

**25<sup>th</sup> June - Evie & Ezra Report to the School Governors on Progress of the Brodetsky Eco-Committee.**

On behalf of the Eco-Committee, Co-Chairs Evie and Ezra updated the School Governors on how we became an Eco-School, how we achieved our bronze award and how we plan to earn our first Green Flag Award.

The Governors were enthusiastic about our participation in the Eco-Schools programme and understood that when we return to post-covid normalcy, the Eco-Committee requires participation from parents, Governors and staff to take a community-wide approach.

Here are the notes from their report:

## Report to the School Governors

### Ezra:

- Evie and I are the Eco-Committee Chairs. Today we'll talk about how we became an Eco-School and what we've accomplished.
- When we were in Year 4 I felt concerned about climate change so I did a presentation to our class. Evie and many of their friends were also concerned and we started doing litter picking during playtime for several months.
- Our parents joined in on the concern and wrote a letter to Mrs Bhogal asking if we could join in on the Eco-Schools programme.
- Mrs Bhogal was very happy to support this and signed us up to be part of the programme.
- When we were in year 5, each class held elections for Eco-Schools representatives and we were about to get started when Covid hit and we all started doing home school.

- We waited until we got back to school to start up again, but then we had to lock down again!
- So in Year 6 we decided to keep moving forward despite lock-down and conducted two Eco-Committee meetings over zoom during over the winter terms when we were doing remote learning. Evie is going to talk about what we did at these meetings and what we've accomplished since then.

### Evie:

- To win the green flag award, the Eco-Committee has to conduct an environmental assessment of the school, create an action plan and then complete all the activities on the action plan. You were all sent a copy of our action plan.
- At our two Eco-Committee meetings over lockdown this year, we conducted the environmental assessment covering all 10 Eco-Schools topics. assessment
- The topics we scored lowest in were **Waste, Energy and Marine**.

- We chose these topics to focus on for the action plan. Everyone had a chance to submit their ideas using a google form.
- Ezra, Mrs. Roberts and I met to review the ideas and create an action plan.
- We submitted the action plan and it was approved - we were awarded the bronze award, the first step towards achieving the Green Flag.
- So here's what we're doing over the next few weeks:

**For Marine topic** we decided to document litter in and around local streams and share this with the whole school. We'll share this later today at Kabbalat shabbat with the whole school.

**Next week we'll focus on the Waste topic.** We'll weigh food and packaging waste at lunchtime. We'll make posters about reducing waste and then we'll have another day when we work together as a whole school to reduce waste and see how well we improve.

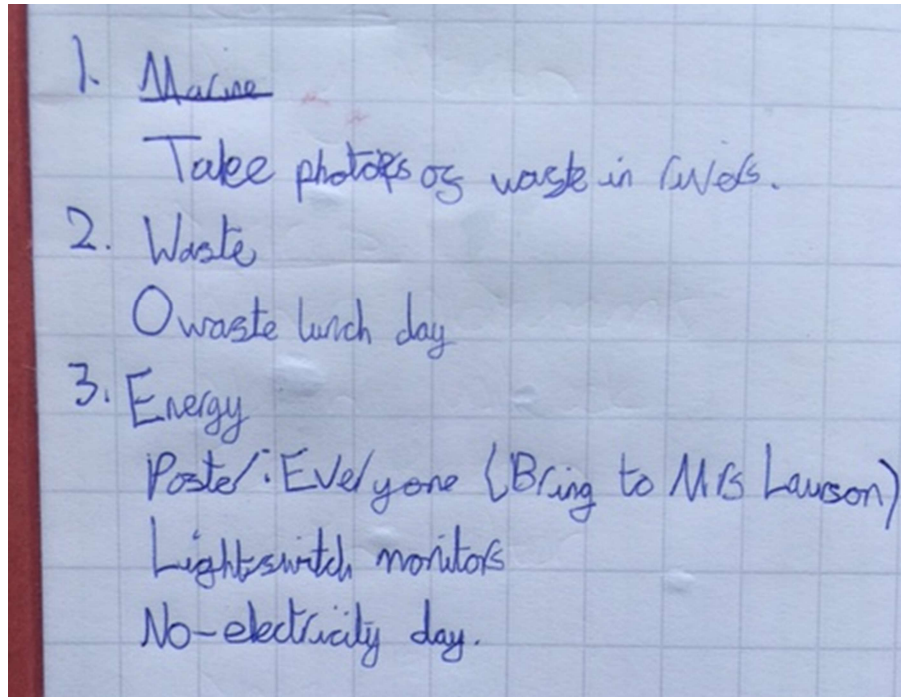
**For the energy topic,** we have selected light monitors for each class and made posters to remind people to turn off lights. And at our next meeting we will look at an energy bill together and make plans for a switch-off day.

