

Environmental Education News

The newsletter of Cambridgeshire Environmental Education Service

Supporting Sustainable Schools CEES branches out for climate change education

Recognising that a staggering 83% of its carbon dioxide emissions from buildings comes from schools, Cambridgeshire County Council has made a commitment to reduce its CO₂ emissions and support schools to become more sustainable. Cambridgeshire Environmental Education Service (CEES) is contributing to the Council's climate change education mission by stepping up its support for schools and helping them along the road to sustainability. New and enhanced services now offered by CEES include:

- Leading whole school staff professional development days
- Offering Eco Schools briefings and in-house training for Governors
- Contributing to collapsed curriculum Green weeks and Impact days in schools
- Supporting green-themed Open Days and associated community events
- Networking with the many other individuals and organisations, both within the County Council and beyond, who contribute to working towards sustainability
- Sharing eco-success stories, good news and case studies from schools. Several inspirational examples of these are included in the pages of this newsletter, so read on . . .



A study of wetland food chains inspired ephemeral art for Oakington's Y5/6, see p2

Schools mentioned in this issue:

Ashbeach Priamry
Coates Primary
Cottenham Primary
Dogsthorpe Junior
Elm Road Primary
Holywell Primary
Icknield Primary
Kimbolton Prep
Kings Hedges Primary
Milton Road Primary
Neale Wade Community College
Oakington Primary
Paston Ridings Primary
St Anne's Primary
St Ivo School
Stapleford Primary
Swaffham Bulbeck Primary
Thomas Clarkson Community
College

See inside for news from:

- Cambridgeshire Outdoors
- The Wildlife Truat
- Fenland
- The Cambridge area
- The Peterborough area

+ Diary Dates, page 8



GIANT family for Cambridgeshire Outdoors

The three Residential Centres that are part of the Cambridgeshire Outdoors partnership are about to benefit from GIANT improvements to their grounds.

The project is part of "Cambridgeshire Culture", the County's commitment to cultural entitlements and partnerships for children and young people, which was launched in June last year. The Residential Centres at Grafham Water, Burwell House and CEES Stibbington will be home to a family of giants, which are due to be created by sculptor, David Swinton in August. David's giant's head which emerges from the ground at The Ashbeach Primary School has been the admiration of many for several years, and from September thousands of visitors to the three Cambridgeshire Outdoors Residential Centres will be able to enjoy his work too.

Frankie Williams, the County's General Inspector for Music and Culture, has given her support to the project as it contributes to heritage, one of the seven activity areas identified within Cambridgeshire Culture. The giants will enhance the local landscapes at each of the centres and add an extra attraction to the Centres' learning environments.

Stibbington Centre's grounds have already seen significant improvements, with the upgrading of the wildlife garden area, making the pond and pathways wheel chair-friendly, and with major improvement to the Rock Garden, including the installation of a real 5 metre long pliosaur fossil! The improvements have already prompted teachers to describe the grounds as "Fantastic" and "Inspiring". No doubt the new giant will attract even more accolades



Above: The Ashbeach giant

Below: Stibbington's garden



Quality residential experience with a sustainability theme

Residential courses at Stibbington Centre offer an ideal opportunity to embed the principles of sustainable lifestyles and inspire children to take eco action back at school and at home. They also offer high quality teaching to support a variety of curricular themes, especially Science and Geography, but with cross-curricular links to other subjects. For example Oakington Primary School's study of wetland food chains led to Andy Goldsworthy-style ephemeral art including the pike that appears on the front cover and the butterfly here.

St Anne's Primary, Godmanchester sampled their first residential experience at Stibbington with Y3s in March and teacher Lizzie Bennett described it as "A wonderful experience".

St Anne's pupil, Millie in a letter to Head of Service, Rosie Edwards wrote, "You run the best place in the world for kids"!

Other recent comments made by teachers include:

"Centre teachers were inspirational, enthusiastic and very knowledgeable."

"Well balanced meals, good choice of healthy food and fresh fruit."

"Well organized and well balanced programme of activities that supported our Science and Geography programmes of study very effectively."

"Enhanced learning and promoted positive attitudes towards environmental issues."



