



HAZLEGROVE

ECO FEST

11-15 MARCH

2024

IT'S ONLY NATURAL



Cake Competition

Monday 11 March

As part of our Eco Festival week we would love you to get creative in the kitchen. Create, make, bake and decorate your masterpiece and bring it to The Annex on the morning of Monday 11 March.

**PLEASE NOTE:
HAZLEGROVE IS A NUT FREE SCHOOL**

A large green treble clef is the central element, with a plant growing from its base. The plant has long green leaves and small yellow and red flowers. Several bees are flying around the clef and the plant. The entire scene is framed by a green border with leaves and bees.

Festival Concert

Thursday 14 March

7 PM

**Join us for an inspiring fusion
of rhythm, melody and nature,
showcasing pieces that echo our
commitment to the planet, at
Hazlegrove's Eco Fest Concert 2024.**

This is a ticketed event.

THE BIG PLASTIC COUNT

GREENPEACE x **EVERYDAY
PLASTIC**

We are joining thousands of people across the country participating in 'The Big Plastic Count'. During Eco Festival week we are asking the children to count the number of plastic items we throw away each day, in order to help in gathering vital evidence to help convince UK ministers, supermarkets and big brands to lead the way at global talks and phase out plastic production for good.

We would like the children to count every piece of plastic they throw away at home over the course of the week and bring in their tallies to enter into their class log. The boarders will be counting the plastic we throw away in school each day and adding this into the totals. These totals will then be submitted to The Big Plastic Count and we will be able to generate class plastic footprints.



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A WORD FROM OUR HEADMASTER



At a time when climate change and sustainability feature so highly in our daily lives, I am delighted that this can be our focus for this year's Festival Week. We are blessed at Hazlegrove with beautiful grounds and as well as looking at our immediate environment, the Festival will endeavour to open our eyes to the wider world. It will provide an invaluable opportunity to explore ways in which we can protect both our local and global environments and build a cleaner world. We are extremely lucky to have Ben Goldsmith, a passionate environmentalist, as our patron this year. As well as supporting his Iris Project Charity which helps outstanding young individuals in finding solutions to the climate and ecological crisis, we will also be supporting the Young People's Trust for the Environment, a Yeovil based charity who are coming in to talk to all of our pupils. I look forward to seeing the whole Hazlegrove community embrace this festival – bring on Eco Fest!

A WORD FROM OUR PATRON

The Hazlegrove Eco Fest is a brilliant idea. Sitting among the ancient Somerset oaks, overlooking the once-shimmering landscape of the Somerset Levels, pupils at Hazlegrove are about as connected with nature as it's possible to be in any school. And nothing could matter more; because not only do we depend on nature for everything we have and everything we do, we need nature on a more visceral level: being in nature, among the wildflowers, soothed by the birdsong and the chirruping and gentle humming of life all around us, makes us feel good on a deeper level than we can well articulate. Children more than any of us, need this connection with nature if they are to thrive. It becomes clearer with every passing day that the overriding purpose of our society needs to be the recovery of vibrant nature everywhere, woven through the fabric of our lives. By doing this Eco Fest, Hazlegrove is helping to raise Generation Restoration!

Ben Goldsmith



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THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Young People's Trust for the Environment

YPTE is a charity which aims to encourage young people's understanding of the environment and of the need for sustainability, giving young people a real awareness of environmental problems, such as climate change, disappearing wildlife, the pollution of soil, air and water, the destruction of rainforests and wetlands, the spread of desert regions and the misuse of the oceans. They will be giving talks to the pupils on subjects such as rainforests, sustainability, and climate change.

Rhian Rochford

Parent of Will and Elise, Rhian, who is a qualified vet, has a small holding of sheep who the family regularly take to County shows and events. Rhian and her husband, Mark, set up the company 'Gather' and produce 100% native British wool products which are sustainable and traceable. Rhian will be bringing in some of her sheep and demonstrating sheering and talking about sustainability of wool and sustainable fashion.

Chris Grimes (Octavius Civil Engineering)

Chris is head of environment at Octavius and provides educational talks to schools. He will be coming to give a talk to our Year 7 and 8 pupils. We look forward to finding out more and learning from Chris' experience and ecology knowledge.

