

Kings House Eco Schools Update

January 2010

School Events

This year we aim to build on 2009's success of achieving our first bronze medal in the Eco Schools Award. We plan to take part in the '**Fairtrade Fortnight**' nationwide scheme in February but with our own Kings House twist! It links nicely to our school in Rwanda, the Fairtrade Tea produced there and our larger scale scheme '**Run to Rwanda**' in the same month. We have invited a parent, who is a highly experienced tea taster and buyer, to visit us and raise awareness for the whole school on this issue. In terms of saving energy, we look forward to the '**Power Out**' day on **Wednesday 24th February** with an environmental expert speaking to us on this topic and the local press attending. It will be very sobering experience to survive a whole day without using any electricity. We will know then what it must have been like for pupils at Kings House School, Cyato and to realise how much we use on a daily basis.

The Eco Team's Activities

The Eco Team conducted an **Environmental Review** in December 2009 and the results are helping to create our **Action Plan** for 2010. The team has been set more challenges this term; three times a week, they collect a caddy of fruit peelings and add it to our composter and wormery. This encourages the whole school to eat more fruit at break times and the boys to do their bit for the environment. They also collect the caddy of used tea bags (of which there are a huge amount!) from the staff room every Friday and add them to the composter. This works towards our target of reducing food waste across the school community. They will help to run the Fairtrade Tea Fortnight and promote the campaign through designing posters amongst other activities.

Planning and promoting Our Efforts

To move closer to the Silver Award we need to raise awareness of our activities to the wider community. By following the links on our school website, parents, governors and friends will be able to keep up to date with our progress. Furthermore, we would like to invite a parent or governor to become a member of the Eco Team. We would like to plan our next year's campaigns and schemes with those who have an interest in improving the school from various backgrounds. Those who have a particular interest in the area of sustainable development or any green-fingered experts would be most welcome. Please email Mrs. Piper or myself to register your interest.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. S. Watson