



The Hayfield Herald

On Thursday 22nd April we joined the world in celebrating and thinking about our planet on Earth Day 2021. Across the school each year group had a different focus regarding conservation, looking after and restoring our world.

In Reception they were looking at understanding our world. First they discovered some facts about Earth and then created eco-friendly ornaments using clay and salt dough.

In Year 1 they learned about the need for birds to have a reliable source of food, especially through the summer as their population booms. During the nesting season providing birds with food also means that the parents need to spend less time away from the nest and their young. To support and protect birds Year 1 have made their own bird feeders to help the birds all through the year.

In Year 2 they have been creating plastic bottle top art and learning about the impact that plastic is having on our oceans both now and, more worryingly, for the next few hundred years. Their amazing artwork focused on spreading the message that we need to protect the animals in the sea affected by plastics.

In Year 3 they revisited the importance of plants in our ecosystem both for oxygen and as a source of food for humans and animals. They also discovered that plants help to clean water and their roots help prevent erosion and flooding. Their activity was to plant sunflowers with a challenge of who's will grow the tallest in the future.

In Year 4 they were looking at how we can save energy and found out that wasting energy by leaving lights on not only costs money but it is harmful to the environment as well. The energy source for much of our electricity are still from fossil fuels and natural gas which can't be replaced and also cause pollution. The children created posters to remind everyone to make sure we turn off lights and don't waste energy. Hopefully this is something we can all remember to do at school and at home.

In Year 5 they were given a clean water challenge and learned all about water pollution. Humans have had a huge impact on water pollution in many ways including waste from factories and farms, chemicals and rubbish. They had a scientific challenge to experiment with a range of materials to find a way to clean some 'dirty' water. They had to test their ideas, share them and then compare which methods worked the best and why.

In Year 6 they learned that, unbelievably, every year 500 BILLION plastic bags are used around the world. These became popular in the 1980s and now are a major issue in our world as they are costly to recycle and take 300 years to degrade naturally. The world continues to be increasingly contaminated by plastic bags so Year 6 were challenge to reuse and upcycle them into eco mats for the garden. They did this by sorting the bags and weaving them into mats.

We believe it is really important for the children to grow up being aware of the environment and the human impact on our world. We hope that they will be more environmentally conscious and continue to find ways to look after the Earth better and ensure it is a lovely place for them to live and their families for generations to come. A huge well done to Miss Vincitore, our humanities leader, who has arranged our Earth Day and planned all of the activities across the whole school. Thank you Miss Vincitore! If you would like to know more about Earth Day you can visit the website: <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2021/>

In other news, over the Easter holidays we have now opened our new trim trail which the children have loved. Now that we are connected to the mains gas supply the old gas tanks which were in front of the hall have been removed. This has allowed us to move the fence forwards to provide more security around the hall. The important bonus of this is that it has opened up a huge space in front of the hall that can now be used for the children to eat outside in the summer, have the hall doors open for ventilation in assemblies and PE and also as a play area for the children attending the extended provision with LASK. The bike sheds are also now being finished so that we will have proper shelters for all of those children riding and scootering to school. Please do remember to lock your bikes and scooters up as we can't take responsibility for them if they are damaged or stolen.

Craig Charteris Head Teacher

*Remember that I commanded you to be strong and brave. So don't be afraid.
The Lord your God will be with you everywhere you go³ (Joshua 1:9)*

Joy - Integrity - Fellowship