St Mary's Eco-News

June 2024







Welcome back to the swifts, who have returned to Sheffield after spending the winter months in Africa. Many thanks to Aimee Ambrose for delivering an assembly on these beautiful, but sadly endangered, birds. If you see a swift that needs rescuing, you can contact Sheffield Swift Network on 07850 799891 or email

sheffieldswiftnetwork@gmail.com

To celebrate the return of the swifts, children can test their knowledge on the following questions. Answers to Mme Roux by Friday 21st June for the chance to win a prize.

Q1 - What do swifts eat?

- a) Flying insects
- b) Berries
- c) Seeds

Q2 - Where do swifts spend the winter?

- a) Lapland
- b) Southern Africa
- c) Tenerife

Q3 - Where do swifts nest?

- a) In trees
- b) In walls
- c) On the ground

Q4 - How many miles can swifts fly each year?

- a) 500
- b) 8,000
- c) 250,000



Active Travel

Most active classes in May

1st: Y3 (77% active journeys) 2nd: Y2 (76% active journeys) 3rd: F52 (74% active journeys)

School garden

The children from eco-club are taking part in a study led by the University of Southampton. We have received seeds from six legume plants. Some are adapted to the UK (broad beans, dwarf beans and peas), some will possibly be able to grow in a warm year (chickpeas and lentils) and some are less likely to grow as they are adapted to hot, dry places (lablab). The project is looking at identifying crops most resistant to climate-change. So far, all have germinated apart from the chickpeas, and we are especially excited about the lablab beans!



Lablab seeds

Biodiversity survey

The Y3 class carried out a biodiversity survey in the K52 yard and checked every nook and cranny of the playground. They discovered all sorts of bugs and creepy crawlies: woodlice, snails, slugs, spiders, centipedes... and talked about ways that we could improve biodiversity on the school site and take better care of the plants and animals.







Big shout-out to eco-heroes Faith and Caleb who were spotted litter-picking out in the community. Great work!

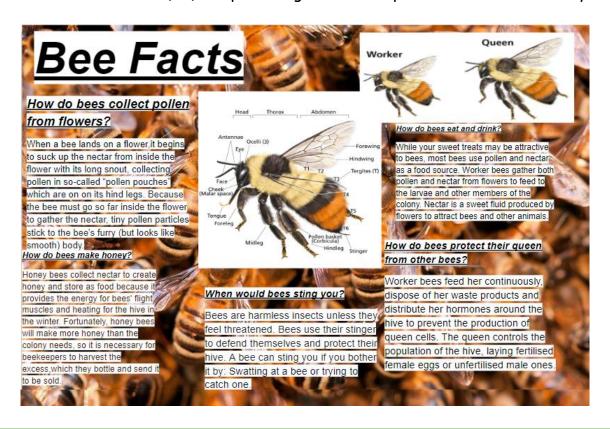


If you have been inspired by the Y3 biodiversity survey, you may wish to take part in the Great Yorkshire Creature Count! Register online for a downloadable checklist: ywt.org.uk/GYCC



World Bee Day

Well done to Hazel (Y6) for producing a beautiful poster for World Bee Day!



Better Points

If you are not yet signed up for Better Points and are looking for a way to help our streets become safer, cleaner and less congested, while also supporting local businesses and charities, you may wish to consider downloading the Better Points Sheffield app. You earn points for walking, wheeling, cycling and using public transport and these points can then be exchanged for drinks at over 20 cafés, for Sheffield gift cards or for High Street, supermarket and online shopping vouchers. You can also donate them to the Children's Hospital, St Luke's Hospice and other local charities. You can download the app from Google Play or the App store. Please enter the code stmary on registration (tap Menu, then Add Code if you are already signed up). See the website for more info: sheffield.betterpoints.uk

WALKLEY HORTICULTURAL SHOW



Saturday, 31st August 2024 St Mary's Church Hall, South Road S6 3RX

Hall open to the public 10.00am to 2.00pm (Free Admission)

- Flowers, fruit, vegetables, produce and baking sections
- Junior section
- ♦Games and competitions
- Homemade cakes and refreshments
- Stalls

For entry forms and more information contact walkleyhortshow@gmail.com or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/walkleyhortshow



A reminder to get growing if you wish to enter the Walkley Horticultural Show!

If you and/or your child have spotted some amazing wildlife or have done something to support the local environment and would like to share your news, please send an email to sroux@sma.dsat.education (with or without photos)