



*The Federation of
Sutterton Fourfields and
Swineshead St Mary's
Church of England Primary Schools*
www.suttertonswinesheadfederation.com



1st March 2010

ECO Newsletter

WALK ON WEDNESDAY

A recent survey of school travel showed that that we are already very ECO friendly in our transport habits, with 49% of all of the children in the school walking, cycling or using public transport to get to school. This is a fantastic achievement considering the rural nature of our locality, but we think we can do better. In support of our Sustainable Schools Ethos, which aims to teach children lifelong habits of sustainable living, we would like to increase the use of sustainable transport even further, and consequently reduce the carbon footprint we create through school travel.

In order to increase physical activity and to encourage all children to enjoy walking, we promote a weekly whole school 'Walk on Wednesday' activity within the school grounds. We would like to extend 'Walk on Wednesday' to transport to and from school. Every Wednesday we would like as many children as possible to use sustainable methods of transport to get to and from school. We appreciate for some that this may be impossible, but we would be very grateful if those who could support this initiative would. We will be surveying the method of transport used on Wednesday's and hope that we can report an increase in the percentage of children travelling to school using sustainable methods.

FOOD FOR LIFE – HEALTHY SCHOOLS

Thank you all for supporting our healthy snacks at break, it is wonderful to see the children enjoying fresh fruit at break time. Most children are now in the habit and keep their crisps and biscuits until lunch time. We are working very closely with our hot lunch provider to ensure that our lunches meet the stringent requirements of the Government's nutritional targets. Achieving the Food for Life award will formally recognise that our hot lunches not only meet these high nutritional standards but that the ingredients are, where possible, locally sourced. I will keep you up to date with our progress in this area.

RECYCLING

Our school council have worked brilliantly to reintroduce recycling throughout the school. Working closely with out Recycling Eco Heroes they have encouraged all classes to sort recyclable materials, thereby reducing the amount of material the school sends to landfill.

For those of you who weren't aware, we now have facilities within the school reception area for recycling ink cartridges and mobile phones – this is both ECO friendly and school friendly, as we receive a small payment for the items collected by the recycling companies.

CHICKENS – ALLOTMENT - ORCHARD

We are currently erecting a purpose built chicken pen so that, as the spring approaches, we can progress with our allotment. Over the coming months we be working with the children to grow a variety of fruit and vegetables. In addition, we will be planting a number of fruit trees, which we will be able to watch grow - along with the children who planted them!

WINDOWS

The double glazing refit is all but complete. It has made a fantastic improvement to the appearance of the building and we expect that the improved insulation properties of the windows and doors will lead to a reduction in our energy usage.

Michelle Parker, School Leader