Bookings for Residential Courses and Day Courses

Information about booking Residential Courses at Stibbington Centre, and Day Courses at Stibbington, Upware, Wisbech and Coldham is being circulated with this newsletter for those reading the hard copy mailing, including details of the discounts that are available for some courses. Reservations are currently being taken for all courses from September 09 to July 10.

For further details tel 01780 782386 or email cees.stibbington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or visit www.cees.org.uk

CEES Evaluation draw, Spring 09

Congratulations to the following winners of CEES draw for last term.

A small token to thank them for returning their comments about the service is en route to their schools:

Upware Centre: Sarah Johnson of Swaffham Bulbeck Primary who took her year 3/4 class for an "Investigating Rocks" course in March.

Wisbech Castle: Helen Willatt of St Peter's Junior who took her Y5 class on the new urban locality course in February.

Coldham Wind Farm: Keith Day of Thomas Clarkson Community College who brought his year 11 group on an Energy Works visit in January.

Stibbington Day Centre: Claire Higgins of Bar Hill Primary whose year 1 class "Stepped back in time" in March

Stibbington Residential Centre: Sue McLean of Paston Ridings Primary who brought year 3s for a 3-day residential course in March

The Eco Schools adventure begins at Icknield Primary

In this first school case study, Head teacher, Sarah Robins describes how Icknield's journey towards sustainability began and how children, governors, teachers and other school staff are all involved.

Icknield's move towards Eco-School status probably began longer ago than any of us had realised. However, it was formalised by an "Eco Schools Inspiration" whole staff training day at the beginning of this term, involving Teachers, Teaching Assistants and Midday Supervisors. I had asked specialists from the CEES team to introduce us to the Eco Schools programme and to focus on learning in the school grounds, and the day exceeded our expectations. We took part in lots of practical activities with huge amounts of enthusiasm! This was the beginning of what has now become our school's journey towards becoming an Eco-School.

What I think we hadn't quite realised is just how much we were doing already:

Our Year 6 residential has been, for the last 10 years, to Stibbington Environmental Centre. The visit takes place each October when the children have the opportunity to experience a week of wonderful activities that fit in brilliantly with all aspects of the National Curriculum and in particular focus on some Year 6 Science topics. The pupils find themselves out in the grounds pond dipping, heading into the forest to hug trees, searching out badger sets, visiting a local quarry and going fossil hunting (there is always one who finds a dinosaur fossil!). Most importantly though, the youngsters spend the week outside enjoying the environment around them and learning to care for it. Because all of this occurs early in the year, it means that the learning is embedded into their Year 6 curriculum and holds meaning for them, rather than being a tag-on at the end.

Last year, Pziser, who are based near the school, offered to provide the man-power and some funding to help us build our own vegetable garden. Designed in the shape of our school logo, a tree, the garden is starting to blossom. With broad beans and spring onions already growing, we are now in the middle of allocating a pitch to each class in the school, who will take responsibility for growing their own fruit and veg. There has even been talk of a "biggest vegetable" and "scariest scarecrow" competition. This term, as an addition to our garden, we will be hatching eggs in an incubator and raising chicks as part of the Icknield family.

In March of this year, the School Council took the opportunity to develop our wildlife area further by planning a Willow Dome. Specialists from Living Willow came in and worked with children from Year 1 to 6

building the dome. This has created a space that can be used as a tranquil spot at playtimes or as an outdoor classroom. By being involved in creating the dome the children have ownership of the project and thus, respect it and want to look after it. We plan to add a tunnel to the arrangement in the coming year.

Year 5 are responsible for monitoring energy usage and ensuring lights are turned off when classes are out at break, lunch or assembly times. This has highlighted a need to examine our energy consumption in more detail and as lead teacher on the Eco Schools project I am taking advantage of the twilight Eco Schools learning sessions offered by CEES to investigate how this issue might be tackled.

Pollution Solution, a short film produced by our year 5 group last year, was one of the winners at the Cambridge Film Festival, and has since been viewed by several audiences around the County as it demonstrates in a child-friendly Dr Who-inspired presentation the impact of climate change.

When the CEES came to our school to lead the staff training day it struck us all how learning outside the classroom and working towards becoming an Eco School could become embedded into our everyday practice. Having already achieved Active Mark and Healthy Schools status, led by acting Deputy Head, Linda McNicholas, our awareness of sustainability and healthy living was already growing.

