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🌿 Contact us at:

coordinator@meen.org.uk

Don't forget:

MEEN runs on project funding but we continue to deliver our newsletter, maintain our website and run free network events for educationalists interested in Education for Sustainability.

If you would like to support MEEN's work please consider becoming a member: <https://www.meen.org.uk/join/membership>

or make a donation at: <https://www.meen.org.uk/donations>

MEEN would like to thank the Save Our Soil funders including Awards for All, People's Postcode Lottery, Garfield Weston and Unicorn Grocery.

Community educators on the climate emergency

MEEN's project supporting eco teams to take social action on climate change has been stepping up. The eco team from MEA Central ran a stall at the Manchester climate change conference showcasing their social cartography project on the impacts and solutions to climate change and then presented it at a UCL conference on the Rights of the Child.

Meanwhile, pupils from St Peter's High eco team ran a stall in the University of Manchester's Student Union talking to people about climate change before running a session with trainee STEM teachers. The teachers were heard saying things such as, 'I'm now going to have to go and rewrite my lesson plans!' and were inspired by the pupils' knowledge and understanding. The pupils were similarly affected, especially in relation to their confidence gained through the understanding that they were being heard on issues that mattered to them.

Pupils from MEA Central share their project findings about the impacts of climate change on Manchester with pupils from other schools.



All their activities, which include banning single use water bottles from school, reinstating Meat Free Mondays and tree planting have meant they have gained their Bronze Eco Schools standard and will quickly get to Silver.

St Peter's High eco team has so many pupils involved they have had to split into different working groups. So whilst some have been



training students and trainee teachers about climate change others have been busy monitoring their energy use in schools and trying to find ways of reducing it by joining Switch Off Fortnight.

MEEN's Spring Eco Schools Green Teach Meet

**Bringing together
eco coordinators
and educators for
sustainability.**

**With workshops on:
Becoming an Eco
School**

**Curriculum fun with
fungi**

Green Teach Meet

**On Thursday
12th March 2020 at
3.45pm – 6.00pm**

**Hosted by Cheetham
CoE Community
Academy Primary**

**All welcome to
attend and bring
your news for the
Green Teach Meet**

**To book your place
email:
coordinator@meen.org.uk**

Network News

Canon Burrows wins Life- time achievement award

Canon Burrows school in Tameside attended the National Eco schools 25th Award ceremony in December and were thrilled to receive Eco schools' Lifetime Achievement Award. The school became involved with Eco Schools soon after it was founded and became the first Green Flag School in England in 1998. Since then the school has regularly renewed its Green Flag status and in December 2019 gained its 10th green flag.

Much of their success is owed to the humble tenacity of their Eco lead, Andy Clark, who has nurtured the various teams on their journey and engaged in numerous initiatives and events over the years – all of which have transformed the school.



Head teacher Suzanne Fildes described the school's eco work as; "fun, purposeful, relevant and often muddy! Pupil voice is loud and important and what environmental education looks like at Canon Burrows changes depending on the interest of the members of the School Council and Eco Committee for that year." Congratulations Canon Burrows!

Network News

Clean Energy Classrooms Education for the climate crisis

Tuesday 4 February
12.30-4pm
Brooks Building, Manchester
Metropolitan University
53 Bonsall Street, Manchester
M15 6GX



**Clean Energy Classrooms
Educating for the Climate Crisis**

This free event brings together educators, industry professionals and local government to explore how we can bring clean energy education into our classrooms and curricula. The session will include hearing from clean energy champions who are trailblazing carbon neutral education and training across Europe. There is an innovative cross-European project, called HySchools, which educates young people about how fuel cell technology can become a key asset in a carbon neutral society. There is also an opportunity to take part in discussions to influence Manchester Metropolitan University's clean energy skills agenda and help build consensus on positive action across all levels of education for a brighter carbon neutral future.

For more information and to register visit
<https://cleanenergyclassrooms.eventbrite.co.uk>



MEEN has an email network for Eco Coordinator's to share information across Greater Manchester.

MEEN also runs twilight network meetings for Eco Coordinators to share good practice.

