



January newsletter 2013

 **H**appy new year! We hope you enjoyed a relaxing and festive Christmas break and are ready to tackle the new year with renewed enthusiasm.

In this newsletter there are ideas to inspire, as we introduce our newly revamped resources section on the BHee website. Plus incentives to get out and embrace outdoor learning as spring gets under way, with outdoor learning opportunities from Sussex Wildlife Trust and a new book produced by a partnership between Portslade Infant School and local group Plot 22.



*Photo courtesy of
Sussex Wildlife Trust*

We hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us for our next **Twilight session** about the exciting new **Biosphere** project. Please note this event will now take place on **Wednesday 13th March** (rather than in February, as previously publicised) at Dorothy Stringer School.

Helen and Katie

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New BHee resources on the website

The '[downloadable resources](#)' page of the BHee website has a new look for 2013! It now has four sections:

Eco-Schools – information to support the Eco-Schools process, such as the BHee Environmental Review questionnaires designed to be used by primary pupils.

Curriculum support – activities and lesson plans to help you integrate sustainability into classroom teaching.

Eco Clubs – activities to keep your Eco Club busy at different times of year, whatever the weather!

Wildlife gardening – information on how to make your school grounds a haven for wildlife, including key tasks for different times of the year.

Photo courtesy of Sussex Wildlife Trust



The [downloadable resources](#) are in a secure part of the site, just for Brighton & Hove schools. Accessing them is easy: just register and create a log-in with your email address and password. Your registration will be confirmed straight away by email. Your school can have numerous log-ins so there's no need to share your details with your colleagues.

If you have any requests for resources to include in this section of the website, or have made any resources that you would like to share with other Brighton & Hove teachers, please contact [Helen](#).



Song-writing competition

We are launching this year's **One Planet: One Voice** competition very soon, to give your pupils plenty of time to compose their entries before the closing date in June. For more details, and to hear last year's winners, see the

[BHee website](#). There are four key stage categories, each with a cash prize of £150 for the school to spend on its Eco-Schools work. So don't delay - get your Eco Committee or class composing! And why not use your new song as your Eco Code, like last year's winning school, St Luke's Primary.





Eco-Schools update



Congratulations to Moulsecomb Primary, Brighton & Hove's latest Green Flag school.

We now have 11 schools with the prestigious Green Flag award in the city, and many more with Bronze and Silver awards. To find out more about which schools have awards, click on our new interactive map on the **BHee website**.

And don't forget to **contact Helen** for advice about how to move your school up to the next award level.



Energy workshops

BHee is working with the Council's Energy and Water team to run two workshops for school bursars / business managers focusing on energy management. The workshops are on the **31st January**, at Portslade Town Hall, and **1st February**, at Brighton Town Hall. More details will be on our website soon. Please encourage your bursar / business manager to come.



News from schools

St Bartholomew's CE Primary School is the first school in the city to take part in an innovative project that helps schools "crowd source" money from their local communities to invest in solar panels. St Bartholomew's is hoping to raise £10,000 to put solar panels on its south-facing roof, through sponsorship from parents, friends and local businesses. Since going live on 10th October 2012 (10:10) the school has raised £1,830 in contributions from the PTFA, local councillors, parents, friends and local businesses. Visit St Bartholomew's **Solar Schools webpage** for more details.



You can register an interest in the next phase of Solar Schools on their website: **www.solarschools.org.uk/registerinterest**



Sussex Wildlife Trust

Outdoor Learning at Woods Mill and Seven Sisters Country Park

Sussex Wildlife Trust is running outdoor Literacy and Numeracy weeks in March, encouraging pupils to develop their mathematical and language skills in the context of the natural world.

For more information click on links below or visit the Sussex Wildlife Trust website:
www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk

Woods Mill

Seven Sisters

New EYFS programmes at Seven Sisters

(based on 'The Gruffalo' and 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt')

Photo courtesy of Sussex Wildlife Trust



Environmental education resource book

The Nature Learning Handbook arose from a collaboration between Portslade Infant School, PLOT 22 and Nature's Classroom. It is full of activities to embed environmental education into the primary curriculum. For a preview of the book, or to order a copy go to the '**blurb**' website:
www.blurb.co.uk/b/3928635-nature-learning-through-the-seasons

PLOT 22 hosts Nature Learning sessions for small groups of up to 8 children, and Nature's Classroom hosts larger groups of children for Forest School sessions in Stanmer Park. For more information see plot22.org and naturesclassroom.co.uk.



Good Food grants

Community organisations and schools are invited to apply for grants of up to £800 for food projects in Brighton & Hove. The deadline for applications is 8th Feb. Grants will be awarded by 30th March and must be used for work that takes place between 1st April 2013 and 31st March 2014. For full information, including grant application guidance, visit:

www.bhfood.org.uk

If you have any queries or need further information please contact Helen Starr-Kedde, Harvest Development Officer, on 01273 431700.



Our South Downs conference

Discover the living curriculum on your doorstep!

Learning through Landscapes is holding the first '**Our South Downs' conference** at Midhurst Rother College, West Sussex on Friday 15th March.

This conference is **FREE** for teachers and it will explore the unique, diverse and rich learning resources offered by the South Downs National Park.



RFS Excellence in Forestry Awards 2013

This Award, from the RFS (Royal Forestry Society) in association with Forestry Commission (England), rewards schools and colleges that increase young people's understanding and appreciation of the environmental, the social and economic potential of trees, and of the link between trees and everyday wood products.

The entry deadline is 4th March. Visit the **RFS website** for further details.



Dates for your diary

Click on the links below for more information or check out our calendar at **BHee.co.uk**.

31st January & 1st February - BHee energy workshops

25th February to 10th March 2013 – Fairtrade Fortnight

4th to 10th March - Climate Week – register now!

11th to 17th March – Waste Week (the POD)

13th March 2013 – BHee Twilight

16th March 2013 - Big Dig Week

If you have any news you'd like to share in the next BHee newsletter or on our website, please contact **Helen Peake** or **Katie Eberstein**.

BHee is a partnership service delivered by Resource Futures and Sussex Wildlife Trust, funded by Brighton & Hove City Council