The Environmental Training Day itself, as well as allowing us to develop activities for the classroom, gave us time to reflect on future possible developments. As a staff we discussed expanding our 'recycling' scheme from paper and card to plastics as well, and we talked of strengthening our 'global curriculum'. We already have a link with a school in Ghana but also feel we could explore the world nearer to home too.

We are now in the midst of appointing our 'Green Team', made up of Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Kitchen Staff, Governors and pupils who will lead developments and implement changes in order that we are able to become a more sustainable school. We are planning to run a competition to design a range of 'eco' characters that will appear around the school as a reminder to follow the 'Icknield Eco-Code'.

This really is the beginning of our adventure, but what seems to be the key to success is a 'whole school' approach. As a community, we require everyone to understand and be working towards this goal. But with pupils acting as the driving force in this project, taking responsibility for the changes that are required, we are confident that 'being eco' will be part of our everyday practice in no time.

Eco Schools Inspiration

CEES' series of 5 twilight sessions to inspire Eco Schools work continues, following successful meetings at Somersham, Cottenham and Dogsthorpe Junior. Details of June and July events appear in Diary Dates. Having attended the earlier sessions, teacher Louise Kirby and Site manager Simon Miller of Kings Hedges Primary are now poised to set out on their Eco Schools adventure. More details in next term's newsletter.

Teaching resources for archaeology & sustainability

A set of 8 handling packs has been developed by Huntingdonshire District Council's Countryside Team and Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) for use with Key Stage 2 pupils. Each pack has been developed as a stand-alone activity or they can work together to form a sequence of activities. The activities look at both archaeology and issues around modern life, including sustainability and recycling. Some of the resources are original artefacts whilst others are accurate replicas:

1 Introduction to the main archaeological time periods of history, including Celtic, Roman and Stone Age. Children sequence the time periods and decide which artefacts belong to each.

2 Re-creating a pot from a set of **pottery shards**.

3 Re-creating **thumb pots** and coil pots, and decorating them with authentic patterns.

4 Excavating **artefacts** from a series of dig boxes and working out which time period they belong to.

5,6 & 7 Roman and modern kitchens, food and kitchen artefacts and comparing the sustainability of Roman times with today.

8 A chance to dress up as a Roman and a close look at decomposition times and what **archaeologists** are likely to find on a Roman body compared with a modern body.

The packs may be hired for up to two weeks. A small charge applies. For more information and details on how to book these handling packs contact the OA East Outreach & Learning Officer on 01223 850500.

The Roman Day Course programme offered at CEES Upware Centre will complement the handling packs and really bring the study of Roman times to life. On arrival at the Centre children are kitted out in Roman tunics, given Roman name tags and issued with Roman passports before setting out on Centurion Marcus Maximus' treasure trail and trying out Roman craft activities. For details visit www.cees.org.uk/pdfs/upware_ks2_romanday.pdf or tel 01780 782386.



Wildlife Trust activities in Cambs & Peterborough

Wildlife Trust staff have been busy delivering child-centred learning experiences across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The exciting day visit programmes aim to put children at the heart of learning and focus on delivering memorable experiences to enable pupils to develop an understanding of and strong connection to the natural world.

Buckden landfill

Kimbolton Preparatory School became Waste and Recycling Investigators, visited a working landfill and became garbologists - waste and time detectives - to unravel the history of waste. Pupils investigated the 5R's (yes we have 5R's rather than the traditional 3R's) and took part in interactive learning activities.

Paxton Pits

Milton Road Primary School took a Wild Journey Through Time to meet a talking Ichthyosaur and they discovered just how Paxton Pits became so important for wildlife by stopping off at different points in time to investigate habitats with activities such as pond dipping, fossil hunting, birdwatching and mini-beast hunting.



Wonderful woodlands

This summer the Wildlife Trust is offering a new woodland art programme. A morning of activities in a local woodland is followed by a creative afternoon with a professional artist. These child-centred learning experiences will engage children and connect them to their local woodland.

