



Chew Valley School Community Council

This term has been amazing! Energy week, a trip to Westminster and huge fundraising efforts all highlights. Ideas for new teams are flooding in!

The Gardening Team

The Gardening Team are doing extremely well, following a recent competition in which Chew Valley were runners up. We were awarded with £100 worth of vouchers, and now have been able to buy several useful products for the team.

In the past term, The Gardening Team has increased its number of team members and started work in Mr Pine's garden at Lakeview House. At the moment we have only dug the garden, started to order manure for the garden and then plant mainly potatoes, carrots and parsnips. We have recently repaired the polytunnel, and now have onions growing well and hope more veg will appear in the next few months. We have planted many seeds already, including beetroot, broad beans and sugar snap peas. We have been to the local garden centre, Whitehall, to get many seeds and compost for both the polytunnel and Mr Pine's garden.

The team had a pack of 30 trees from the Woodland Trust delivered free in the post, which the gardening took most of their free lunch-times to plant up, water and protect. We went to Chew Valley trees to get protectors and canes for the trees, which have been planted up all around the school and are all doing well at the moment! **Come along to a meeting on Wednesdays at 1.10 in S8**

NEW TEAMS!

There are 3 new teams in the pipeline—**Trips Team, Clubs Team and a Chicken Team!** If you want to get involved in any of these new teams then contact Mrs Shuttleworth. If you live nearby and would like to help looking after some chickens then see Lewis Horseman in Year 8



The Energy Team

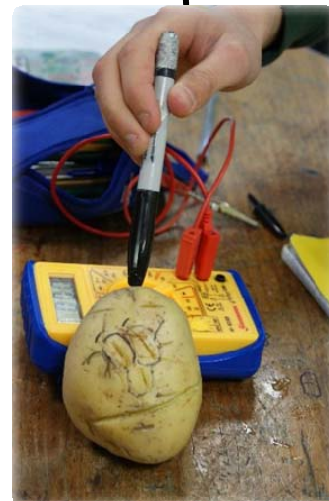
"If you think you're too small to be effective, you have never been in bed with a mosquito."

This was the motto which the Energy Team, a group of 12 students from year 10-13, adopted when co-ordinating Energy Week. Set up with the aim of reducing the school's energy consumption by 10%, the team launched **Energy Week** to raise awareness of global warming – its consequences and our possible solutions.

Students were encouraged to 'be the change' they wanted to see by participating in cross-curricular lessons centred on energy, as well as taking part in art projects and film showings. The whole school, teachers included, worked together on the culmination of Energy Week: Earth Hour – one hour, no power. Lights, Photocopiers, Printers, over 300 computers – everything was turned off, and the school saw their electricity consumption plummet by 60,000W.

We learnt to look much closer to home for climate culprits – the fields outside the school, in fact. For example, each year, one cow is responsible for an amount of methane equivalent (in its effect as a 'greenhouse gas') to the carbon dioxide released by burning 1,000 litres of petrol.

We are looking for new members to help us reach our 10% target – come along to our meeting in H10 on Thursdays at 1.05.



The Waste and Recycling Team

The Waste and Recycling team is currently looking for a way to recycle waste left from the canteen, such as cartons, cans and plastic.

Also we are planning on getting involved in "the Big Pick-up" on St George's day; a litter picking up event on 23rd April.

Thank you to every one who has been recycling, as part of the policy!

The Waste and Recycling Team meet on a Wednesday lunch-time at 1:10 in H8 if you want to join



The Fundraising Team

In the past term the fundraising team has put a lot of time and effort into hosting events to raise money for various charities. After the tragic events of the Haiti earthquake the fundraising team along with the rest of the school raised £2,480 pounds through a number of events, including; a non-school uniform day, selling badges and a sponsored silence.

The chosen charity this term; that the money raised in the following events went towards was the Bristol children's hospital. As Valentine's Day came around the fundraising team made and sold heart shaped cards that pupils could buy and write to someone else in school. They could be posted anonymously in a box in school and delivered by the fundraising team into registers on the Friday before Valentine's Day.

In March the team organised a cake sale, which was very successful. Finally for April the team has planned an Easter egg hunt within school. We hope it will be very successful, giving the students a lot of fun as well as raising money for the great cause of the Bristol children's hospital. **We meet on Mondays at 1.05pm in**

H8

School Council present in Westminster

Chew Valley School was the second school to embark on the remarkable model that was launched at the Blue School, Wells. There are now over 40 schools nationwide that have incorporated this way of leading into the management of their school. We were lucky to hear presentations from seven other schools that were part of the pilot project in 2008-2010. One of the schools presenting was the now famous Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Secondary School who were visited by Michelle Obama during the US presidential visit to the UK.

The success was praised by Barry Sheerman, MP and Chair of the Children's Schools and Families Select Committee. He acknowledged the amazing impact that Learning to Lead has had on schools involved in the project and urged others to 'jump on board..... the most exciting initiative in education.' He described his emotions as he discovered what the students were doing in their school; 'my committee and I were amazed by the way in which the students in the school had been empowered to lead and actively share in the organisation and management of their education at their institution.'

The day culminated in a final presentation from Dr David Frost who led the evaluation at Cambridge University on the secondary pilot. Their findings were extremely positive and clearly depicted the positive impact on students.

The Food and Fitness Team

Our overall aim is to make Chew Valley School a happier and healthier place to learn in. In our training we identified very clear objectives in relation to food and access to sport in school. So far we have been arranging meetings with people including Judy Allies (local organiser of healthy schools and other things similar), to discuss the amount of P.E students should be getting, and to maintain our Healthy Schools Status. We also plan to visit our local flagship 'Food for Life' school. The renewed team has new and exiting ideas along with a determination to fulfill our goals and aims, so keep an ear out for some exiting events in the summer!

We meet on Wednesdays at 1.00pm in H7