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THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Green Up Your Act

Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8, will be participating in some hands on Eco workshops, where they learn how to reduce our ecological footprint and help maximise our earth's precious resources. The children will examine a diverse range of recycled and upcycled objects and materials from around the world. The older children will get hands-on and make a visually unique upcycled notebook from old maps, paper and card and the younger children will decorate a cork fish with colourful recycled scales to bring awareness to the problem of litter in our surroundings.

Carymoor

Carymoor Environmental Trust is an environmental education and nature conservation charity. Our Year 3 and 4 children will be going to visit the Carymoor site and learning more about recycling and waste. Carymoor will be coming to school to visit our Reception, Years 1, 2 and 5 children, and help them learn how to slim down our food waste, with Wigglebert the Worm teaching the younger children about composting.



THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Wildlife Cameras

Hazlegrove parent, Rhys Perry, and his daughter, Nella, have installed some wildlife cameras around the Hazlegrove grounds. We are looking forward to seeing the footage of the creatures that also call Hazlegrove their home.

“Nella and I thought it would be interesting to find out what wild things live at Hazlegrove. The School has such large and beautiful grounds, we thought it would be fun to place a few wildlife cameras around and see what else lives at Hazlegrove, apart from the teachers and boarders!”



THROUGHOUT THE WEEK



On Friday afternoon we will be hosting a swap shop event. This will be an opportunity for the children and parents to come and see if there is anything that they could make use of, enjoy and give a new home, from the items generously donated by the Hazlegrove community.

UPCYCLE SALE

At the same time we will also be holding a sale of the items the children have made over the course of the week. All proceeds from this sale will be divided between the two charities we are supporting during Eco Fest week.

BREAKTIME ACTIVITIES

Over the course of the week the children will have the opportunity to come and do a variety of upcycling projects during breaktimes. We will then be selling some of these on Friday afternoon at the end of the week to raise money for our Festival charities.

Upcycling activities will include—

**Ramekin
Pincushions**



Plastic Bottle Flowers



Tin Can Plant Pots



Carton Birdfeeders



School Uniform Bunting



RECYCLED FASHION SHOW

The Recycled Fashion Club have been busy upcycling old and damaged pieces of clothing, and using odds and ends of fabric to create new items. Over Eco Fest week, the children are being encouraged to create their own items using old, unwanted clothes, pieces of fabric and waste items. The Recycled Fashion team will be on hand to help with any advice and will host a fashion show for other Hazlegrove pupils at the end of the week to showcase all of the repurposed fashion items the children have created.





Pre-Prep Festival Focus

Our Pre-Prep children are diving deep into the wonders of nature during our Eco Fest Week.

Our young learners will be exploring all things eco in our environment, getting up close and personal with nature. They'll have the opportunity to explore the school grounds, discovering the beauty and importance of our natural surroundings.

One of the highlights of the week will undoubtedly be the sheep shearing experience. This will give the children a unique insight into rural life and the importance of sustainable farming.

We're also excited to welcome Carymoor and 'Green Up Your Act' to our School. These organisations will be providing workshops for the children, further enriching their understanding of ecology and the environment.

Adding to the excitement, we're thrilled to announce a visit from the Young People's Trust for the Environment. They will be providing talks and giving our children a chance to explore and learn more about environments such as the Rainforest.

The Children will also get to witness some real Hazlegrove wildlife from the nature cams we have had out in the grounds. Queue the excitement!

We can't wait to see the children's enthusiasm and curiosity come alive as they embark on this eco adventure!

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Lower School Festival Focus

Lower School will dive headfirst into Eco Fest with both year groups heading out on a trip out to Carymoor Environmental Centre at the start of the week. The children will experience an eye opening tour of the site and some exciting activities linked to the 3 Rs (Reduce, Rescue, Recycle) and sustainability. Continuing their learning back at school, both year groups will have a chance to see what our wildlife camera has uncovered in recent weeks, share a workshop with the YTPÉ about how we can 'Green Up Our Act', see some sheep shearing in action and meet a local wood turner for a workshop.

