

## Terrington Hall Eco-Schools Action Team

### Minutes of 6th meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2008

#### Present:

**Chairman Miles Woodbridge**

Year 8	Georgia Latham • Fraser Hudson • Miles Duncan • Andrew Wilson
Year 7	Tom Kiernan • Harry Reynolds • Tansy Tomlinson • Sasha Hinde
Year 6	Mia Attwooll • James Heald
Year 5	Millie Grant
Year 4	Joe Nordli
Year 3	Abbie Watkinson
Staff	Mrs Green Mr Witteveen Mr Barnes
Parent	Mr Green
Governor	Mrs Duncan

#### Actions from last meeting

Outstanding actions from the last meeting were covered in the course of the meeting

#### Silver Award

Mr Green congratulated the team on achieving the Silver Award before half-term. He explained that we were now close to being able to apply for the Green Flag.

#### Results of Follow-Up Environmental Review

The first Environmental Review had been carried out in April 2007. The follow-up environmental review had been carried out in June 2008 and focused on the five key areas on which the Action Team had targeted improvements. Miles asked each of those involved in carrying out the review to report on their findings.

#### Healthy Living

Abbie Watkinson reported on Healthy Living.

The review found that we had improved in the following areas:

- : the school was now providing and promoting healthier food at break and lunchtimes
- : there was now a system for monitoring whether children ate a balanced diet over the week

-: there was now a smoking policy for staff which was adhered to

In 2007 we targeted more use of fruit at break and lunchtime and this had been achieved.

Further improvements were identified as:

- : a food diary for a week once a year
- : salad to be made available more often
- : healthy alternatives to biscuits at break
- : we would like to do more cooking to help our understanding of food and healthy living

### **Waste/ Recycling**

Tom Kiernan reported on waste and recycling.

Improvements since April 2007 were as follows:

- : the school now controlled use of resources such as paper, pens etc more strictly
- : the school now bought recycled stationery products
- : hand towels were now made from recycled material
- : plastic was now being recycled
- : inkjet cartridges and plastic vending machine cups were now being recycled
- : steel and aluminium tins and cans were now being recycled
- : Tom estimated that up to 75% of food waste was now being composted (figures for each week this half term by meal by day showed that we are composting an average of 8 kgs/day)

In 2007 we targeted an increase in cardboard and other material recycling. This has now been achieved. As reported last meeting we are now recycling 324 kgs/week of cardboard, 400 kgs per week of glass and steel and 165 kgs/week of paper.

Further improvements identified were:

- : compost more food waste, not just fruit
- : compost shredded paper

### **Biodiversity**

Joe Nordli reported on the review he and Year 4 had carried out on biodiversity.

Improvements on April 2007 were as follows:

- : there were now a lot more plants in containers, pots and beds around the school
- : the wildlife area was now protected by school rules

Areas for further improvement were discussed and it was proposed that we install a bird bath and bat boxes.

## **Water**

Sacha reported on the water review.

Improvements on April 2007 were as follows:

- : all toilets were now fitted with low volume flush
- : taps are almost never left running
- : the school has run awareness campaigns to save water
- : we have now installed water butts to collect rainwater

In 2007 we identified push-on taps as a means of saving water. These were installed last year and have saved 2500 litres of water in the first 3 months of 2008.

## **Energy**

Andrew reported on the energy review.

Since April 2007 we have made the following improvements:

- : Mr Barnes was now responsible for monitoring energy consumption
- : we have made prefects responsible for closing windows after school
- : we have fitted self-closing mechanisms on all external doors and some internal doors
- : all classroom blocks now have individual thermostat controls
- : lights and electrical items are now always turned off when not in use
- : we have installed a new low-energy boiler

We have implemented a number of the improvements we identified in 2007. In the first quarter of this year we saved 2344 litres of gas and 2532 litres of oil.

We continue to look into the possibility of installing wind turbines on the classroom blocks.

## **Action Plan**

There were no alterations to the Action Plan which was updated at the last meeting in May.

### **Communication**

Website – Mr Green reported that all relevant documents were now in a dedicated eco-schools page on the school website. There is a prominent banner on the homepage with some brief information and a link to these pages. They could also be accessed via the Science webpage.

Newsletter - Miles Woodbridge's article was included in the last newsletter and we even had a write-up in the York Press.

Wider community – at the meeting in May Fraser suggested we should use the parish notice board. We have not yet posted any information on it. **Action: Mrs Green to see whether we could do so**

Mr Barnes had suggested taking some pupils to Terrington Primary School to share our experience. Mr Glen has written to their head but has not yet had a reply. Mr Barnes suggested that Mrs Green should organize an assembly at her new school, St Martin's Ampleforth when she goes there in September, which Mrs Green offered to do. Mrs Duncan again offered to approach St Mary's in Malton when we have the assembly ready. Miles W has completed the presentation but has not been able to email it to Mr Green to put on a laptop so he can project it. **Action: Mrs Green**

Mrs Duncan will report on eco-schools progress at the next Governors' Meeting.

### **Curriculum**

Mrs Green confirmed that environmental issues were covered in geography lessons, science and in Circle Time. They would also form part of some assemblies.

### **New Chairman**

The team thanked Miles Woodbridge for his excellent chairmanship of the group. As Miles is leaving Terrington at the end of term, the team unanimously elected Tom Kiernan to be the new Chairman.

### **Further Actions**

Mr Green outlined what actions were needed to achieve in order to apply for the Green Flag Award.

- : **The data we collected as part of our follow-up review should be properly analysed and graphs should be produced**
- : **we need to apply for and display a Display Energy Certificate (DEC)**

Mr Barnes to supply Mr Green with energy bill, water bill, gas bill and oil bill for Q1 2007 and Q1 2008 plus a full year of each and an indication of the floor area in m2 occupied by the school buildings.

- : **We need to share good practice with other schools**

AG will draft a letter from Mr Glen informing local schools of our progress and offering our help if they require it

CG to organize assembly at SMA in September

### **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be set for September 2008

### **AOB**

Miles Woodbridge proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs Green, who is leaving Terrington at the end of this term, for all her help with the eco-schools project.

Andrew Green  
3<sup>rd</sup> July 2008