

EcoSchools ~ Environmental Review ~ October/November 2007

Is the school litter free? Where are the problem areas? Are there enough bins?

The school is generally litter free, as there are enough bins all around the school and we have a good cleaners team. There are no recycling bins around the site though. However, along the edge of the school, we can see litter dumped by pedestrians outside the school, which enters the school grounds. (By Danny Wan)

Does the school recycle anything: cans, papers, computer cartridges, etc?

Yes, we do recycle a lot of things. The recycling facility is relatively newly built and still expanding. Recyclables include: mixed glass, paper, card, cans and plastic bottles. Collection facilities exist in all the houses, although they're not used as well as they might be. Not all departments have recycling collection. (By Katy Tsang)

Does the school use only recycled paper in disposable materials, e.g. paper towels?

Yes, in terms of toilet paper and towels, even in the dining hall. However, disposable cups for the common room are polystyrene - we get through 8000 a year! (By Gareth Hutson)

Are there lights left on unnecessarily? Draughts and around windows and doors?

There are, but there are not that many being left on. People were told to close their windows to stop heating from losing in order to save energy. However, some radiators are unnecessarily hot, making it impossible not to open the windows. (By Nikita Roushmanov)

Does the school avoid the use of aerosols in art lessons, or by domestic staff?

Yes, aerosols are not being used in art lessons. The school stopped using it a few years ago. (By Katie Alder)

Does the school encourage walking or cycling to school? <from Mr. McKeown>

The School is delighted that a number of pupils and staff walk or cycle to School. We would ideally like even more to do so. If you have any ideas about how we could encourage more pupils to walk or cycle, I would be delighted to hear them. (By Stefanie Tay)

Do the school's grounds include areas of wildlife habitat other than those offered by grass on school fields?

but the only other wildlife I can think of are the dogs which some teachers have as pets (eg Mr Fraser and Mr Deveson). Also, some of the teachers have their personal gardens with flowers in them and I think that there are some fish in Mr Brown's classroom...hope that would be some help! (By Tessa Alhady)

Around the perimeter of the school site there are a large number of trees which provide a habitat link to the nearby Coe Fen. Across the site there are large bushes and trees which support a wide variety of birds and insects. At the main entrance to the school is a protected piece of land called the Deer Park. This encourages a large variety of wildlife and insects, but no deer!

Do the school toilets have water-saving devices fitted?

Yes we do employ a variety of measures to reduce water consumption. Some toilets have a dual flush facility or a reduced cistern size. On the male toilets the urinals employ a variety of different methods. Some use a Cisternmiser. This is a product that looks at the fluctuations in water pressure caused by hand washing this can then lead to the urinal flushing after a predetermined time. The best system employed is called Aqualogic. This uses PIR (Passive Infra Red) technology to sense how many times the urinal has been used and flushes at predetermined ratios. (By Vince Chan)

Are environmental issues discussed in lessons or in assemblies, etc?

It is discussed in lessons such as physics, economics and geography. We have also got an Energy Saving Fortnight every year, which is being announced in assembly to remind people to save energy. (Keiko Hattori)