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## 28<sup>th</sup> May Eco-Committee Meeting Minutes (recorded by Josh, Year 5)

The Eco-Committee met (safely, distanced, outside) in the forest school area to review the Action Plan that Evie, Ezra & Mrs Roberts put together based on all of their ideas from the past meeting and survey. We discussed the timeline and took volunteer names down to engage in each of the activities for our Marine, Waste and Energy Topics. The first action was to take photos to document litter in and around local streams, as well as to do some research on what happens to litter in local

streams and how it affects marine life. Here are the minutes:



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28<sup>th</sup> May – Brodetsky Primary Eco-Action Plan Approved by Eco Schools England and Awarded Bronze Award

**Action Plan:**



Date: 17.3.2021

# Action Plan



## Eco-Schools Topic: Marine

**Aim:**  
To raise awareness about endangered sea life and how plastic waste affects the sea and creatures that live in it.

### Action(s):

1. Eco-Committee to take photos of litter in local stream and present their findings to the school before summer holidays - Summer term 2021
2. Students & staff learn what plastics can't be recycled and save them for an art project. September 2021/22
3. Students research sea animals and make model of it using plastic waste. Autumn or Spring 2021/22

### How long will it take?

1. By end of summer term.
2. 2 & 3 Throughout autumn / spring terms 2021.

**Who is responsible?**  
Whole Eco-Committee

### How we will monitor progress:

Did the students complete their photo documentation? Did they present to the school?

**Evaluation:**  
Send a survey to find out what students and staff learned and if/how they will reduce plastic waste.

## Eco-Schools Topic: Waste

**Aim:** To reduce waste and improve waste management

### Action(s):

1. First step: Zero waste lunch day.
- Future actions: (Autumn & Winter 2021/22)
2. Find out what is/isn't recycled
3. Put recycling bins in classrooms and lunch hall
4. Zero waste week competition
5. Eco-Committee in charge of taking food waste to compost bin.

### How long will it take?

First step by end of Summer term 2021.

1 year for all the actions.

**Who is responsible?**  
Eco-Committee

### How we will monitor progress:

Weight food waste on a normal day at lunch time and then again on zero-waste lunch day. Record difference.

**Evaluation:**  
How can we continue to reduce waste?

## Eco-Schools Topic: Energy

**Aim:**  
Reduce energy use

### Action(s):

1. Light switch monitor to turn off classroom and bathroom lights (and any room that you're leaving)
2. Switch off day – a whole day without electricity
3. Switch off shabbat (at home)

### How long will it take?

1. Begin Summer 2021, ongoing monthly check in.
2. Switch off day (lights and student screens) & Switch off shabbat Autumn 2021/22

**Who is responsible?** Whole eco-committee

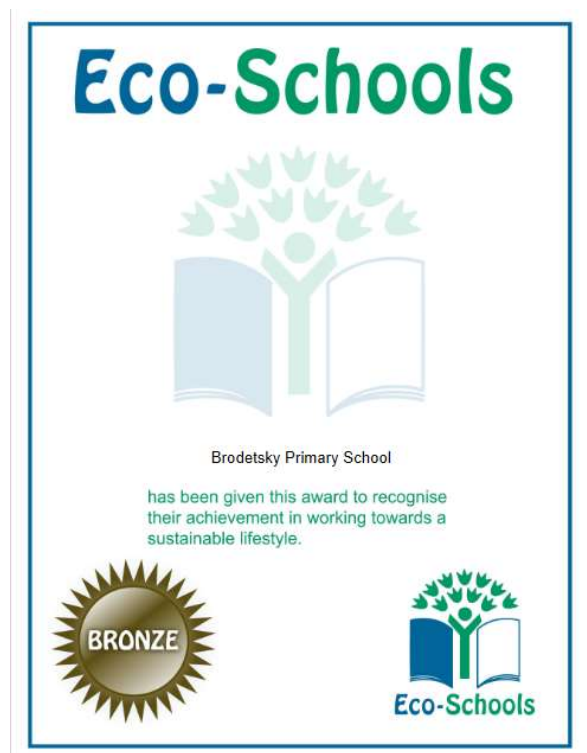
### How we will monitor progress:

