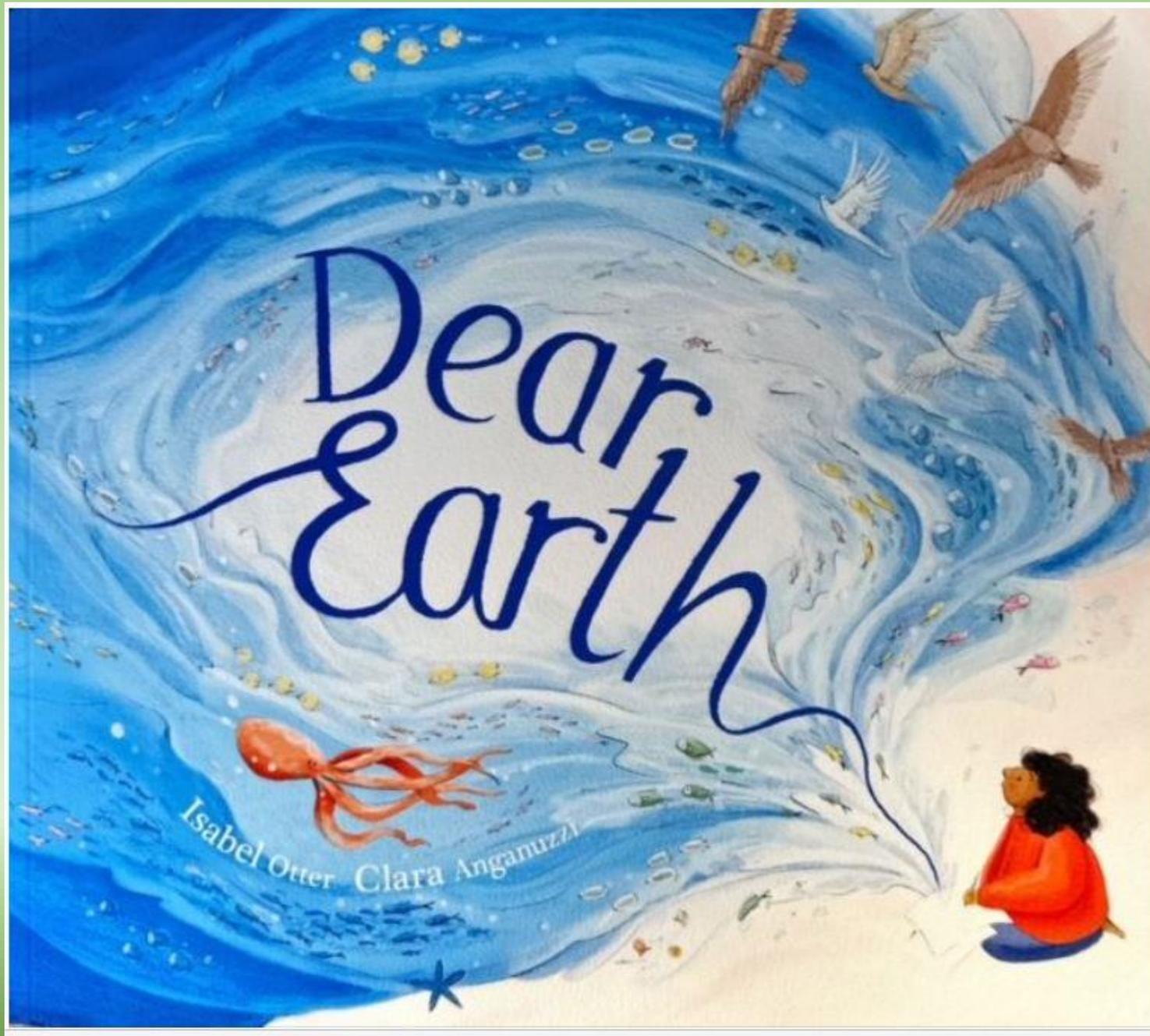


We used the text
Dear Earth....
As a stimulus for
our work around
Sustainability.