To find out more visit www.wildlifebcnp.org and click on 'Education Centres'

Rainforest resources

Educating young people is key to raising awareness about the importance of rainforests in combating climate change. To help teachers bring the world's rainforests into the classroom, The Prince's Rainforests Project has a dedicated schools website with lesson plans, assembly ideas, webcams, games and other activities. For details visit www.rainforestsos.org/pages/schools

PowerDown

This free resource from Action Aid focuses on the types of energy use that contribute most to UK CO₂ emissions. The pack contains a photopack, teachers' booklet and DVD-rom with lesson plans and cross-curricular links that support the revised KS3 programmes of study. Details at www.actionaid.org.uk/101018/free_toolkit.html

Planet in Peril

A new book from Scholastic outlines the science behind global warming and the effects of human actions on the planet in language suitable for upper KS2. The book is a thought-provoking and enjoyable read and should be a valuable resource for the classroom or school library. Details at www.scholastic.co.uk.

Snail hunting

Evolution Megalab has a pupil-friendly snail hunting challenge on its website at http://www.evolutionmegalab.org/en_GB/. Children are asked to follow instructions using colourful ID sheets to find and identify snails, and then enter their results onto the website. The Europe-wide database that's being created provides snail records that could reflect the impact of climate change.

Energy Works Experience

For Coates Primary

A Year 3 class from Coates Primary visited CEES' Energy Works programme at Coldham Wind Farm near March in January, and teacher, Sally Agger, used the visit, to lead into letter writing, the current focus of her literacy lessons. Despite the cold weather, the year 3 children stood beneath the rotating blades and looked up in awe at the 60 metre tall turbine. The letter writing task that was part of Sally's follow up work resulted in some high quality writing, and a wonderful display was created in the classroom, using the wind turbine models the children had made during their Energy Works design and technology workshop.



For Elm Road Primary

Chris Venables, the Year 5 teacher from Elm Road Primary School also chose a literacy theme. He wanted to use the wind farm visit to inspire persuasive writing back in class. During their visit in March, his class undertook environmental quality assessments both in front of the nearest residential buildings and in close proximity to the turbines. The pupils used wind measuring equipment and took other measurements of the turbines and compared them to on-line readings from the wind farm management system.

Back at school later that week, the in-school workshop included critical thinking activities to explore ideas and opinions about wind farms. This led to each group representing different stakeholder in the community - farmer, dog walker, birdwatcher, homeowner, council employee. Pupils wrote letters to persuade others that 'their' view should be considered, and then the great debate followed. Roughly divided, half for and half against the wind farm, the children spoke in turn to try to convince others to change sides. Change they did, with several movements back and forth until the end when the argument for a new wind farm won the most votes. Well done to all speakers on both sides!

For all schools and communities

Energy Works visits to Coldham Wind Farm and workshops in schools are now available at **NO CHARGE** to schools. All of the activities help to bring renewable energy and associated sustainability issues to life and make a significant contribution to climate change education. On Sunday 21 June visitors are welcome to come along to Coldham's Open Day to find out more

For further information contact Nicky Ayscough on mob 07595 587184 or email

Nicola.ayscough@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

To make a booking contact the CEES bookings line on 01780 782386 or email

cees.stibbington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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"That Eco Thing" at Neale Wade

Teachers, Martin Field and Janice Holdich are involved in Neale Wade Community College's eco activities, but it's the students who are enthusiastically taking the lead. as Lavla reports.

Hi I'm Layla and I'm in year 11. I'm part of **That Eco Thing** a group we set up at Neale Wade Community College last year to try to raise students' and teachers' awareness of why we should be more environmentally friendly and respect the planet.

So what good stuff has **That Eco Thing** done so far?

- Well, we set up a BIG fruit & veg plot – it's 80 by 10 meters big, we're growing fresh produce like new potatoes, beans, lettuce, courgettes and strawberries that all go to the canteen to cook and sell at lunchtimes;
- we ran a Valentines Day roses delivery service;
- we put "lights out" reminders up near all the light switches;
- we held plant and produce sales that raised over £200;
- we had a scary scarecrow competition;
- we ran "name the veggie" competitions;
- we held a "guess the weight of the spuds" competition;
- we ran a trip to the farmers market in Melton Mowbray;
- we had a day on the veggie plot called "weed and feed" where students worked then got a free BBQ;
- and we're even featured in a national gardening magazine called Kitchen Garden!

