



Cambridgeshire Environmental Education Service

NEWS UPDATE

Issue 63 April 2017

E-News from CEES

CEES' E-newsletter is available at www.cees.org.uk/news/newsletters



CPD and training



General interest and open events



Courses, visits and special events for schools

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Eco-action inspiration success!

We were delighted to welcome Schools from across Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire to our Green Day on 29th March. Working together as a team children enjoyed a variety of activities including **Marvellous Minibeasts**, **Wonderful Willow** and **Superb Sunlight**.

Similar events will be planned over the next year.



Outdoor Classroom Day—18 May 2017

“Anyone who has seen the impact that learning and playing outdoors has on children knows how powerful such experiences can be. Learning outdoors creates lasting memories, helps build a greater awareness of the environment, provides more opportunities to think independently, and gets children feeling challenged and excited by learning. Children are more active when they play outdoors; It is essential for their healthy development and enjoyment of childhood.” www.outdoorclassroomday.org.uk

Visit their website for more information and to sign your school up for Outdoor Classroom Day.

Don't leave it too late to book your Autumn term day visit!

Our day visit calendars are now fully booked for the first half of the Summer term and we only have limited dates available in the second half. We anticipate that the Autumn term will be equally as busy. Therefore, if you are planning a visit we would encourage you to book as early as possible to secure your preferred dates if possible.

Does your school have NQTs this year or joining you in September? Would ideas for learning outdoors or extra confidence to lead school visits be useful?

Our short residential course on 16th and 17th June aims to help new teachers to realise the potential of the environment outside the classroom as a rich educational resource, and to gain increased confidence for leading and managing learning experiences outdoors. The course will involve a wide range of practical hands on learning activities in the environment and will also provide an opportunity to appreciate the value of learning in a residential setting. See our [website](#) for further details.



Friday Bridge and Elm Primary Schools discover energy at Coldham Wind Farm thanks to Whitemill Local Environment Fund

Thanks to support from Fenland District Council through the Whitemill Local Environment Fund, classes from Elm and Friday Bridge Primary Schools were able to benefit from environmental education courses led by CEES teachers. The project offered schools in the Whitemill area visits to Coldham wind farm along with workshops in schools on themes such as renewable energy, habitats, minibeasts, rocks and rivers.

“Coldham is a great base for learning outside and the children’s knowledge of Energy has greatly increased. Since returning to School the children have been able to write a more informed piece on how wind turbines work and the pros and cons of Wind Farms.” Teacher, Elm Primary.

“The visit was really fun. I can’t pick my favourite section but I learnt a lot.” Pupil, Elm Primary.

Further details on workshops and energy related visits to Coldham are available on our [website](#).



Stone, willow and silk—Community Class Summer term schedule

Community Classes book quickly and as you can see from the photo of our recent harmonica workshop, we are extending our range of subjects covered. The Summer term will see a repeat of ever-popular willow sculpture together with new workshops teaching silk painting and stone carving. Courses range from half day/full day and start at £35.



Cosy accommodation and varied activities— come rain or shine!

Our Autumn/Winter residential experiences have a wide range of activities to cater for all kinds of weather. Along with regular opportunities to keep warm in a cosy environment there could be no better time to visit us. Our new Winter Residentials leaflet outlines the benefits of visiting at this time. Visit our [website](#) for further details.

Learn Together Cambridgeshire Hub—Cambridgeshire Outdoors

The Learn Together Cambridgeshire Hub <https://khub.net/learntogether> is an online collaborative platform for sharing documents, toolkits, thoughts and ideas. It has a number of collaboration groups based on topics of interest across the education spectrum. We are currently developing a Cambridgeshire Outdoors group on the hub which we hope will become the go to place for information on Outdoor Learning across Cambridgeshire and beyond. Everyone is welcome to sign up to the hub and receive updates from Cambridgeshire Outdoors and its three centres Burwell House, Grafham Water Centre and Stibbington.

To join our, or any other group, simply register with Knowledge Hub—it’s free and easy to do. Please note that The Learn Together Cambridgeshire Hub is part of Knowledge Hub. A full list of network groups can be viewed [here](#).