This inspiring
picture book
celebrates the
wonders of our
world and reminds
us that if we all
work together to
spread the
message that
Earth is special and
worth saving, we
can keep our
planet beautiful.

Class Pledges

Nursery

We pledge to recycle and reuse plastic, card and bottles.

Reception

We pledge to reduce food waste.

Year 1

We pledge to walk to help reduce carbon emissions.

Year 2

We pledge to turn off the lights, recycle and walk to school.

Year 3

We pledge to save water by reducing waste and reusing.

Year 4

We pledge to reduce our use of palm oil and educate others.

Year 5

We pledge to help the oceans by choosing sustainable fish.

Year 6

We pledge to take care of the birds around our school.

“As stewards of God’s creation we are called to make the earth a beautiful garden for the human family.”

“When we destroy our forests, ravage our soil and pollute our seas, we betray that noble calling.”

Pope Francis 2015



Sustainability is an important issue for us at OLSB, we place it at the heart of everything we do.

We aim to raise awareness of the effects of climate change on the planet and how we as a community can work together to protect our environment. We believe that increased awareness of the environment and sustainable living supports and promotes students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. We want all pupils to develop an understanding of environmental issues and to understand their duties to care for God's Creation, We want to ensure that we create a community knowing we are all called to walk in the footsteps of Christ and bring his love and gospel to the world.

Children's understanding of environment and sustainability is supported by practical, first-hand experiences and collaborative activities which take place in the school grounds. Opportunities for applying this to a wider context, both on an immediate and wider local scale, as well as on a global scale, are then supported directly through the school's curriculum, with specific coverage of these themes in a number of curriculum areas, including Science and PSHE.

Our Eco Warriors meet every half term to take an active role in making the school more sustainable. Eco Warriors are two children from every class who are elected by their peers at the start of the academic year. They work together to generate ideas to make our school more sustainable and 'greener'.

Our goals this year include:

- *Reducing the use of energy in the school

- *Running a successful Sustainability Week

- *Increasing awareness about recycling, biodiversity and living a sustainable life through the choices we make

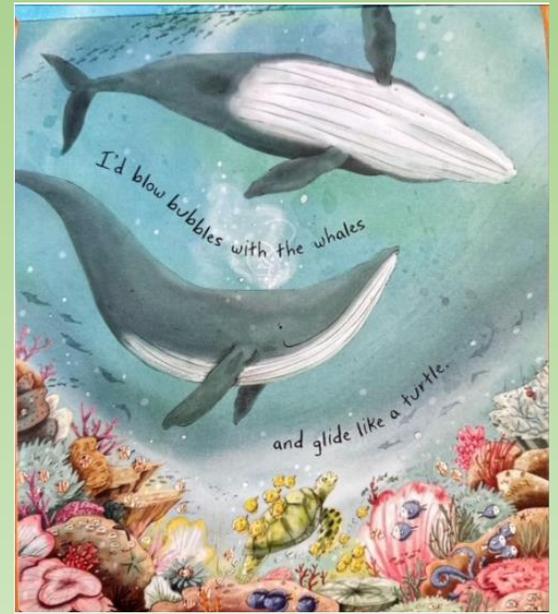
- *Welcoming visitors into our school to talk about environmental issues

- *Bikeability

Engaging and learning about the importance of our natural environment and about the dangers of climate change for future generations

Promoting sustainability in the wider community

Nursery



We have been recycling plastic to protect our seas and oceans.



