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Green-Schools Newsletter

Your Green-Schools News and Updates for March

Key dates for your diary

For a list of upcoming events, check out our [events calendar](#)

22 March | World Water Day

22-26 March | Scoot to School Week

19-23 April | Marine Week

16-20 May | Walk to School Week

25 June | [Deadline for all 2020/2021 Green Flag applications](#)



the 22nd of March, we're asking schools to join a UN international campaign for World Water Day. The campaign involves people sharing what water means to them so that everyone can become aware what a valuable resource water is, and the need to protect and share it sustainably. You can do this through social media by sharing what water means to you with the hashtag #Water2Me and please tag Green-Schools social media in the post or tweet (@GreenSchoolsIre on Twitter and Instagram), so we can share it. You can include an image also that illustrates what water means to you. Find out more at: <https://greenschoolsireland.org/what-does-water-mean-to-you/>

Mini Walk for Waters: Due to the Covid 19, we will not be doing large Walk for Water events this year. However, we are asking schools to encourage students and teachers to do a Mini Walk for Water in their home or in the school (if safe and possible). Download a mini walk for water infographic and instruction sheet at <https://greenschoolsireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Mini-Walk-for-Water-2021.pdf>

Water Poster and Video Competition: Our water poster and video competition has been extended again to April 23rd so that all schools have an opportunity to get entries posted and in. Find details of the poster competition at: <https://greenschoolsireland.org/water-poster-competition-2021/>



National Scoot to School Week takes place next week, from March 22 to 26. National SOW Day (Scoot on Wednesdays/Weekdays) will be held on Wednesday 24 March.

We understand that there is a lot happening in schools right now with the return of all classes to primary schools and do not wish to apply any extra

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our event page for a scooting safely resource and scooting skills video to share.

This year we are offering schools that participate during the week a chance to have scooter parking installed in your school for free.

Remember to keep a record of how many people scooted to school on National SOW Day to be in with a chance to win scooter parking for your school; you can find a link to submit numbers on [our website](#) or email us directly with your scooting figures: travel@greenschoolsireland.org.

Don't forget to share your photos and news with us on Facebook and Twitter (@GreenSchoolsIre), using #scoottoschool; we'll be giving spot prizes during Scoot to School Week for images sent in to us.

Scoot to School Week 2021



Chefs Connect Workshops

Green Schools were delighted to launch our Chefs Connect project last month which supports schools working on the Global Citizenship Food and Biodiversity theme. The project links professional chefs with schools to provide fun and engaging cooking workshops which teach students the basic building blocks of cooking and focuses on using vegetables which can be grown in the school garden.

We have 15 chefs taking part in the project this year. Over the last month we have completed three introduction and training sessions with our amazing, volunteer chefs who are now ready to lend their cooking expertise through virtual sessions with schools on the GC Food and Biodiversity theme.

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demonstrated how to prepare colourful 'Rainbow Wraps'. All of our cooking workshops are fully booked until Easter but we will have a full schedule of virtual cooking workshops open to all schools on the GC Food and Biodiversity theme to take part in after the Easter Holidays.

These workshops will be with a different chef each week and will cover basic cooking skills, simple recipes based on vegetables you can grow in the garden and issues around eating sustainably.

Green-Schools proudly presents

Marine Week

19th-23rd April 2021

An Roinn Tithochta,
Rialtas Árdí agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage

Join us for live talks by:

- Dr. Gemma Beatty, ECHOES
- Irish Basking Shark Group
- Marine Ambassador School
- Aidan Gray, Diving in Ireland and beyond
- Aine Purcell Milton, Clean Coasts

Join us for daily activities:

- How to draw marine animals
- Ocean Wonders videos
- Wellbeing
- Art
- Science Experiments
- Global Goals

Win
cupcakes
for your class

Register your school today
Visit: <https://forms.gle/eA4qm8Pvi6bx2vAv7>
For queries, please email:
cdevlin@eeu.antaisce.org

Marine Week 2021

Green-Schools are excited to launch the first ever Marine Week. This active learning experience will inspire and educate primary and secondary school students working on the [Global Citizenship Marine Environment theme](#). Each day, new activities will be uploaded to this Marine Week web page for you and your students to access. There will be interactive talks, art, wellbeing activities, educational videos and science experiments on a range of topics such as the importance of our oceans, marine biodiversity, Global Goals and solutions to the marine litter problem. You can take part at home, or in the classroom. To register your class, please sign up [here](#).

Sign up to take part in Marine Week 2021



The Youth Voice - Joining the Conversation on Sustainable Transport in Waterford

The Southern Regional Assembly, Green Schools and Waterford Institution of Technology joined forces to host a webinar on February 25: The Youth Voice – Joining the Conversation on Sustainable Transport in Waterford.

Some of the great work being conducted by schools working on the Travel and Global Citizenship Travel themes in Waterford City and County was highlighted. The objective of this event was to give a voice to the young people of Waterford to speak about their experience of sustainable transport in terms of the work they are involved in, the challenges they are facing to travel sustainably and the opportunities to improve sustainable transport. A lot of the issues raised are common to schools all around the country and not just in Waterford.

A panel of experts were assembled to answer the questions that were most important to the youth of Waterford. These included representatives from the Department of Education, Green Schools, The Southern Regional Assembly, Waterford City and County Council, The Green Party, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and the National Roads Authority.

It was obvious from the webinar that there is a huge amount of work being done by schools who are working hard on increasing sustainable travel in their schools. Well done to all involved and keep up the good work!

Watch recordings from the event on the Southern Regional Assembly's YouTube page



Global Goals Book Club: Goal 9

The latest offering to the Green-Schools Global Goals Book Club is linked to Sustainable Development Goal 9 - Innovation and Infrastructure. The book is *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba.

This is the story of William Kamkwamba who helped his village by creating a windmill to help bring water to the crops to help them grow so people in his village had enough to eat. There are lots of stories and fun activities linking to Art, English, Science and Geography curriculum available in our Global Goals Book Club. We'd love to hear from your students to tell us if they liked the story by filling out this quick [feedback form](#) so please encourage them to do so. This month we will be linking our book to Water as we will be celebrating World Water Day so keep an eye out on that too. But for now, enjoy William's story, it is very inspirational!

[Visit the Global Goals Book Club](#)

Biodiversity Update

The Biodiversity Team have been working on some new resources for schools taking part in the Biodiversity theme. Check out the new Introduction to Biodiversity Video below:

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Visit the [Green-Schools' Biodiversity page](#) for more information, resources and links

Resources

Visit the [Green-Schools Resources page](#) for new resources, including updated resources as Gaelge, including our No Idling Toolkit, Plastic Free Resource and Climate Action Resource.

Resources



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