So that was last year, and things have moved on a bit. We found we were getting overwhelmed by the size of the veg plot so this term we've divided the plot up so that each House has it's own mini allotment and can challenge the other houses to grow the biggest "whatever"! We also now run a termly inter-house recycling competition. So far we've focussed on batteries, milk bottle tops, mobiles and ink cartridges.



Plenty of students are regularly involved now thanks mainly to the BIG DIG days where groups spend some lesson time working and learning on the veg plot - we always have lots of home-made cakes too - could that be why it's so popular?!

That Eco Thing is represented on college parliament to spread news about what we do. We also speak at assemblies and open days and various events. We are working towards our Eco Schools silver award. Neale Wade's Futures Group of Gifted and Talented students are playing a big part in this by carrying out energy audits and raising awareness about energy use and recycling issues in the college.

Personally it's helped me develop a tonne of skills and in particular has been a great part of my citizenship coursework. Other groups across the school are starting to get involved, such as the GCSE construction students, building us a BBQ and hopefully some raised beds, inclusion students have a weekly timetabled lesson, PSHE groups often visit the plot, DT students can practice using tools and some form groups have adopted an area where they work together on a project.

I'm staying on next year for the 6th form and I'm looking forward to continuing my role with That Eco Thing at Neale Wade.

Cottenham Primary Eco School

The report below by teacher Melanie Griffiths clearly shows why Cottenham Primary School proved a perfect host venue for one of **CEES' Eco Schools Inspiration** twilight sessions for teachers last term.

Green issues have been very much on our agenda of late. We explored many of them during our very successful Eco-Week, where we set out to encourage children and staff to examine their own lives and to make some changes towards a more sustainable lifestyle. We are keen to put these changes into practice both at home and at school in an effort to reduce our carbon footprints.

A small group of teachers planned the week so that children and staff would have an experience quite removed from the usual routine! We put children into either Foundation and Key Stage 1 groups or Key Stage 2 groups. We put the teachers into 5 Eco-Teams: Biodiversity, Travel & Transport, Food, Reduce Reuse Recycle and Energy & Water. Throughout the week, each group of children visited teachers in each of the five Eco-Teams. The children wore delegate badges and carried Eco-Passports. Despite initial worries by some of the teachers, the children soon got the hang of where to go. Our wonderful cooks got involved too – sourcing as much locally produced food as possible and making their own Eco-Pledges.

The range of activities available throughout the week was many and varied. Children had opportunities to eat litter-free lunches, filter water, visit the CPS Fairtrade Café, make Eco-Promises, generate electricity by pedalling an exercise bike, make beaded curtains out of bottle tops and examine biodiversity in the pond and sensory garden. Mr Fryer taught his groups basic bicycle maintenance to encourage them to ride their bikes more (he didn't have too many unclaimed parts left over at the end of the week!) In Miss Goodhew's classroom, the children created giant works of art made from 'found materials'. Miss Wilkinson turned her room into a hive of sewing activity – with children making bags and customising old clothes. Mr Aston spent the week making paper and producing eco songs and films with his groups. Children explored the issues surrounding what we eat, what we throw away and how much energy we use. Visitors from several environmental organisations were invited to contribute to the programme.

Our next aim is to reduce the amount of energy we use and the amount of waste we produce in school. We are encouraging everyone to turn off lights, switch off computer monitors, turn off taps and keep windows and doors closed when the heaters are on. We collect plastic bottles, paper, card, glass and cans for recycling, and organic matter for composting. A printer cartridge and mobile phone recycling collection point has been set up in the lobby.

We want to make a difference to our planet in the way we do things at home, at school and forever.

The future starts here.

Fenland, Food, Farming and Flossie

Here is a report with a difference on a visit by Holywell Primary School's Foundation and key stage 1 children to CEES Upware Centre, between Ely and Cambridge.

Flossie's Diary

Well, my dears, what a time I've had lately! I had two beautiful lambs born soon after Easter, a boy and a girl you know. With the weather starting to get warmer, spring was in the air and I was looking forward to a good Summer with my babies in the fields at our Reach home. Then, with the lambs only a few days old, there was such excitement! CEES teachers, Becky and Brian brought lots of lovely children and their teachers from Holywell School to visit us! They had gone to Upware Centre nearby to learn about Fenland, Food and Farming and Mr Davies said they could come and see us at the farm! (He lets me call him Gareth of course but only because I am such a special member of his flock).