Look at the energy meters/bills. Check energy bill each month to track reduction

**Evaluation:**  
How much energy was saved after a month of switching off lights? How much money was saved?



## Bronze Award:



## Environmental Assessment

Throughout January and February, The Eco Committee met to complete the

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### **11- Feb 2021- Welcome to the Brodetsky Eco-School Virtual Bulletin Board.**

[Eco-Schools](#) is a **global programme** engaging 19.5 million children across 67 countries, making it the largest educational programme on the planet. For over 25 years Eco-Schools has been empowering children to drive change and improve their environmental awareness through the simple [Seven-Step framework](#) in order to achieve the international Eco-Schools Green Flag.

**We will post all of the Eco-Schools Activities on this Eco-Schools Virtual Bulletin Board.**

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### **Our Seven Step Journey**

This is where we will keep everyone updated on completing the Seven-Step Framework to achieve our Eco-Schools Green Flag.

#### **Step 1: Form an Eco-Committee:**

Here's a photo of our Eco-Committee as well as everyone's names. *(Mr. Y - see attached documents and please check list for spelling of names and I didn't know John-Lewis' last name)*

#### **Step 2: Conduct an Environmental Review.**

The Eco-Committee met twice over January and February to conduct the Environmental Review. You can see our review here. ##As a result of the Environmental Review, we have chosen the first three topics that we would like to work on:

1. Energy
2. Marine
3. Waste

**Here's the whole Environmental Assessment:**



## Biodiversity

Question	No	Yes
Does your school have a natural area to work and play in?		x
Does your school have any pet animals or insects?		x
Has your school ever recorded wildlife in the school grounds ( <u>e.g.</u> bird or butterfly counts)?		x
Does your school encourage insect and animal life in the school grounds ( <u>e.g.</u> bug hotels, butterfly garden, bird baths, long grass, hedges, wildlife boxes)?		x
Does your school have plants in beds, pots or containers around the school?		x
Are pupils aware of the global threat to biodiversity?	x	

Score 5/6

Comments:

We could learn more about biodiversity.

We could put more litter in the bin.

We could get a new pet – something smaller and less vicious than a snake.

k



## Energy

Question	No	Yes
Are lights and computer monitors switched off when not in use?		X
Are windows closed when heating or air conditioning is <u>on</u> and curtains or blinds closed at night?		X
Have you ever read your school's energy meter?	X	
Do your school grounds have any renewable energy sources ( <u>e.g.</u> wind turbine, solar panel)?	X	
Does your school take part in energy-saving programmes such as Switch Off Fortnight?	X	
Are pupils aware that saving energy can help save the planet?	x	

Score – 2/6

Comments:

We would like to read the energy meter.  
We could do a whole school survey.



## Global Citizenship

Question	No	Yes
Have any classes learnt about another country this term?		x
Do any of the classes in your school learn a foreign language?		x
Does your school buy Fairtrade products whenever possible?	x	
Do classes in your school discuss the news regularly?		x
Does your school host fundraising events for local or global charities?		x
Does your school celebrate different cultures and religions ( <u>e.g.</u> do you try different food types or celebrate different religious/cultural holidays)?		x

Score – 5/6

Comments:

Are there fair trade kosher products?  
Can we look into chocolate and cofee



## Healthy Living

Question	No	Yes
Do pupils take part in daily exercise?		x
Is drinking water available in each class?		x
Are healthy options encouraged for school dinners and break-times?		x
Does your class discuss mental health and wellbeing issues?		x
Does your school grow its own fruit and vegetables?		x
Are pupils aware of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle?		x

Score 6/6

Comments:

Improve Muga Rota

Vegetables from the garden are used in our school meals.