Year 3 will be exploring the ecology of Hazlegrove, using the latest flora and fauna identification technology. Having gathered their data, the children will then present this clearly in a range of ways before then developing their understanding of plants that can improve the biodiversity of our site and also considering our recycling data. The children will also be honing their debating skills, discussing a range of issues linked to animals and the environment. Throughout the week, Year 3 children will also be creating their own shoe box habitats taking into account a range of different climates and animals linked to our Geography topic and be developing their own Ten Commandments for a sustainable future.

Year 4 will be delving into the realms of sustainable energy, specifically looking at designing and creating their own wind turbines. In Geography, linking to their current rainforest topic, the children will be thinking about the impact of deforestation more locally, specifically at the bottom of our drive. They will then plan what they would like to grow and include once the work has finished along Hazlegrove's new drive. This will include thinking about what plant species and habitats we can build for animals in the local area.



THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Computing

In Computing lessons, pupils will be stepping into an amazing Minecraft world inspired by the landmark series from BBC Studios Natural History Unit, Planet Earth III. Pupils will be playing as both predator and prey creatures like the Cape Fur Seal and the Great White Shark, the Musk Ox and the Arctic Wolf, the Impala and Leopard, and many more. We will explore locations based in the real world, including the Arctic Tundra, the Okavango Delta, and learn about each animal to gain their perspective on survival!

English

"The pen is mightier than the sword" is an expression indicating that the written word is more effective than violence as a means of social or political change; or in our case, a highly effective way to initiate and express the changes that we want to see in our environment and the world at large. During Hazlegrove Eco Fest week, our children will be exploring a wide range of topics surrounding sustainability, pollution, energy-use, fair trade, and wastage – and our vehicles...letters, persuasive arguments, debates, newspaper articles, descriptive writing, and poetry. We will also be examining prominent speeches by world leaders, contemporary poets and topical works of fiction. The children will get the opportunity to present their work to their classmates, practising presentation-skills and delivery. Our aim is for our children to express their views in an articulate, persuasive and respectful manner, whilst balancing their arguments with current thinking and ideas from the world beyond the cattle grid.

History

Pupils will take part in a range of activities on an eco theme during the week: Year 5 will be exploring whether the Titanic would have sunk today, based upon climate evidence and the likelihood of icebergs. Year 6 will examine an early recycler, Tudor Bess of Hardwick, and make a Tudor-style ruff from recycled materials. Year 7 will consider how to deal with hot temperatures by studying how Saladin was able to bring ice to King Richard the Lionheart, in the desert during the Third Crusade. Year 8 will piece together a patchwork using their sewing skills with hand-stitching, antique machine sewing and modern machine sewing, to reflect upon their work on the impact of the fast fashion industry.



THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Geography

We will be looking at farming in Geography and examining what synthetic inputs (fertilisers/fungicides/pesticides) are and what problems they can create for farmers. We will also be looking at how farmers can reduce the usage of these substances by using minimum disturbance cultivation techniques, in combination with cover crops, in order to maintain green cover on their fields for as much of the year as possible. It will be wonderful to see pupils exploring an environmental matter that is so relevant to the local area around Hazlegrove and presenting their findings to each other. Year 7 have been looking at sustainable urban living, based on their studies of the regeneration of Stratford in East London, and this will reach its conclusion during Eco Fest, as we see whether these ideas can be employed more widely around British towns and cities. We will also be looking at the Paris climate targets and the progress that the UK has been making toward meeting them.

Science

It is becoming increasingly important to raise awareness of the plight of the world around us and inspire the next generation to keep thinking of novel and inventive ways to halt global warming, find renewable energy sources and protect endangered species. Year 5 have a series of lessons planned in which they will explore the impact of global warming on animals across the globe. Year 6 are going to unleash their inner David Attenborough and develop their research and presentation skills as they work towards creating their very own documentaries. Eco Fest week coincides with British Science Week. This year their theme is 'Time', so Years 7 and 8 will be creating posters inspired by the title 'We Are Running Out of Time' to enter into the poster competition.

DT

For Design and Technology this week, Middle School will be finding out about solar power and the possibilities of using this natural energy. They will then team up to make their own solar powered car using electrical components, soldering equipment and woodwork tools to construct their design.

