



RAMSEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL



THE AIM OF THE ECO DAY WAS TO CREATE AN 'EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE' THAT WOULD ENABLE YEAR 7 STUDENTS TO EXPLORE ISSUES RELATED TO THEMSELVES AND THEIR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT, WITHIN A GLOBAL FRAMEWORK.

The eco partnership is a coalition of Manx environmental organisations deeply committed to raising awareness of the local environment and some of the issues and concerns related to conservation and sustainable development on the Island. We seek to encourage a personal response through change of lifestyles and practices that will have positive global impact.

ECODAY WORKSHOPS

Organic food – Manx Organic Network :

MON is a local organisation formed to bring together people who are interested in organic farming and produce.

Eco Activity: considering the benefits of Organic produce and the issues that arise from non-organic food production. The students were able to sample various types organic food and drink.

Each Eco Day participant enjoyed an entirely organic lunch.



Paper making: DLGE Waste Minimisation Unit:

The Department of Local Government and the Environment's Waste Minimisation and Recycling Section works to promote the "3R's" – the REDUCTION, RE-USE, and RECYCLING of waste. Working with schools, the public, Local Authorities, Government Departments and the commercial sector, it aims to conserve the earth's natural resources, and reduce the amount of waste produced on the IoM as part of a sustainable strategy for managing waste on the Island.

Eco activity: looking at issues of waste through making "Hand made recycled paper" where students were able to prepare, make dye and decorate their own paper.

Fairtrade: Shakti Mann & Oxfam:

Both Shakti Mann & Oxfam work to promote awareness of Fairtrade on the Island and support Fairtrade communities around the world by selling their products.

Eco activity: an introduction to students about the issues surrounding Fairtrade followed by an interactive game using both Fairtrade & non Fairtrade case studies



The Waste Game: Zero Waste Mann:

Zero Waste Mann are a local charity campaigning for a change of attitude, and the reduction of waste as well as much more recycling, repair and reuse of products

Eco Activity: Students took part in a non competitive rubbish game that taught about reducing waste, recycling and reduction.

The straw House. Manx Energy Advisory Group

An independent charity created to promote energy conservation, the use of renewable energy and provide independent advice and information.

Eco Activity: To produce a straw bale house to identify how buildings can be designed to a high insulated state, how the house can be heated and provided with lighting without the use of fossil fuels, through the use of photo voltaics.



Eco Footprints: IoM Friends of the Earth:

IoM FoE are a local campaigning group whose aim is the protection of the biodiversity of the Manx environment and the promotion of sustainable living and global environmental justice

Eco activity: Think global – Act local, a stimulating workshop asking the students to look at their individual impact on our planet and then to look at their lifestyle.



Country Code: DAFF

Daff are working to develop and promote responsible access and recreation in the countryside, to help protect the natural environment and create user guidelines that will protect and conserve the countryside.

Eco activity: The countryside code: looking at aspects of good practice when in the countryside through the use of discussion, video, worksheets, and leisure maps, encouraging young people to get out into the countryside and explore the natural world.

The Green Mann: Green Mann, The Green Man is a worldwide symbol – found lurking in the most unlikely spots. In the East – he is known as Kala – and he is a guardian figure. In Europe, he has been known since at least Roman times as a wild spirit who is sometimes thought of as the God of Spring and Summer, a symbol of death and rebirth. He links religions and mythology around the globe and across history. In the present day he symbolises care for the environment – and for this reason we have chosen to take him as the symbol for our Environmental Directory to keep our Island beautiful.

Eco activity: looking at what characterises the Green Man – and designing their own concepts bringing in Manx ideas – ie The Green Mann. Also looking at what they feel should be included in the Directory – what they feel will contribute most to sustaining the important good points of the Island, and what will help guard against some of the evils of modern day existence. This is followed by a discussion on various characterisations of the Green Man/Kala. Students then design and produce a Green man – using found objects, foliage, clay or wax on either paper or wood blocks.



Web of life: Permaculture Association IoM

informing on issues for true sustainability.

Eco activity: Working inside the yurt with an interactive workshop session based upon the energy impact of food miles both in the production and delivery of food, including discussion about local and organic foods.



Dalby Community Woodland project

The Dalby Woodland project is a community environmental project and a response to global climate change.

Eco Activity: A hands on session planting trees around the school grounds, while learning about the need for tree planting schemes.



Eco Murals: Ramsey Grammar School / One World Centre

Highlighting endangered or protected species such as the Basking Shark and making pupils aware of the diversity of wildlife and their vital role in the eco system.