We visited the Sea Life Centre



Reception

"The Lord God put the man in the Garden of Eden to take care of it." Genesis 2:15

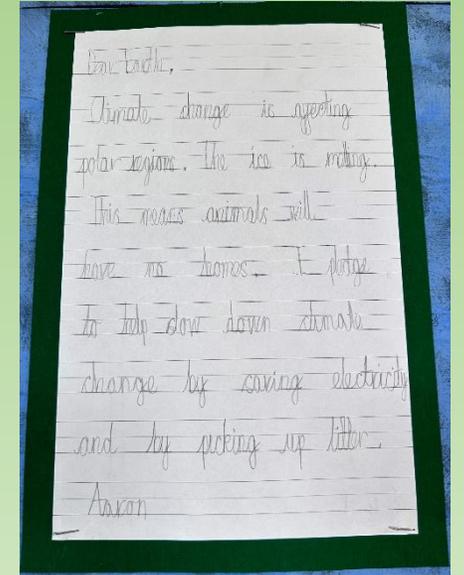


We took part in World Bee Day to raise awareness of the importance of bees .

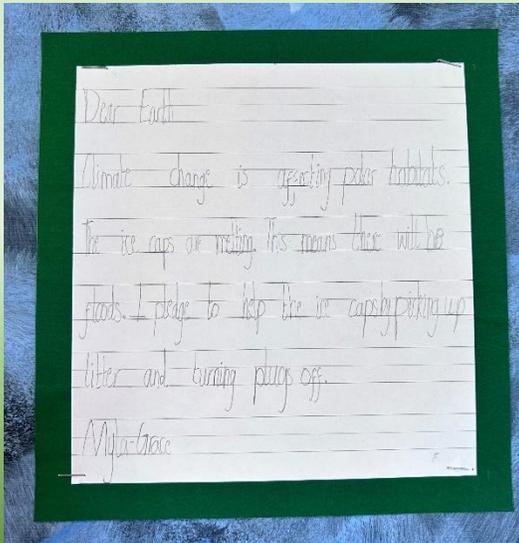


We planted a Bee and Butterfly Meadow by our school forest.

