



# Eco Newsletter March 2023



As you know, our three Eco focus areas at WCPS this year are:

## Waste & Recycling



## Energy



## Biodiversity



This half-term, we had a big focus on **Energy** during  
***Cut Your Carbon Week*** (27th Feb - 3rd March)



We became  
**Energy Investigators**  
and looked for ways  
to reduce our energy  
emissions



By the end of the week, we had **saved:**


341 m<sup>3</sup> of **gas** and  
598 kWh of **electricity!**

Initial estimates suggest that this equates to **a week's worth of saving for over two domestic houses on dual fuel** and that we may have **saved around £600 in fuel bills** for a week!

# This is what we did to **save energy**:

- **Awareness:** Delivered a *Cut Your Carbon assembly* to make everyone in the school aware of our plan
- **Action Plans:** Set **heat, electricity** and **window** plans across the school
- **Display:** launched an energy-saving **poster competition**

**Energy-Efficient Window Policy**





So that we're using **natural light** instead of electricity!

Increase sunlight and reduce the need for artificial lighting in all classrooms:

1. **No displays/posters on windows** that block light entering and therefore require lights to be turned on.
2. **No blinds or curtains closed during the daytime** (if you need to close them to view the Interactive White Board, open them straight away afterwards).
3. **Blinds should be closed at the end of each day during winter months** (this is to trap heat for the next day, rather than saving energy on lighting).



**Energy-Efficient Heating Policy**



Reduce **radiator-use**:

1. **No radiator blockages.** Obstacles placed in front of radiators will absorb heat, which could be heating your school instead!
2. **Keep doors and windows closed where possible.** Windows and internal doors should always remain closed when heating is on – if it is too warm, that means the heating should be turned down.

**Energy-Efficient Lighting Policy**





**Light Switches:**

- **Green sticky dot** on light switch - means these are the lights needed to light the area.
- **Amber sticky dot** - means that the lights may be needed, but not all the time, so they should be checked throughout the day
- **Red sticky dot** - means that in normal circumstances these lights do not need to be used.

**Teachers:** please think about your plug sockets and devices - is anything switched on that doesn't need to be?

**Energy-Saving Poster Competition!**



**Energy-saving poster competition**  
**Design an energy-saving poster!**

For example, you might design a poster to remind children and staff to switch lights off when not in use.

The winning poster will be selected by the Eco Reps and will be copied and displayed around school to encourage energy-saving.

Please see Ms Read in 3B (or your Eco Rep) if you would like to use a template from our selection.

Give your finished posters to Ms Read or your Eco Rep

- **Thermostats:** Mr Canham and Mr Kimber went around and checked our **thermostats** to make sure that they were set at a reasonable temperature

In terms of **cutting carbon**, we also:

- Had another very successful **pre-loved uniform** sale during parents' eve
- Started a **World Book Day costume swap**
- Are planning a **Big Walk and Wheel** from 20th-31st March

Thank you to the amazing **Year 2-6 Eco Reps**,  
**Reception and Year 1 Eco Warriors**, the **Eco Team Staff**  
and **the whole school!**

# Why we did it:

During our investigations, we found out that:



## Energy

### Energy-use

Schools and universities create 36% of the UK's public-sector building carbon-emissions. Most of this comes from energy-usage and costs schools around £1bn per year in bills!

With 60% of this energy coming from burning fossil fuels, it's time to make change. From lights to heating, small daily reductions can make a big cumulative impact.



**60%** of the energy used in schools comes from **fossil fuels**



Lighting accounts for around **20%** of a school's energy costs



Heating accounts for around **45%** of a school's energy costs



## Energy-Saving Poster Competition WINNER!

**Congratulations to Yamak**

**in Year 4**

**...whose poster will be displayed around the school.**

# What can you do at home?

## Energy Saving Tips / Reminders!

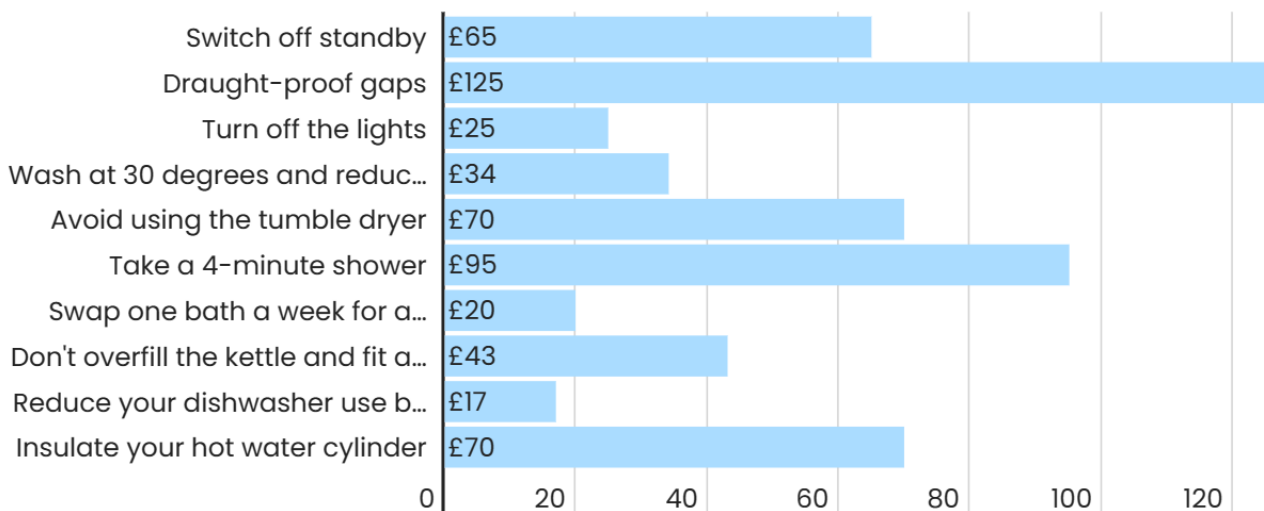
1. Switch off standby
2. Draft-proof windows and doors
3. Turn off lights
4. Be careful with your washing (wash at 30 degrees)
5. Avoid the tumble dryer
6. Spend less time in the shower
7. Swap your bath for a shower
8. Be savvy in the kitchen (e.g. don't overfill your kettle)
9. Fill your dishwasher
10. Top up the insulation

[Quick tips to save energy at home - Energy Saving Trust](#)

## How much could you save?

Choose your location and add up the potential savings available for each action.

England, Scotland, Wales



**energy  
saving  
trust**

£ saving per year

● Potential saving in £