

Galbally National School – Green Schools Action Plan 2021-2023

<i>Action</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Inform entire school community that we are beginning work on our fifth green schools Flag, Theme: Biodiversity. Elect committee.	Term 1 2021 (Sept. – Dec.)	Mr Kearney (through Galbally NS Forums) and Staff	Achieved
Carry out environmental review for Biodiversity (incl. habitat map 1)	Terms 1 (Sept.- Dec) 2021	Green Schools Committee	Achieved (Covid restrictions re: pods, bubbles etc. taken into account)
Maintain monitoring of energy and water usage and check for any increases in cost	Ongoing	Breda, Mrs. Cunningham and Green Schools Committee	Achieved/Ongoing {Any increase in costs is at base-supplier level}
Ensure classes are using bin system correctly –3 bins in every classroom (compost, recycling & waste)	Monitored Daily	All staff and children	Ongoing
Promote ‘Green Code’ competition (to include emphasis on biodiversity, as well as litter and waste management, energy and water saving and sustainable travel)	Term 2 (Jan 2022)	Whole School	Achieved
Present and Display findings of Environmental Review and monitoring;eg. biodiversity awareness survey, habitat maps etc. (on green schools notice board, to each classroom etc)	Throughout Term 3 (to June 2022)-Term 1 (from Sept. 2022)	Green Schools Committee	Ongoing
Whole School Approach (taking covid restrictions into account) to units of work on <i>Winter Birds</i> . (Data collected on site and locally)	December 2021/January 2022	Green School Committee and Travel Officer	Achieved

Maintain “Turn it Off” signs at sinks, electrical sources/appliances throughout school	Ongoing	Green Schools Committee	Achieved
Develop awareness around “Preparing for nature’s reawakening” (1. Planning growing spaces, 2. Seasonal Action (e.g. buying seeds, taking cuttings from fruit bushes), 3. Birdboxes/feeders)	January 2022	Senior Green School Committee members, Mrs. Cunningham, Mr. Kearney	Achieved
Composting (ensuring correct items are composted and compost is 2/3 brown and dry [leaves, straw] 1/3 green)	Checked Daily (emptied and washed on Fridays)	Senior Green School Committee members (bring in straw etc. when necessary)	Achieved/Ongoing
Continue to evaluate the effectiveness of “Park and Stride” options	Ongoing	Whole school community	Achieved/Ongoing
Monitor I-Pad energy usage-eliminate unnecessary charging	Ongoing	6 th Class Rota	Achieved/ongoing
Circulate useful websites etc. re: biodiversity to school body	February/March 2022	Green Schools Committee	Achieved/Ongoing
Whole school approach to developing understanding of Frogspawn and Amphibians (incl. local or regional experts where possible [with Covid restrictions etc.]	February 2022	Whole School Community	Achieved (engagement with expert in field not possible due to Covid)
Emptying and Leaving out bins (Recycling and Waste)	Monday mornings	SNAs and 6 th class boys	Achieved/Ongoing
Collect and display data on biodiversity in the local community (eg. bug hotels in local community, designated wildflower locations etc.)	March/April 2022	Green Schools Committee (and prior work of Tidy Towns)	Achieved
Register for Team Limerick Clean Up	March 2022	Mrs. Cunningham and Tidy Towns Committee	Achieved

Continue to ensure litter is eliminated-particular attention to litter blackspots (adding side and back of new prefab to blackspot list)	Daily	Class teachers and teacher/staff on yard duty	Achieved
Developing whole school awareness and education on pollination (pollinators in our school), partaking in FIT audit (<i>Flower-Insect-Timed</i> Counts)	March/April 2022	Greenschools Committee, All teachers	Achieved
Participate in Team Limerick Clean Up	April 2022	Whole School Community and Tidy Towns Committee	Achieved
Continue to promote Cycling as a means of smarter travel, encouraging use of cycle shelter.	Ongoing	Teachers, staff, pupils and parents	Achieved
Promote re-usable drinks and lunchboxes in both in school and in wider community (e.g. reusable hot drinks container initiative in local retail outlet-combatting disposal of polythene cups)	Ongoing	Tidy Towns Committee, Green Schools Committee, Cummins' Shop	Achieved
Observing Spring Arrivals: Increase in wildlife in local environment (eg. spotter sheets for spring migrants (eg. swallows) and April flowers.	April 2022	Greenschools Committee	Achieved
Facilitate Environmental Presentation in school (on the importance of bees)	May 2022	Green School Committee and Mrs. Byrnes	Achieved
Continue work on planting and maintenance of flower beds, trees etc.	Ongoing	Green Schools Committee, Mr. Kearney, senior pupils	Ongoing
Present outline of this year's work to all classes	June 2022	Green Schools Committee	

Elect new Green Schools Committee and present to assembly	September 2023	Mrs. Reardon, Mr. Kearney and Green schools committee	
Consider/plan for the possibility of tree planting, or creation of new garden area (potentially at back of school)	Term 1 2023	Mr. Kearney, Mrs. Reardon and Green schools committee	
Observing and Auditing hedges, fruits and trees	September 2023	Mrs. Reardon and Green schools Committee	
Seeds: Physical and data collection of seeds on trees in local environment (eg. oak, hazel, horse-chestnut, beech etc.)	October 2022	Mrs Reardon & Green School Committee	
Create Habitat Map 2 and compare with Habitat Map 1 from last year	Sept/Oct 2022	Mrs Reardon & Green School Committee	
Our Local Tree's Leaves (carry out tree inventory of the school campus)	November 2022	Mrs Reardon & Green School Committee	
Encourage whole school community to make 'nature pledges'	December 2022/January 2023	Green School Committee will promote to whole school community	
Carry out biodiversity quiz in each class	During Term 1 2023	Class teachers & green schools committee members	
Updating of notice board – photos, events, surveys etc.	Weekly	Mrs Cunningham (yr 1)/Mrs. Reardon (yr.2) & Green Schools Committee	Ongoing

Increase awareness of importance of biodiversity actions in both school and at home (e.g. leaving a corner of lawn unmowed etc.)	Ongoing (using noticeboard, posters, leaflets etc.)	Green Schools Committee	Ongoing
Arrange renewal green flag visit	January 2023	Mrs. Reardon & Green Schools Committee	
Invite guest speakers to school to impart their knowledge of flora and fauna of the area (a grandparent, or grandparents, if possible)	January/Feb 2023	Green schools committee (incorporated into grandparents' day)	
Biodiversity Themed 'Day/Week of Action'	Term 1 2023	Whole School Community	Date to be decided
Complete application form for green flag for Biodiversity	February/March 2023	Green School Committee	Will be completed following visit from Taisce Inspector
Register for Team Limerick Clean Up	March 2023	Green Schools Committee (collaborate with Tidy Towns)	Achieved
Carry Out Biodiversity Trail with green school committee members and interested members of the community	March/April 2023	Green Schools Committee (liaising with Tidy Towns)	
Liaise with community organisations re: possible projects to collaborate on (e.g. Tidy Towns, Men's Shed etc. for example building of birdboxes, raised beds, bug hotels etc.	Ongoing	Green Schools Committee, Local Groups	Ongoing

Present outline of year's work to each class	June 2023	Green Schools Committee	
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