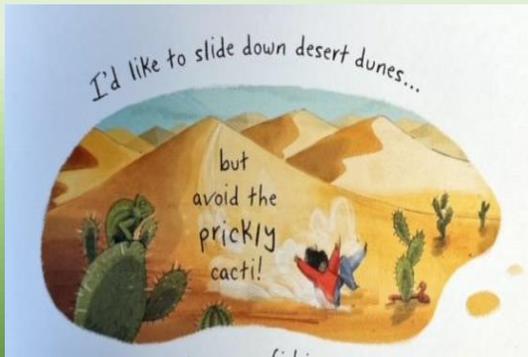
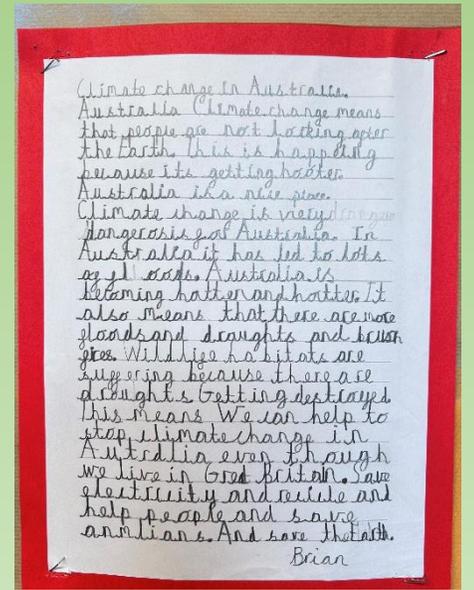
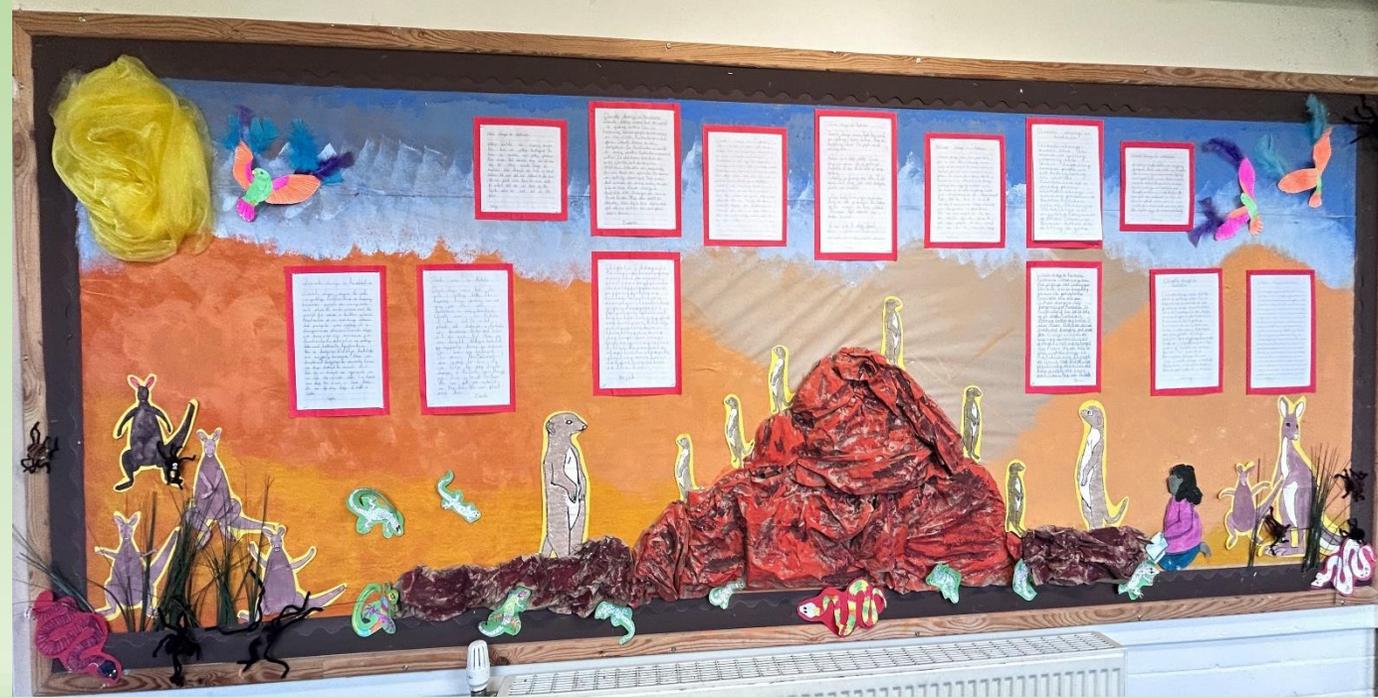
Year 1



We took part in walk to school week to reduce greenhouse gasses and save the polar ice caps.

