

Energy and Energy Saving

Autumn 2024

St John's Church School, Wellington, Somerset

This Autumn term at St John's Church School, we have been focusing on renewable energy in Year 5 and our Green Team have been looking at ways to recycle and reduce our waste.

Year 5

As part of their Geography topic, 'Enough for Everyone', Year 5 have been working to help them understand how the UK is trying to reduce energy waste and look for renewable sources.

We met with Kara from Earth Energy Education, to tell us all about Solar power. Our workshop consisted of a look at why many people are turning to solar power, and how solar panels work. We spent time looking at measuring the light in various areas of our school.



We followed this trip up with an educational visit to New Rendy Solar Farm. We were fortunate enough to have the sun shining during our time there and learned how solar panels work and how solar energy is converted to electrical energy and travels to our homes. We also discovered the biodiversity of the site and were surprised to find creatures great and small.



We followed this learning up in school with one of our volunteers helping to make a model of a house with solar panels and exploring the best places for it to work.



During this topic we looked at the effect of pollution across the globe, and different types of energy sources. We learned about the little things we can do to help reduce our energy consumption and now have classroom monitors to turn things off when not in use. We made posters to share our views on energy reduction.

The Green Team

This term, the Green Team have met weekly. We met with the caretaker at the start of term to ask how we could help and as a result have embarked on several new projects, the most important being the recycling rota. We have daily monitors who go around the classes emptying the food bins, plastic and wastepaper bins. The team's job is also to remind classes who are not separating their recycling properly as well as making sure the recycling is done regularly. They also turn off the lights for any room unoccupied.

We will be expanding this role this term to include composting bins for the food waste in our garden area.

We also collected the pears in our school garden and handed them out free to the community to share the produce we have started to grow.



The team have started to discuss auditing our site and identifying areas for next steps. This includes the uniform waste, plastic and littering.