

What We Achieved Last Year



During the past year, the Eco-Committee at St Helens has successfully worked towards obtaining a second Green Flag award for our school. We did this through raising awareness of Fair trade and listening to the feedback given to us from the last evaluation. We also obtained the status of a Fair-trade School.





In order to win the award, we had to design another action plan. This consisted of the methods in which we would sustain the improvements we had made and further steps we would take. The plan included monitoring waste, performing inspiring assemblies and encouraging sustainable transport to school, which Junior School have managed by aiming to walk to school at least once a week. The feedback we received was outstanding and St Helens has been considered as a model school that could be used for a case-study by Eco Schools England.





To obtain the second Green Flag we also created new initiatives to raise awareness of Fair trade. In addition to this we were able to apply for the status of a Fair trade school. One of our Fair trade policies is to encourage ourselves to become more aware of Fair trade, in order to do this we insured that the Fair trade campaign was incorporated into the curriculum. Students are first introduced to it in year 8 during PSHCE lessons. During the sessions pupils are able to see the huge changes that can be made through tiny shifts in spending habits. Further awareness of Fair trade occurs during year 10 in the exploration of globalization and then in year 11 during RS and ethics lessons- as part of a 'Poverty and Wealth Research Task.' Not only did we decide to raise awareness in our own school, but we visited Frithwood Primary School and gave an informative and



engaging presentation, as an introduction to Fair trade and the values behind the organisation.

Fair trade fortnight took place from the 25th February to 10th of March. It is a period of time where extra emphasis is placed on the notion of ensuring that trade is fair, during the fortnight informative posters were put up around school and emails were sent out to raise awareness of the event. We also held a competition, which we hoped would be a fun way to get people involved in the campaign. The winning poster was displayed in front of the whole school. Last summer term two speakers from Traidcraft spoke about the relevance of Fair trade within society. The presentation shed light on the importance of our choices as consumers and the ethical aspects of Fair trade. Heard by over one hundred pupils, the speakers were very



inspiring. It is a pleasure to announce that they shall return later this academic year.

We are very pleased with the wonderful achievements that have been made, including being given the title of being a Fair trade school which is our most recent achievement. Despite this there is still much to be done. From the feedback received we are determined to improve our applications for further awards by including specific statistics related to our school and the impact of our work in the local community. As a team we are very excited about the possibilities of the next academic year and working towards obtaining another Green Flag later on. We also want to take this opportunity to thank Junior School for all of their amazing work for example sponsoring an animal with WWF.

