

Eco Council Newsletter November 2023

This year the Eco Council are working on the RSPB Wild Challenges. Last half term they met to decide which challenges they would like to complete during the year.

One of the challenges was called Homes for Mammals, where we had to create homes for hedgehogs or bats.

We followed the instructions to create a hedgehog home:



It may look like a pile of leaves, but this is a box filled with newspaper and straw, covered in plastic sheeting to keep it waterproof, weighed down with sticks and logs and then filled with and covered in leaves to keep it cosy. We hope that it attracts a hedgehog but we must not check it in case we disturb any animals.

Attached is the sheet of instructions in case you want to have a go at home.

Our plans for the year:

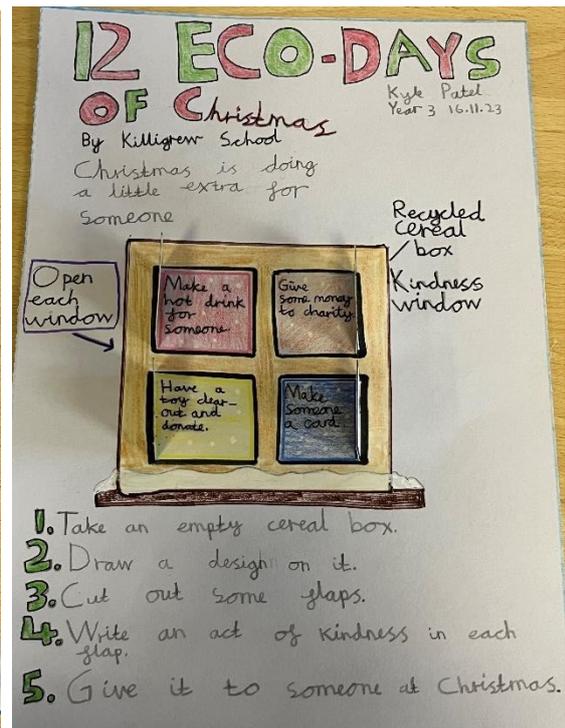
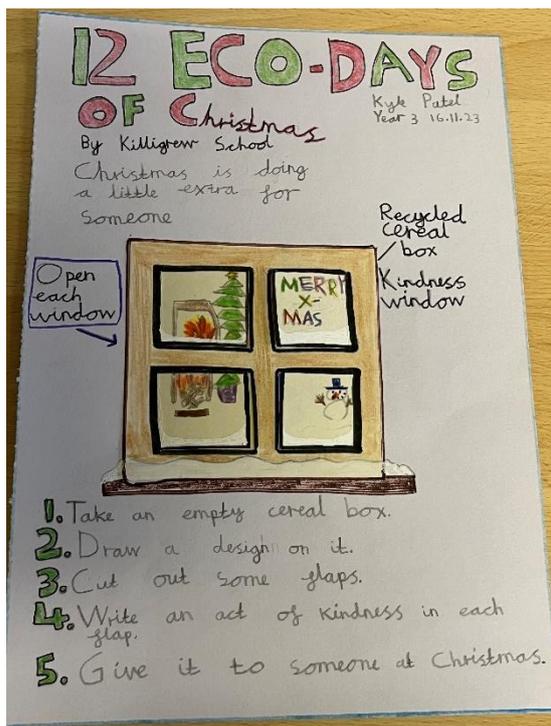
The other challenges we chose are Habitat Heaps, Homes for Amphibians, Look Closer, Plant Safari and the Big Schools Birdwatch. We will complete these during the year so look out for our next newsletters.

12 Eco Days of Christmas



Eco Council would like our school community to think about being eco-friendly over the Christmas period. There are lots of single use items bought and used (such as party plates, balloons, wrapping paper and cards), and we would like to encourage everyone to think about making a few swaps to help the environment.

Some of the Eco Council created amazing posters showing their ideas, including this fantastic lift the flap interactive poster from Kyle:



Here are our 12 ideas.

