



Green Schools

Newsletter

Dec '21

Here at Scoil Mhuire, Corofin, we are doing our best to help the environment through the Green Flag Programme. We have successfully obtained five Green Flags and we are currently working on our sixth Green Flag for Global Citizenship Litter and Waste. Here are some of the things we have done to achieve those flags and we have given you some tips for at home also.

Litter and Waste Flag



*We recycle batteries at our recycling area on the left hand side just before the office.

*We reuse and recycle paper, plastic and cardboard in every classroom

*We hold a clothing collection twice a year.

*All rubbish from lunches is brought home

and disposed of properly. The use of tinfoil and clingfilm is discouraged. Reusable bottles are used

*We participate in the National Spring Clean every year.

*We use the 3 /R's - Reduce (the amount of packaging/waste), Reuse (items where possible), Recycle (what can't be reused)

*Second and Third class are taking part in the Picker Pals Programme

*Only use what you need

Energy Flag



*At school we turn off lights, switches, computers and projectors when they are not in use

*We use LOLO (Last Out, Lights Off)

*We have replaced all our light fittings with LED lights

*Turn off the lights when it is sunny

*At home, we encourage the same as above.

Water Flag



At School:

*We have press taps that turn themselves off after a certain amount of time

*We have mainly dual flush toilets, which, when used properly can save about 6 litres of water per flush

*We have a water butt connected to a drainpipe and we use that water for watering flowers etc.

At home you could reduce your water usage by:

*Taking shorter showers

*Turn on the dishwasher/washing machine with only full and dirty loads

*Only fill the kettle with as much as you need

*Use a basin in the sink

Travel Flag



*We want to reduce the amount of traffic that is outside our school so we encourage pupils to walk from the hall or further

*We want to reduce the amount of cars on our roads which will (a) make the roads safer (b) reduce the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere

*The Parents Association have set up a very successful walking bus which leaves from Main St. every morning.

Unfortunately, due to Covid, this venture has been postponed but we still encourage children to walk to school as much as possible.

*There are currently 16 pupils travelling on the School Bus

*We are going to restart our WOW – Walk on Wednesdays – after Christmas hopefully!

*We are in the process of obtaining a bicycle rack for those who cycle to school

Biodiversity Flag



*We learn about native plants, animals, mini-beasts and habitats in our environment. *We have bird feeders to (a) feed the birds during the winter and (b) observe our feathered friends from the classroom windows.

*Our new flowerbeds are maintained by pupils from 5th and 6th class.

Global Citizenship Litter and Waste Flag



We are studying the Sustainable Development Goals established by the United Nations in 2015

and have chosen to focus on:

Goal Number 13 - Climate Action - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Goal Number 15 - Life on Land - To protect and restore life on land.



We have a superb Green Schools Committee comprising of pupils from 2nd class to 6th class, who are great to promote different activities and keep an eye on the litter and recycling, energy conservation, water conservation, sustainable travel and biodiversity around the school.

Please help us obtain our sixth Green Flag for Global Citizenship Litter and Waste where we will be focusing on the Sustainable Development Goals Climate Action and Life on Land

Tips for a Greener Christmas:

- Do a random act of kindness instead of sending Christmas cards
- Bake or make something instead of buying presents
- Wrap your presents in newspaper rather than shiny wrapping paper
- Try to use a real Christmas tree and recycle it afterwards
- Use LED lights to save energy
- Pick up three pieces of litter daily (using gloves)