Anyway, the children came and it was so exciting! They were very good and sat on hay and straw bales whilst Gareth talked to them about lots of things to do with us sheep. I wasn't so happy when he took my lambs out of the pen to let the children hold and stroke them. You should have heard them bleat! I called out to let them know I was near and all was well! They were soon back with me and none the worse for their adventure. A few good licks and a good feed and they were soon skipping about the pen again!

Then, goodness me, Gareth took one of my friends from her pen to cut her nails! No, I won't tell you who, it's so undignified and I don't want to embarrass her, poor thing! She had to lie on her back against his legs whilst he did the job! And, do you know what, she fell asleep! He had to give her a good push to get her back in the pen! Some sheep have no pride in themselves!



So that's my exciting piece of news. It's so nice to see children at our farm, it really livens up the day. I must thank my new friends from Holywell for coming to see me. I know they enjoyed their visit.

I must tell you though that I really am a very special sheep. I do have my own page on a website! Yes it's true! If you have any questions you would like to ask me about myself or my family and friends, you can find me on the 'STARZ' website. My page is called 'I ask ewe'. Sorry, I didn't think of calling it that, it was Gareth! Visit the website soon and you can help to give names to my lambs!

Also, if you want to know more about the 'Fenland, Food, Farming.....and Flossie' course at Upware, contact my friends at Upware or Stibbington Centres. 'It's the best school trip I've ever been on' said one of the Holywell helpers. 'We'll certainly come back again to Upware!' said one of the teachers.

*Well, that's all for now, my dears. Best wishes,
Flossie
(aka CEES teacher Brian Hutchings)*

Eco Schools Inspiration at Dogsthorpe Junior

Dogsthorpe Junior School, Peterborough played host to CEES' most recent Eco Schools Inspiration twilight session, and participants could not fail to be impressed with what they saw and heard. Themes for this session were school grounds and biodiversity. Teacher Aimee Barnsdale, together with Graham Camp of Green Fingers proudly shared with visiting teachers the huge range of projects already under way at the school, and their plans for the future. CEES teachers provided background information on the Eco Schools Award scheme and the support that's available, and used the theme of worms across the curriculum to prompt participants to think of creative ways of using their school grounds. For details of the next two events in the series see Diary Dates on page 8.



A celebration of school gardening

Increasing numbers of pupils around Peterborough are getting the chance to get their hands dirty and grow a range of flowers, vegetables and fruit in their school gardens. Some of the gardens have been going for a number of years and are well established while other have just started growing on a small scale in a few pots.

To celebrate all the hard work done by teachers and pupils, exhibitions showcasing school gardening in Peterborough are running at Peterborough libraries during Green Festival fortnight until 8th June. The exhibitions offer a chance to see what local schools have been growing and to gain inspiration and new ideas. These exhibitions are part of a new initiative by PECT and Children's services at PCC to promote and celebrate Sustainable Development projects in Peterborough Schools. For further details about the exhibitions or information about Eco Schools in Peterborough, contact Jill Foster at PECT, 01733 866 440, jill.foster@pect.net.

The John Clare Heritage Centre

The poet John Clare was born in Helpston, near Peterborough, in 1793 and lived most of his early life there. He was passionate about the natural environment and his poetry gives a unique insight into life in rural England in the 19th century.

The John Clare Trust purchased Clare Cottage in Helpston in 2007, preserving it for future generations. The cottage is currently being developed into an environmental and educational centre, writers' retreat, and visitor centre and is due to open in July 2009. For details on school visits, contact Marian Cullen on 07515 288602 or education@clarecottage.org

Music and Fashion: Great ways to re use

What do you do with clothes you have finished with? At Peterborough's recent Green Festival secondary pupils showed how you can redesign second hand clothes to create stunning eco-fashion.

Students from Jack Hunt School, Arthur Mellows Village College and Peterborough Regional College were involved in designing and showing some eye catching bespoke eco fashions and students from New College Stamford designed ingenious eco jewellery putting household rubbish to good use.

