This is an annual campaign to raise awareness about energy use and potential waste in



schools. During the two weeks the children will monitor energy use throughout the day; they will work as Energy Detectives and if we have some nice sunny days some classes will aim to hold a 'power down' day and work without electricity! The children will learn about ways to save electricity and how this affects carbon dioxide emissions and we hope to run a poster competition too.

WASTE NOT WANT NOT

The staff from the 'WASTE NOT, WANT NOT' shop on South Street in Bridport are really keen to come into schools to teach the children about ways to reduce packaging and single use plastic and we are hoping to organize this during the spring term as well as a possible trip down to the store to get more ideas about how to reduce waste in school.

ACTION PLAN

We are busy working on our new action plan and we will share it with you soon.

Thanks for all your support, best wishes,

Mrs Taylor and Eco Committee

