23/9/21

Hi Hazel, Lucy, Clara and Rose,

Thanks for getting in touch. Over the last few months we have been working with Eco-Schools in Canada to develop a new application system for schools. We needed a new application system because our old one wasn’t very good at showcasing all the amazing work young people, like yourselves, have been completing in Eco-Schools across England – for example we wanted to be able to say statistics like in 2021 young people in England planted … amount of trees, or we know that there are … pupils who are energy monitors responsible for saving energy in their schools. This way we can demonstrate just how fantastic young people are at looking at the planet – then hopefully grown-ups will take notice and everyone will start doing their bit too!

There has been a slight delay with the launch of the new system, but we thought it better to delay than to launch a system that wasn’t working properly. We are hoping that the new system will be ready to go by Monday 4th October. At this point, you will be able to log in and begin completing your Eco-Schools Green Flag Application. You will then be able to apply for your Eco-Schools Green Flag in May 2022. This might seem a long way away now, but the reason we wanted all school’s to apply at a similar time is because not every Eco-Club is as great as yours – some need a little extra support. By providing a deadline it means that a lot of schools work through the Seven Steps at the same time – meaning our small team can support everyone at once!

I hope this makes sense, and you don’t mind too much about the delay, and of course thank you for all the work you have been doing in your Eco-Club (imagine if adults had Eco-Clubs too – the world would become a much better place)!

**Francis Hyland**

Eco-Schools Coordinator

Keep Britain Tidy

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