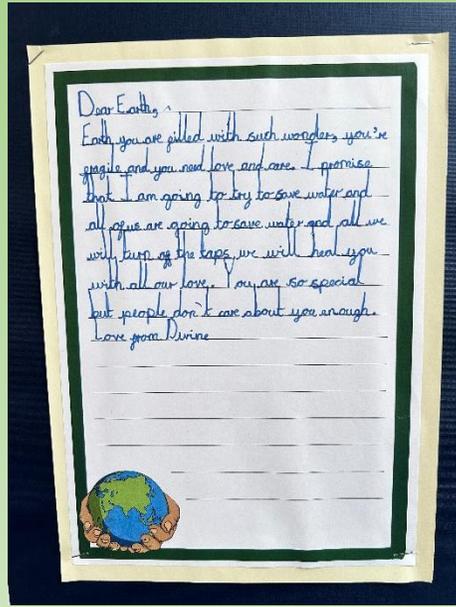


Year 2



"The righteous care for the needs of their animals." Proverbs 12:10

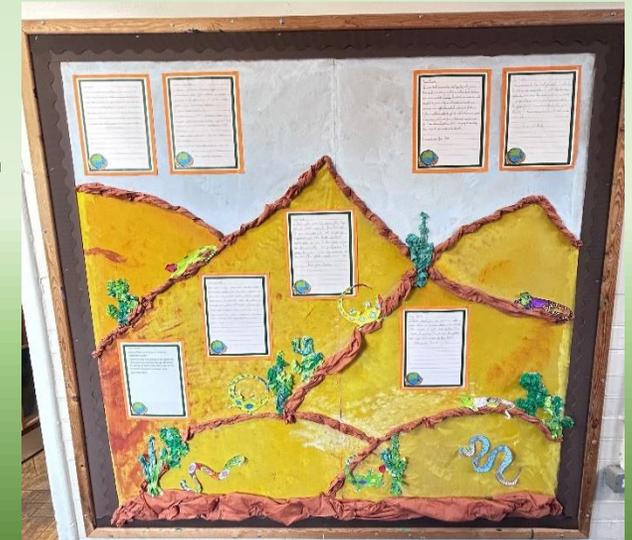
Year 3



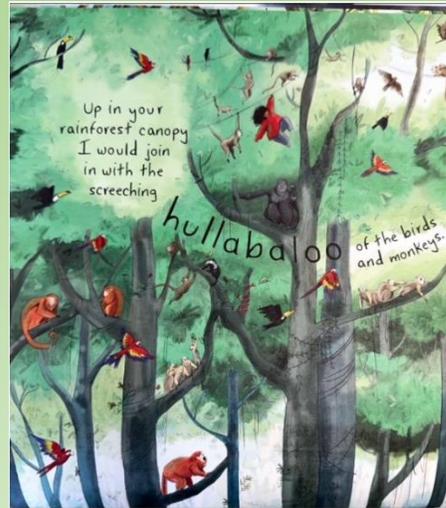
Year 3 visited the River Dane



Year 3 have had a water butt and are watering the school plants and gardens with collected rain water.



Year 4



Year 4 have found out about how the rainforests are destroyed to produce palm oil.



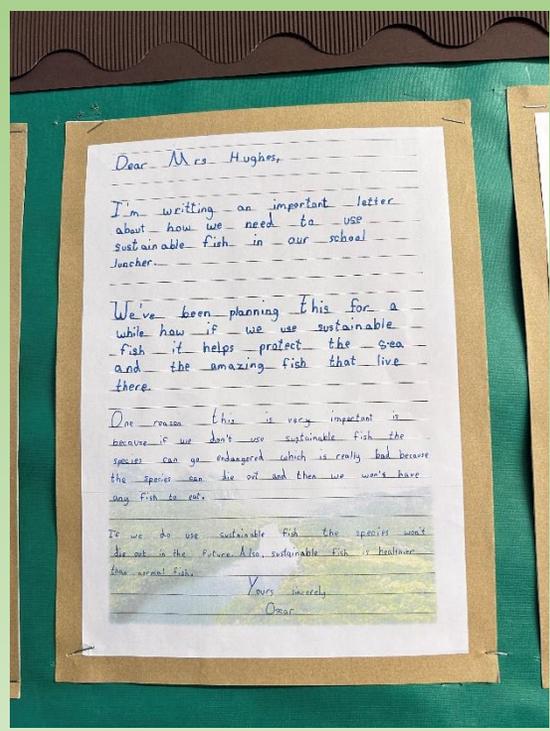
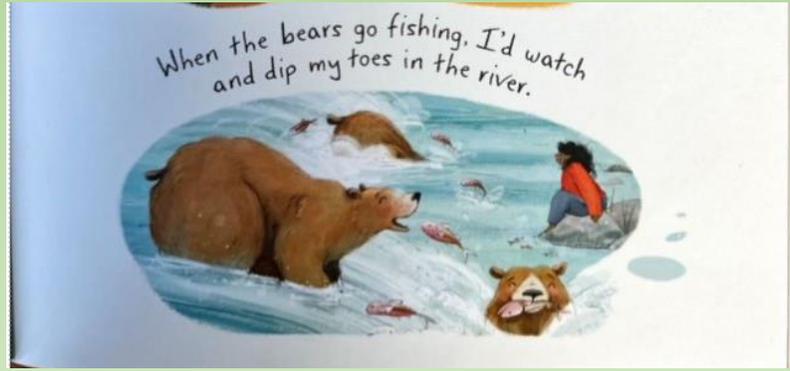
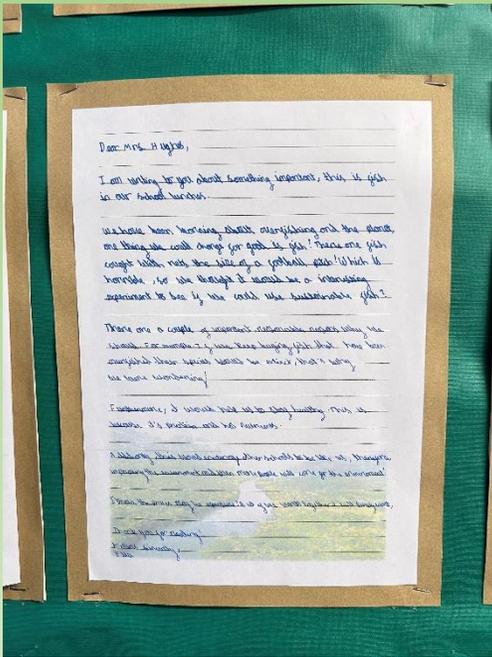
Year 4 visited Dudley Zoo and adopted an Orangutan.

