

Environmental and Outdoor Learning

Welcome to the very first edition of the new monthly newsletter.



A marathon of an opportunity – don't miss out!

We are delighted to announce that Green Light Trust has been offered two golden places at the London Marathon by its organisers, and our sponsors, Virgin.

This time next year, it could be you who crosses the finish line, exhausted but immensely proud of being part of the greatest sporting event on earth and raising much needed funds for a worthy cause. Believe me, if you want to feel on top of the world, this is the way to do it!

The places are only open until this Sunday, 12th December, after that the places go back. So if you are passionately committed to running the marathon this year and are committed to raising at least £2500 for Green Light Trust, please contact Jane Andrews asap – jane@greenlighttrust.org

We will help you prepare for the event and help you raise sponsorship – indeed, if there are any of you out there reading this who would love to support rather than run, please let us know.

The two chosen marathon runners will be supported with their training by Will Sambrook, our Business Development Manager who is also competing in a long distance fund raising event for the trust later in the year. Will has a Sport Science degree, has run marathons and triathlons and has trained others to do the same.



BRITISH COUNCIL: Global Curriculum Project Grants GRANT ID: UGM840

Funded by the Department for International Development (DFID), this scheme is managed by the British Council. Global Curriculum Project Grants are part of the DFID Global Schools Partnerships Programme which supports partnerships between schools in the UK and schools in Africa, Asia, Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean. The programme can provide advice, guidance, professional development opportunities and grants to partner schools that are using school partnerships as a means of developing a global dimension within their respective curricula.

The deadline for applications is 1 March 2011.

More information can be found online at:
<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/getting-involved/schools/global-school-partnerships/>



A free training course on

SEAL & the Global Dimension

Introduction to DECSY's SEAL & the Global Dimension project and a chance to review materials to embed a global dimension into the national SEAL project.

For primary and secondary practitioners, ITE providers & advisors.

**Thursday 20 January 2011 9:30am - 3:30pm
at the Visitor's Centre, Milton Country Park, Cambridge**

Lunch & a memory stick with SEAL GD materials provided

**Contact Jane to book a place on 07948 095080 or
jane@globalthinking.org.uk**

For more information, please visit the website at:

<https://www.rgfl.org/healthyschools/Lists/Latest%20News/DispForm.aspx?ID=60>

Tots and Pots - Growing projects with Early Years and Key Stage 1 Children 17 March 2011 at Holt Hall Field Studies Centre

A course where delegates will experience practical growing activities that they could use with younger children in their own settings as well as creating something to take home with them! There will be time spent discussing the benefits of growing with young children and how growing projects fit into the Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1. Practical issues concerning setting up and maintenance of a safe growing area suitable for an Early Years setting will be explored. At lunch time we take a fun and open ended look at the issues of children and healthy food. Delegates will leave feeling enthused, inspired and informed with plenty of growing ideas to try out with their children.

'Exploring Science in the School Vegetable Garden' 24 March 2011 at Holt Hall Field Studies Centre

How does the garden grow? Developing scientific opportunities, in the school garden. Being able to identify opportunities to explore a range of subject areas for students to examine and ask questions, investigate and form conclusions.

To enable schools to start to think about areas of exploration within the soil, e.g. invertebrates and the micro organisms to assist with the ability of plants to grow, how to successfully manage a wormery and why did Darwin call the worm the plough of the earth, why is the Honey Bee so important, what is happening to them and what can we learn from them, working with predators and wildlife I like to encourage them into the garden and working with them rather than against them. Finally, developing the skills of questioning, observation and recording to compliment other areas of the curriculum.

For more detailed information about the above courses, please visit [RHS Campaign for School Website](#)



Department for
Education



Fancy exploring a new wood in your area?

Woods are fantastic places to spend time and experience nature, whatever the season. There are almost 14,000 you can visit across the UK, and **VisitWoods** aims to encourage more of us to go out and enjoy all they have to offer.

www.Visitwoods.org.uk is a new interactive website showcasing these stunning woods. Packed with everything you need to plan a great day out, the site will include searchable maps, inspiring ideas, free activities and space to upload your photos and tips.

[Click to see your area's woods](#)

Simply choose a wood from the list, click to view details and use the *Add*, *Rate* and *Tell* links around the page to share your photos, stories and tips.

The Big Tree Plant

A new £4 million community tree planting scheme - The Big Tree Plant - has been launched today by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in partnership with the Forestry Commission, civil society partners and conservation organisations.

The aim of the scheme is to support community, not for profit, groups to plant one million trees in towns, cities and residential areas throughout England over the next four years (2011 to 2015).

Grants of between £500 and £25,000, for up to 75% of costs, are available to projects that:

- Plant trees in neighbourhoods in England where people live and work;
- Involve the local community and provide benefits to people in the neighbourhood;
- Plant individual street trees, small groups of trees in greenspaces, or other neighbourhood tree planting; and
- Have in place a method for ensuring the trees are cared for in the future.

The first deadline for applications is 15 March 2011.

More info can be found at:
<http://www.grantfinder.co.uk/newsflash-index.php?xe=37626>

Learning Outside the Classroom Awards for Excellence & Innovation

Of the 167 submissions for the National Learning Outside the Classroom Awards 2010

Presented by Bill Tidy at the LOtC Conference on Monday 6th December.

Norfolk had the following establishments short listed in the top 27.

- Rainbow Children's Nursery
- Colby Primary School Norwich
- Pott Row First School Norfolk

Pott Row won the East Region Award –

Graham Lodge has brought the award back and will be presenting it to the school in their Friday assembly 10 December!

Developing leadership for sustainable schools - Head Teacher's Conference (20 free places)

We are working in partnership with the Broads Authority Sustainable Development Fund to provide a one day training event at Great Hautbois House, near Coltishall. The day will be facilitated by specialists from national organisations and will be specifically designed for Head Teachers who wish to explore the benefits of becoming a more sustainable school.

We have 20 free places for Head Teachers from schools in the 'Wider Broads' area and if you are interested please email nell.seal@norfolk.gov.uk



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If you would like to subscribe to this e-Newsletter, please email:

lydia.hill@norfolk.gov.uk

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lydia.hill@norfolk.gov.uk

On behalf of all in the Environmental and Outdoor Learning Team, we would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Watch this space for your next monthly newsletter in January 2011!