As well as putting clothing to good use, 50 pupils from across Peterborough learnt about making music from Junk. Renowned junk band Big Beat, which regularly plays at the Eden Project, performed on Green Festival launch day, and thanks to funding from the Arts Council pupils from 5 primary, 3 secondary and 1 special school took part in workshops run by the band. These pupils will then be forming their own bands and making instruments from junk back at school. Some of the school bands will be taking part in a grand performance at Voyager School on 13th July.

For further details contact Lisa Taylor at PECT, info@pect.net, 01733 568408.

Creepy Crawlie success story for Paston Ridings

The year 3 residential course at Stibbington proved a huge success for Paston Ridings children, according to teacher, Sue McLean. The programme she had selected provided an excellent start to her theme of Creepy Crawlies, covering science and also inspiring literacy work. Sue commented, "We have always found that those who attend the residential course at Stibbington perform better in unit tests than those who don't. Their awareness of environmental issues is raised too, and it does not stop when they leave Stibbington."

The residential course was the inspiration for the stunning classroom displays which appeared following the visit.



Environmental Education News is published termly by Cambridgeshire Environmental Education Service (CEES) and is distributed free to all CEES subscribing schools.

The views expressed in this publication are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the views of CEES or supporting organisations, nor does inclusion indicate endorsement.

Whilst every care has been taken to ensure that the information contained in this publication is accurate, readers should always obtain independent confirmation of any details upon which they wish to rely.

AutumnTerm 2009 newsletter:

**Copy deadline:
5 October 2009**

**Publication date:
19 October 2009**

Please contact CEES with any questions, comments or ideas:

**Cambridgeshire
Environmental
Education Service (CEES)**

Stibbington Centre
Church Lane
Stibbington
Peterborough
PE8 6LP
T 01780 782386
F 01780 783835
E cees.stibbington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
W www.cees.org.uk

CEES is part of
Cambridgeshire
County Council's
Children & Young People's
Services.

DIARY DATES

Date	Event and Venue	Contact
Fri 5 June	WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY The theme for 2009 is 'Your planet needs you – unite to combat climate change'.	www.unep.org
Mon 8 to Fri 12 June	NATIONAL SCHOOL GROUNDS WEEK This year's theme is The Big Play Experiment which aims to get children active in the school grounds	www.ltl.org.uk
Thurs 11 June	ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION NETWORK Annual seminar at Stibbington Centre, 10.00am till 1.00pm	Tel 01780 782386 or cees.stibbington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Thurs 11 June	GEOGRAPHY MATTERS – CAS Course Teaching and learning about environmental issues at Primary, this course at 2 – 5pm will be at CEES Coldham Wind Farm near March.	To book tel CAS on 01480 375634 quoting course code 18483
Thurs 18 June	WHAT ON EARTH ARE WE THINKING ABOUT? Sustainable development and global learning conference at Millennium Point, Birmingham.	www.tidegloballlearning.net
Sun 21 June	COLDHAM WIND FARM OPEN DAY Displays, information, activities and visits to the turbines from 10.30 to 4	Nicola.ayscough@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Mon 22 to Fri 26 June	GEOGRAPHY AWARENESS WEEK This year's theme, Who do we think we are? is concerned with geography and interdependence, communities and culture.	www.geography.org.uk
Tues 23 June	ECO SCHOOLS INSPIRATION The fourth in a series of 5 twilight workshops for teachers is to be held at St Ivo School, St Ives from 4 to 6pm. The session will include information about the Eco Schools scheme, and details of how the host school is working towards an Eco Schools award, with a special focus on global perspective.	There is no charge to attend the workshop, but places must be booked via CEES on tel 01780 782386 or cees.stibbington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Weds 24 June	ECO SCHOOLS SHOW 2009 Annual Eco Schools showcase at Stoneleigh Conference and Exhibition Centre near Coventry.	www.eco-schools.org.uk/show
Tues 7 July	ECO SCHOOLS INSPIRATION The fifth and final session in the above series will be at Stapleford Primary near Cambridge. In addition to general information about Eco Schools, and progress at Stapleford, this session will focus on litter and waste.	As for 23 June
Tues 6 Oct	ECO SCHOOLS GOVERNOR BRIEFING Hinchingbrooke House, 7 to 9pm	Tel Governor Services on 01223 712267
Fri 27 Nov	CEES ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS CONFERENCE Details to follow in September	Tel 01780 782386 or cees.stibbington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk