

Healthy Schools Meeting

A meeting took place on Wednesday 16th November between the Healthy Schools, Eco Schools and the Health and Safety Committees.

Present: Mr Middleditch, Jack Berry, Luca Regan, Ellie Clark, Charray Mannings, Lilli Hughes, Jamie Burgess, Olivia Palfrey and Jamie Tearle.

The meeting was also attended by Mrs Brakenbury (Chair of Governors), Mr Clare (Site Manager), Mr Giles (Deputy Chair of Governors), Mrs Grice (Catering Manager), Mr Hull and Mr Holmes (both representing Essex County Council).

This meeting took place as part of our Enhanced Healthy School assessment.

The following points were discussed and suggestions made:

1 **Meetings** – These will continue to take place once a term.

2 **Weather station** – this is now the main target to get this for the front of the school – we would need to look into costs. This target had to be delayed because of the cost to refurbish the wildlife and recycling areas.

3 **Fruit recycling** – The installation of an outside tap, near to the compost bins, as proved invaluable – saving on both time and energy when watering the vegetables, flowers and damping down the compost.

4 **Energy use** – We have been monitoring our energy consumption and posting on the hall projector during assembly times, with a discussion each week as to usage. The Eco-committee is doing a brilliant job in monitoring everyone's efforts at turning off lights, switches, projectors etc. Mr Clare reads the meters every Monday and provides Mr Middleditch with the weekly figures, who then put the results onto the computer in the hall.

8 **Wildlife Area** – The refurbished area now needs wood staining to protect from the weather, similar to the treatment given by Mr Clare to the Tree Top Village. The water gathering system, built by Mr Corcoran is topping up the pond much more effectively. The only remaining task is to put up information boards.

9 **Cooking** – Mrs Grice stated that the number of hot lunches are now higher than this time last year, averaging over 59% each day. Now that the Nursery are also taking hot lunches the overall numbers are certainly up, but more children are taking hot lunches on a regular long term basis.

11 **KS2 Toilets** – In order to keep the toilets a lot cleaner and tidier the introduction of the Golden Toilet Brush award has had the same impact as the Golden Broom Award. Mr Clare is really impressed by how much easier it is to clean the classrooms, and toilets, at the end of the day.

12. **Tree Planting** – It was agreed that we would ask Mrs Allwood to supervise another tree planting session. It was also agreed that Class 2 would visit the Woodland Trust outside classroom for the first time – hopefully before the end of term, if the weather is good.

Meeting closed at 10.10 with 45 minute tour of the school with the Healthy School Assessors, to inspect the grounds, the classrooms and overall standard of cleanliness and safety. At 11.15 representatives of the School Council also met with the assessors to discuss how their views were represented and to feedback on the recent elections.