We host the Greater Manchester ESD Forum which is aimed at educators who go into schools and deliver ESD, The aim is to share good practice in sustainability education and support each other. Go to: www.meen.org.uk for more information.

MEEN can be found on Facebook: www.facebook.com/meen.org.uk

And at: www.twitter.com/meenorguk

Get in touch! We want to hear your stories.

Network News

Visit GM Fire and Rescue Service

The Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue service would like to invite you to visit their new centre in Bury where they offer various interactive activities.

Find out what it's like in a control room where you can listen to 999 calls and get to understand the kind of scenarios they work with. Or request a session on the impacts of climate change.

They have plenty of educational and fun activities and further information can be found on their website including their offers to KS1, KS2 and KS3/4: <http://safetycentre.manchesterfire.gov.uk>

The online booking system will accept daytime bookings and school holiday bookings but should you wish to visit in the evening or if you would like a quick look around before booking please contact reception on **0161 6034620**.

Please note that we do not charge our visitors.

Many school children and adults ages 6 – 80 have visited us since we opened in April 2017 and feedback has been excellent.

Network News

The Ignition Project

Ignition is a partnership project investigating how to fund more nature-based projects in GM to make us less vulnerable to climate change. The aim is to achieve a 10% increase in our city region's coverage of plants and trees by 2038.

The RHS, Groundwork and City of Trees have run 20 workshops with GM's citizens to explore how we value the city's parks, woodlands and other greenspaces. The 250 participants to date have provided countless ideas and innovations.



Young people involved include the Greater Manchester's Youth Councils, National Citizen Service, The Proud Trust, and other youth organisations. Ignition are also in the process of developing a schools' programme and information will be sent out as soon as it is available.

To share ideas you can also complete this survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/72C9Y98>

For more info contact Rosie Naylor rosienaylor@rhs.org.uk



Funding Stockport Schools

Stockport Hydro Ltd, a community owned scheme, generates renewable energy on the River Goyt.

With £3,900 available for the Environmental Challenge Fund they are looking for 12 projects that will benefit the local community within the SMBC boundary.

Projects must have an environmental focus and can be of a community or co-operative nature.

For information and application forms go to: www.stockport-hydro.co.uk

Send applications to:

Email: info@stockport-hydro.co.uk

Post: Laurence Jackson, 7 Fairfax Close, Marple, Stockport SK6 6HH

Closing date for applications:

31 January 2020

National News

LEEF Urban Environmental Education Conference

The London Environmental Education Forum, or LEEF, in partnership with King's College London, are hosting their first national conference on Urban Environmental Education. The aim is to celebrate LEEF's 30th birthday.



It is being held at the Natural History Museum on Monday 10th February 2020, 9.45 – 4pm, and has a range of expert speakers including Emeritus Professor Bill Scott, former head, writer and consultant Dr David Dixon, amongst others. There are also a variety of organisations delivering workshops and the launch of LEEF's latest special edition newsletter, including an article about MEEN's work.

The website states that tickets for non-LEEF members are £125 but also states that if you are part of environmental networks like MEEN or a student to contact conference@leef.london suggesting a special deal!

National News

Thinking with Sustainability education

Stephen Sterling suggests sustainability education projects can be examined through asking 6 key questions:

Context – does its stated purpose and boundaries of concern embrace the wider context of sustainability and futures?

Congruence – does it recognize and reflect relationships and connectivity, reflecting the systemic nature of the real world and the current threats and opportunities this presents?

Culture – is it sufficiently attuned to the culture in which it is located, and to its values, understanding and needs of the learners?

Criticality – does it examine and weigh dominant assumptions and values reflexively in relation to building a more sustainable future?

Commitment – does it engage with the ethical dimensions of issues to facilitate building an ethos of critical commitment and care?

Contribution – through this policy or programme, will the learners, outputs and learning outcomes of the policy or programme make a positive (or negative) difference to sustainable development/more sustainable futures?

Something to consider!

For more information go to:

<https://www.sustainableeducation.co.uk/key-ideas/>