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THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Art

During Eco Week in Art, we look forward to making use of recycled, discarded and natural materials to create original artwork that has a minimal environmental footprint. In the Lower School pupils will use old magazines to make eco beads for a colourful necklace or bracelet. Middle School pupils will explore sculpture using recycled materials, and Upper School pupils will experiment painting with natural pigments and crafting flowers using pages from old newspapers and books. It promises to be a creative week where pupils discover how previously discarded materials can be repurposed into something unique and special.

Languages

Le festival de l'environnement et du développement durable ! El festival ecológico! We look forward to raising awareness during our Eco Fest in French and Spanish this year. Environmental issues know no cultural boundaries and impact the International community all around our earth.

We will be performing an eco rap about recycling and renewable energy in our French lessons, with each year group rapping their own verse. In Spanish lessons, Year 8 will work with a song "Día de la Tierra", learning some new phrases about caring for the earth.

Years 7 & 8 will also be making some French signs to use in our classrooms to help encourage us to be more energy efficient and eco-friendly.

Maths

The Maths Department have another action packed and busy programme lined-up for the Spring Eco Fest. Maths classes will be exploring area and perimeter as they design an eco garden that seeks to make the best possible use of a limited space – such as flat roof top. Other Maths groups will be trying to design, and then manufacture the most economic, efficient, and creative two-dimensional packaging net for a carton or box to contain a medium sized easter egg. While other Maths sets will be conducting in-depth data handling investigations aimed at exploring exactly how much waste we recycle, how efficient we are with our energy usage around the school and what the carbon footprint is for our daily commute to and from school – and how this might be reduced if we car-pooled a little more.



THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

PSHE

In Respect, empathy and a greater understanding of our neighbours is essential if we are to see the change that we desire in the world – connections before corrections. We want our children to see that we need to understand others rather than judge others - we want to think with our heads, connect with our hearts, offer hope, and then crucially offer help. In the Lower School, the children will be focusing on 'Stewardship' and they will be making a bag/tote style/T shirt from odds and ends, with a caption that sums up their thoughts about saving the planet.

The Middle School will be focusing on the ocean-rising sea levels, ice-caps melting, plastic in the oceans, etc., and link this to *The Titanic*. They will also be looking at some ground-breaking sustainability ideas whilst encouraging the children to look at charities that focus on this theme. Lastly, the Upper School will be focusing on Fair Trade – the ethics, the implications and how to support this.

Food Technology

Cake Competition - let your creativity loose and bake an 'It's Only Natural' inspired cake for the competition - entries to be delivered to the Annex on Monday morning. Remember to use the name card to label your masterpiece! Judging will take place over the course of the morning, with winners announced by Lunchtime. Cakes can be purchased after 4.00 pm.

Smoothie Bikes – on Friday and Saturday, in their Food Tech classes, pupils will generate their own energy, using pedal power, to create a variety of smoothies. We will be considering food waste and using up some sad looking fruit and vegetables to create some fabulous flavours!

Cooking with carefully considered ingredients, is such an important and essential life skill; nourishment for the heart and soul. The pupils will learn about the importance of making healthy eating choices whilst embracing the importance of reducing food waste and using locally sourced ingredients.

RE

In RE we will be looking at environmental issues linked to their current areas of study: for example, Year 6 will be looking at Hindu attitudes to environmental issues, and Years 7 and 8 will be considering some of the ethical impacts of the choices we make.

CHOSEN CHARITIES



The Iris Project is run in collaboration with Global Greengrants Fund, and has been established in memory of Iris Goldsmith, who died in a tragic accident aged 15. Iris had a deep and lifelong connection with the natural world, a gentle way with animals, and a particular love for the sea. In her memory, we are building a global community of young people working to protect and restore their local natural environment. We recognise that young people are already leading the way in finding solutions to the climate and ecological crisis. The Iris Project exists to shine a light on that leadership, and to enable outstanding individuals to take it further by providing access to the funds and support that, all too often, they find too difficult to access.



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We want to give young people a real awareness of environmental problems, such as climate change, disappearing wildlife, the pollution of soil, air and water, the destruction of rainforests and wetlands, the spread of desert regions and the misuse of the oceans.





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