Eco activity: investigating the local environment, wildlife flora and fauna, through direct representational drawing and creating a mural for the school that will continue to draw attention to the protection of local habitats and species.





Wood sculpture: Gavin Carter

Making art that establishes connections. Connections with natural processes, with the elements, with the environment and with the past. A piece of wood contains its own record of time in its annual rings and I try to bring out some of this internal history. Tool marks are also an important component of my work, they represent the human element in the piece, a statement that I was involved in its construction and a connection with other people that express themselves in a similar way

Nature on the doorstep: Manx Wildlife Trust C4-

Wildflowers: Wildflowers of Mann Looking at nature on the doorstep, local conservation and biodiversity

Eco activity: Visit to Poyldoey – with an exploration and investigation of local biodiversity and conservation.



Bio diversity: Curraghs Wildlife Park Working together with other

collections in Britain and Europe the Curraghs Wildlife Park aims to help conserve bio diversity through captive breeding, education, research and conservation, focusing on wetland species in recognition of its setting alongside the most important wetland biodiversity site in the Island.

Eco activity: Looking at the awesome variety of life on our planet, why it's important to us and why it's under threat.



Moving Sounds Performance Drama Group:

A high energy, high impact session with around 20 students working towards the creation of a performance for the evening event, beginning with an interactive performance presenting some of the issues that the group will consider. The performance is a vehicle to give the participants an idea of the way that we work and a sense of what they will then be able to create themselves.

Bring them back for a longer period – we need a whole day next time!

Phil Matthews
Ballakermeen



As well as being entertaining the presenters 'put over' important environmental messages that were understandable to the students. Students engaged in a positive way and participated, overcoming their natural shyness

Cristal Jerry Q&E11

This is reinforced through a process of games, warm ups and drama exercises exploring the theme of climate change, which lead into the creation of performances. At this point we draw ideas from the students through brain storming, writing lyrics, poems, raps or stories and by creating visual images that can be photographed and projected as part of the performance. Our workshop culminated in the group performing their creations at the evening Hot Air show.

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EVENING PERFORMANCE

The Eco Day culminated in the 'Hot Air Eco Extravaganza!', which was attended by around 160 students, invited guests and members of the public. The show was a feast of music, poetry, drama and film, all reinforcing the environmental messages that had been discussed during the day. The Manx Co-op provided a Fairtrade wine reception before performances from the Mollag Band, the Manx Poets, Cheryl Cousins & Phil Smith and a short video put together by sixth form students. Using footage of each of the groups. The finale was a drama sketch from Moving Sounds, who were also joined by some of the students they had worked with during the day.

Excellent show and very educational... would like them back next year!

Jo White Q&E11



Moving Sounds

Teaching about Climate Change: We view Climate change as the greatest example of injustice in the history of humankind. We seek to raise awareness of the issues of climate change by looking at the impact of our life styles upon the poor and vulnerable in the world, Moving Sounds spoke this message in a language that young people understand.
Cheryl Cousins, The One World Centre

The Moving Sounds workshop proved to be both popular and hugely effective in communicating the issues around Climate change and encouraging the students to suggest their own solutions. In addition to the workshop and performance at the Eco Day in Ramsey they also visited QEII, Castle Rushen and Ballakermeen working with over 620 students. The reception from all of the students who had the opportunity to attend was fantastic. As well as working with year 7 groups, some year 10 and 6th form students studying relevant subjects were also given the opportunity to get involved.



Total cost of Eco day: £2,190.00

I was really hugely impressed with the variety of different people and organisations involved, but what really left its mark was the energy, enthusiasm and willingness to learn of the young people involved. These young people quickly grasped and understood many of the different concepts being discussed during the day and genuinely believed that they could make a difference. It was a privilege to be involved on the day.

Dan Davies, Radio presenter

Moving Sounds:

Half price boat travel sponsored by the Steam packet
Accommodation donated
Workshops funded by The One World Centre, IoM FoE,
The Board of Education, Milichaps & volunteer donations

Advertising & Publicity:

Funded by Manx Co-op

Fairtrade reception

Funded by Manx Co-op

Mollag Band

Funded by volunteer donations

Cost
£2,000.00

£50.00

£140.00

SUMMARY: For Ramsey Grammar as a school the Eco Day was only the first step towards a more environmental and global whole school outlook. As a direct result of the day they have already begun planning ways to make changes. They hope to introduce recycling and organic lunches throughout the school, and have made contact with energy management systems.

Thanks to all the staff, students, sixth formers and workshop groups!