Decorations:

Re-use decorations each year instead of buying new ones.

Make natural garlands using acorns or pinecones rather than plastic tinsel.

Use oranges and cloves to make a beautiful centrepiece for your table.

Make your own crackers using cardboard tubes.

Switch off your tree lights when you are not in the room to save electricity.

Presents and cards:

Perform an act of kindness instead of buying and wrapping a present. This could be something like making a hot drink, or spending time on a walk with a loved one.

Make someone a card using recycled materials rather than buying cards from a shop.

Donate your old clothes and toys to charity.

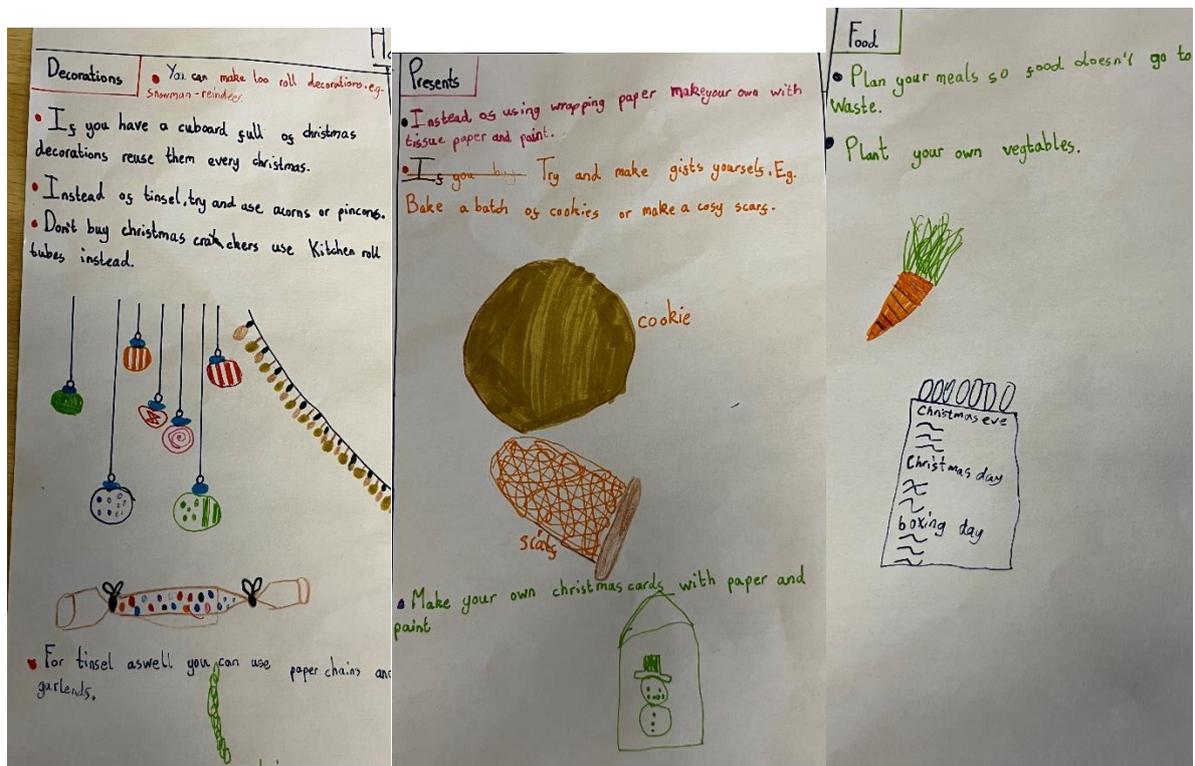
Try wrapping presents in fabric rather than paper, but if you do use wrapping paper make sure it can be recycled (no glitter).

Food:

Plan your food so none of it goes to waste.

Have a day without meat or dairy.

Eat seasonal vegetables, or better yet, vegetables that you have grown yourself.



Wishing you all an eco-friendly festive season! From the Eco Council.