

February and March 2014 Eco Update

The Eco Committee have been very busy once again! This is what we've been up to:

- We have now submitted our Green Flag Award application to Eco-Schools Scotland and we will find out soon when the assessor will come to school to see, first hand, the great work that the children have been doing. We are hopeful of achieving the award, but if we are unsuccessful this year, we'll be able to address any areas for further development.
- On 14th March, the committee held an Eco assembly which presented the good work we've been doing this year, information about our Action Plans and Environment Review and links we've established with the community, organisations and local business. Eco-Committee members also carried out a 'Safe Litter Picking' demonstration to prepare pupils and staff for our Big Spring Clean which took place over 3 days; 17th-19th March. We want to thank everyone who battled the cold wind and rain to contribute to the Keep Scotland Beautiful campaign.
- We've established 'Turn off Tuesday' each week in school to encourage pupils and staff to turn off lights and computer monitors as often as possible. We hope this has a positive impact on our Global Footprint and that we see the evidence of this with decreasing monthly electricity metre readings.
- Our family survey was very well received and we had a wonderful response....Thank you! Everyone who responded is aware of some of the work we're doing in and out of school and we'll now be looking for ways to help people think more about their shopping and consumer habits and the impact they have on our Global Footprint.
- The Eco-Committee have asked another member of staff to join the committee and we want to say a big thank you to Mrs. Wright for saying 'yes'!
- During Science / Health / Eco week (17th-21st March) the pupils of Spittal Primary had great fun. Primary 1-3 took part in Outdoor Learning at Castlemilk Park with the help of the Community Woodlands Officer. They learned about some of the plants and woodland animals living in the park and P3 contributed to the park environment by helping to remove some of the litter which poses a threat to woodland wildlife.
- Also, visiting speakers from Sight Aid and Water Aid talked to pupils and staff about the vital work they do in Africa. Through working with Sight Aid, we've now established a link to a school in Kenya. We look forward to getting to know more about the children from Kenya and ways we can help Sight Aid.
- As part of Science / Health / Eco week there was a fantastic response to our whole school homework project: 'Making something new from old'. The children's creations are amazing and are now on display outside each classroom.
- On Sport Relief Day, pupils came to school looking very sporty and they really enjoyed the rugby sessions provided by Active Schools staff and a local rugby club. Thank you for your donations which will go directly to Sport Relief.
- After the Easter break, the Eco-Committee will be working with Lloyd's Bank who encourage their staff to work in the community for a day. With their help, we will be preparing the large plant pots in the infant playground for planting by removing some of the decorative bark and working compost into the soil. Each class and the nursery will then have access to a planting area in May and June. The Eco-Committee will also organise our gardening tools and resources in the large green hut provided by the Parent Council.