They wrote to the school cook about removing palm oil from the school dinners.

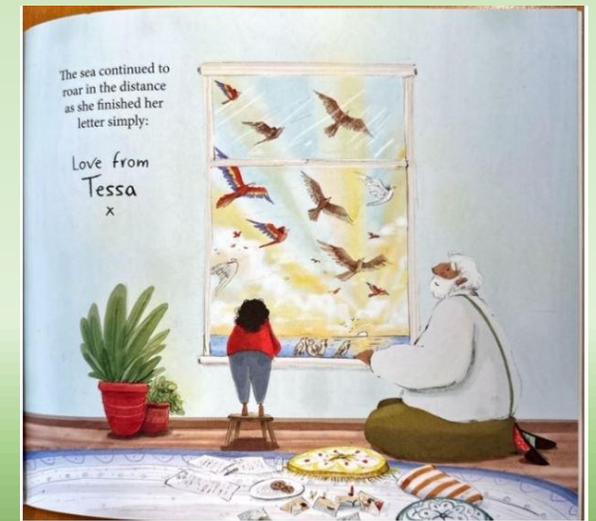


Year 5

Year 5 have written letters to suppliers about Sustainable fishing



Year 6



Year 6 have worked on making the school environment a more friendly habitat for wildlife. They have made and installed bird boxes and feeders, a bug hotel and bat boxes.

Litter picking in the local area

The Benedictines decided that they would like to complete a litter pick of the local area. They made a video that was shared on our school face book page and asked Father Adrian to advertise on the Parish Newsletter that we would like to complete a local litter pick.

The litter pick took place around the local area. We had staff, children, parents and parishioners join us. It was a huge success and we plan to make this a half termly event.



ECO Warriors

Mrs Carroll – Knight set up an Eco – Club. One of their first projects was to think about how we can reduce waste in the school.

The Eco – Club developed an assembly for the whole school to discuss recycling and things that we could recycle in our classrooms.

Each class now has a box that they put in any rubbish that can be recycled.

The Eco – Club and school council have also spoken to the kitchen about how we can reduce single use plastics and so for example now the juice at lunchtime is served in cups rather than single use plastic cartons. Mrs Carroll – Knight has set up an Eco-Club within the school. The Eco-Club have made posters and cards to put up around the school to remind people to switch lights off as they leave the classroom. They have also led a whole school assembly to help people to understand the impact of wasting electricity and waste.

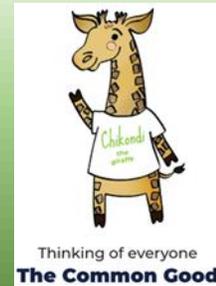
As part of our school sustainability link each class has made a pledge for something that they will commit to for the whole school year to help sustainability. This has been shared on the school website and Facebook page.