## Litter

Question	No	Yes
Are the school grounds free from litter?	x	
Does everyone know the location of bins inside and outside schools?		x
Are there enough bins inside and outside the school?	x	
Are the bins emptied regularly?	x	
Does your school participate in regular litter picks?		x
Are pupils aware of the impact of litter on the environment?	x	

Score: 2/6

Comments:

"This is a big thing to work on."





## Marine

Question	No	Yes
Is the fish used in school meals caught sustainably?	x	
Has your school ever been on a trip to a beach, river, lake or aquarium?		x
Does your school ban single-use plastics (e.g. straws, balloons, plastic bags)?	x	
Does your school use environmentally-friendly cleaning products?	x	
Has your school participated in a river or beach clean up?	x	
Does your school teach about marine life conservation?	x	

Score 2/6

Comments:

We could go to a river or beach and do a river clean up

We don't live near a beach

We want to to the DEEP



## School Grounds

Question	No	Yes
Do you have lessons outside regularly?		X
Do you play outside everyday (even when it's cold or slightly raining)?		X
Do you grow and look after plants in school?		X
Is the equipment in your playground working and well- looked after?		X
Does your school have an outdoor learning space?		x
Do you have the opportunity to suggest improvements to your school grounds?		X

Score: 6/6

Comments:

Perhaps more involvement from children to improve school and take care of equipment. Take responsibility for equipment.



## Transport

Question	No	Yes
Does your school have a dry, safe place to store bicycles and scooters?		x
Does your school offer training on using bikes and scooters safely?		x
Does your school have a school travel plan?		X – But could be updated
Does your school encourage sustainable travel?		x
Are the roads safe outside your school (do they have <u>zebra crossings</u> , lollipop people, traffic lights, yellow zigzags)?		x
Are children aware of the global impact of air pollution?	x	

Score: 4/6

Comments:

The children felt it was safe to walk to school.

There is a new zebra crossing on a main road to school. Perhaps an opportunity to encourage active travel.

Cars sitting outside with engines on.



## Waste

Question	No	Yes
Does each classroom have a recycling bin?	x	
Does food waste go in a compost bin?	x	
Do teachers try not to use printed sheets?	x	
Does your school use <u>recycled school books</u> and equipment?	x	
Does your school have hand dryers or towels instead of paper towels?	x	
Do students know why it is important to refuse, reduce, reuse, repair and recycle?	x	

Score 0/6

Comments: We think that some classes have recycling bins, but we're not sure.

Make sure no one is using single-use plastic bottles

We have a lot of math worksheets

We use paper towels

We don't compost our food



## Water

Question	No	Yes
Are your taps self-stopping and do your toilets have water saving devices? A	Unsure – find out from <u>mr barton</u>	
Are school plants watered using <u>waste water</u> ?	X	
Do you learn how to save water?	X	
Do you have a reusable water bottle?		X
Do you have access to the school water meter?	X	
Do you learn about issues surrounding the availability of clean water in other countries?	x	

Total score: 1/6

Actions:

1. Post Covid – Look at the water meter together.
2. Find out if toilets have water saving devices.
3. Make sure no one uses single-use plastic bottles.
4. Learn more about how to recycle water for watering plants, availability of clean water in other countries, and how to save water.

### Step 4: Create an Action Plan.

When we return from half-term, we will create an action plan. We would love to hear your ideas!

Please take a look at what actions other Eco Schools have taken on our three topics:

1. Energy - <https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/primary-pathway/ten-topics/energy-2/>
2. Marine - <https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/eyfs-pathway/ten-topics/marine/>
3. Waste - <https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/eyfs-pathway/ten-topics/waste/>

Do you have ideas about projects we could take on within these three topics? Please let us know by using [this form](#).

Once we create our action plan, we can apply for our Bronze award and we can get to work on earning our first Green Flag!

