

Get ready for this years Make a Difference Day!!!

CSV Make a Difference Day is the UK's largest day of volunteering. It takes place on Saturday 31st October 2009, with activities from 24th October – 7th November. This year people across the country will be taking part through the theme “Acts of Kindness” for their neighbours, colleagues, the environment or even their whole community!

And your school can be part of it! It's a great opportunity to encourage your students to do nice things for their peers (or even their long suffering teachers and lollypop ladies!), and show your schools community spirit, by jumping on board with a national campaign. You might want to encourage your students to put on their own event or activity to spread a little kindness throughout the school. How about baking some brownies for the dinner ladies (they make your lunch every day!), or taking chocolate brownies down to the local sheltered housing scheme to give to some of the elderly residents to have with their cup of tea? Or you could make some delicious bird food to give visiting birds extra energy over the winter months – I am sure they would be really grateful! Educational resources are available to tie this campaign into the curriculum.

If you are stuck for ideas or looking for inspiration, existing activities can be found on the campaign website, where you can also request any of the five ‘Kindness Kits’, which provide simple ideas that anybody can do and even include free chocolate! www.csv.org.uk/difference

If you want to take part, please register your activity. It is really easy to do (you can do it online or over the phone), and you will receive a free Action Pack, which includes t-shirts, posters, balloons, stickers and certificates for everyone who takes part.

For more information, please give me an email or call on (01603) 284764, or laura.wigby@bbc.co.uk, or head straight to the website (above).

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CSV creates opportunities for people to take an active part in the life of their community.

Since 2001 the CSV Action Network, run in partnership with the BBC, have motivated over *443,648 people to become more active citizens including *255,738 volunteers and 187,910 learners. *23,464 Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations have been promoted on the BBC. CSV is a registered charity in England no. 291222 and in Scotland no. SCO39171. CSV is a company limited by guarantee no. 1435877.