Eco Warriors club



Eco Club created and delivered an assembly to teach energy conservation to the rest of the school, they explained how energy conservation can be achieved in school through several strategies. To help achieve this aim, Eco Club designed posters to remind classes to turn the lights off. They have also set up recycling boxes in each classroom to ensure the school becomes more sustainable. There are Eco -Warriors in each class who will ensure lights are switched off, whiteboards are switched off, doors and windows are closed and taps are not left dripping/running.



Forest school outdoor learning lessons.

Each class has half of term of outdoor learning led by a qualified instructor. This is mapped out for each year groups and links with Curriculum areas. Each lesson has a focus on caring for creation



EYFS Planted a wildflower garden



Parish Live Simply Buddy Zaneta



Year 6 Bird Boxes made from natural resources



The school face book page shares the children's learning and this is also shared by the wilderness Instructor on his social media platforms.





Use plastic cups instead of cartons in the dinner hall

Electric Car scheme for staff

Refillable glue sticks



Refillable Soap Dispensers in all toilets

Whole School Initiatives



Benches made from milk cartons before they enter land fill



Pre-Loved uniform Sale



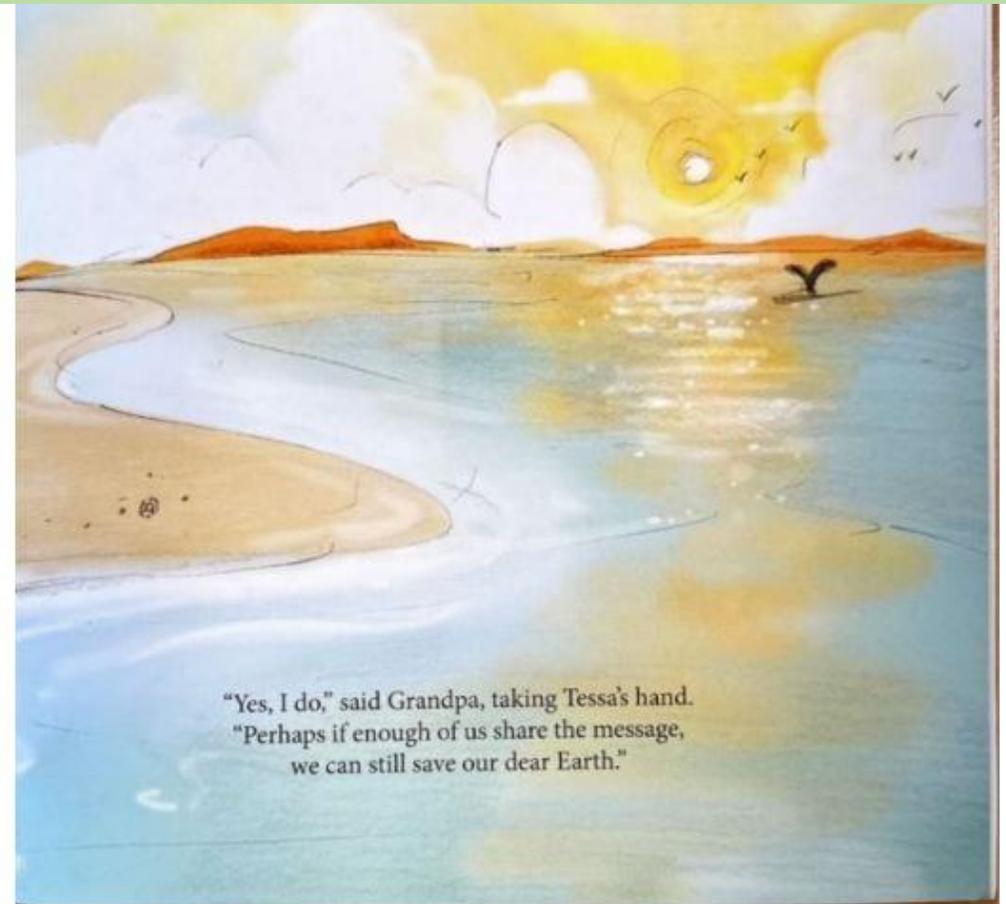
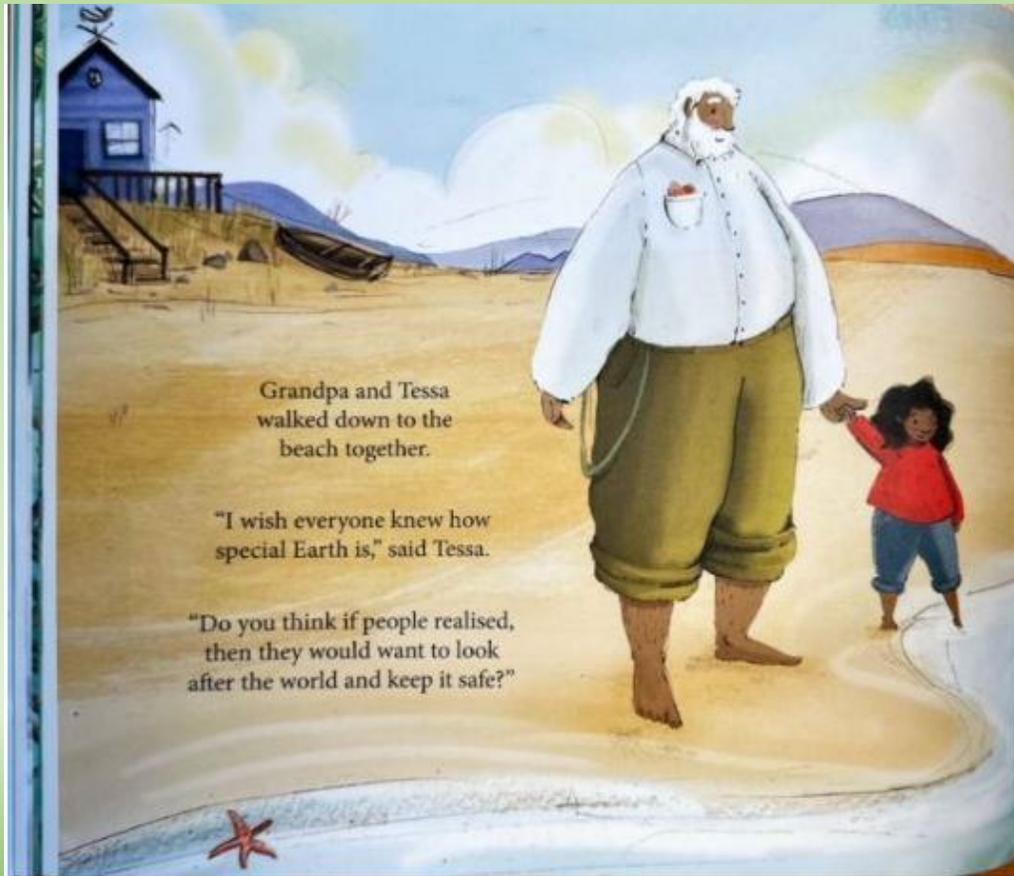
Recycled Toilet Rolls



Battery Recycling



“The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world and all who live in it” Psalm 24:1



Powerful God,
You hold us and everything you have made in your loving care.
You are in the whole universe and in every tiny creature.
Pour out on us, God, the power of your love.
And teach us to care for life and for beauty.
Fill us with peace, so that we do not harm others,
but love them all like sisters and brothers.
God, we know that people who are poor are very special to you
and you want us to love them too, so they are not forgotten.
We ask you to change us so that we protect your world, not destroy it.
Change the hearts of people who only care about themselves and money,
instead of caring about people and the Earth.
Show us how even small things matter,
help us see that we are all connected to each other and to the earth.
We thank you God for being with us each day,
fill us up with wonder and light,
and help us to bring peace to our beautiful world.
Amen.