

ECO-UNESCO

Ireland's Environmental Education and Youth Organisation

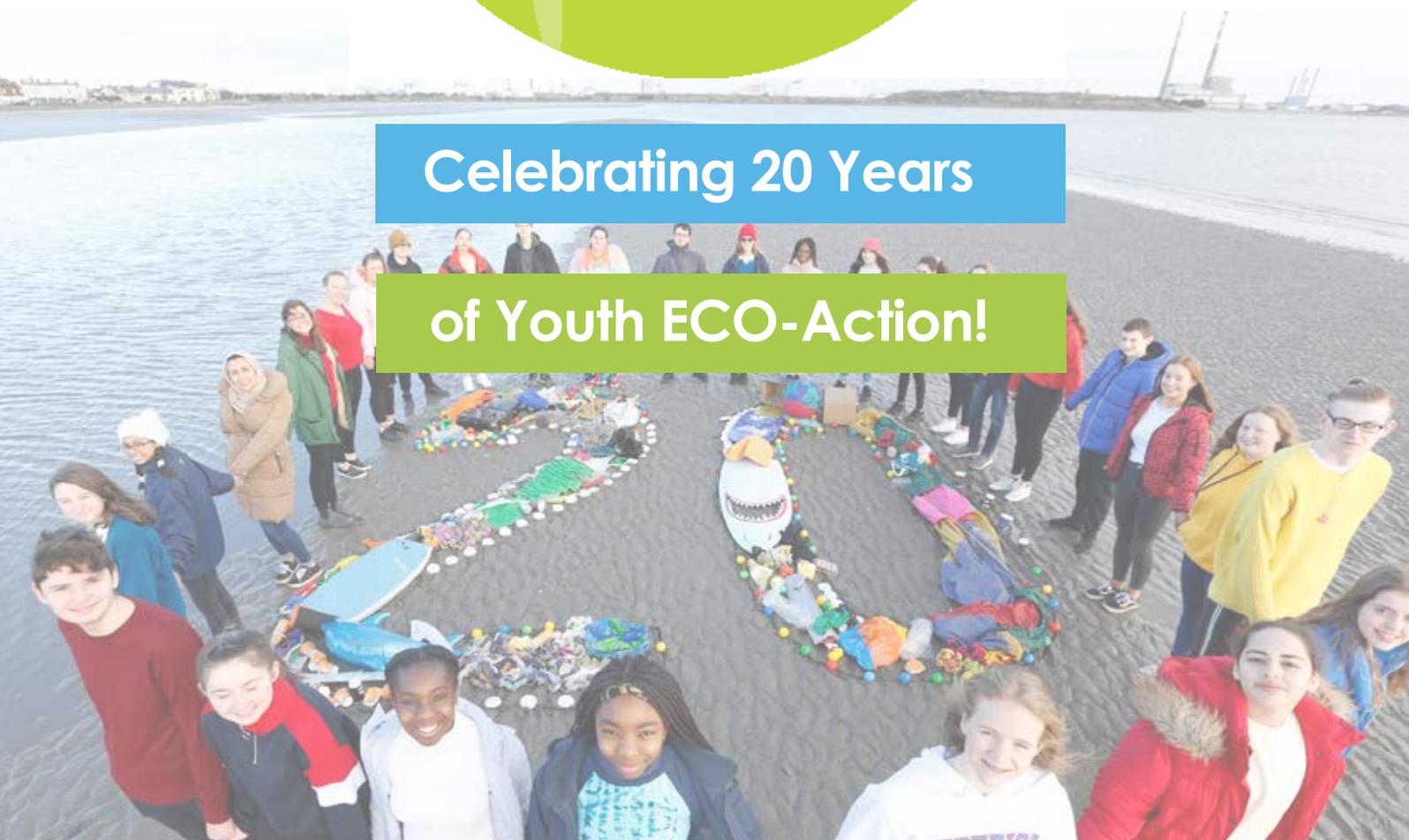


ECO-UNESCO's

Young Environmentalist Awards 2019

Celebrating 20 Years

of Youth ECO-Action!



www.yea.ie

Message from Michael D. Higgins, President of Ireland



Michael D. Higgins

Uachtarán na hÉireann
President of Ireland
Patron of ECO-UNESCO

I would like to send my best wishes to all those participating in the ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Award Ceremony. This year marks the twentieth anniversary of these important awards which have, for two decades, inspired and encouraged many young citizens to play their important role in protecting our planet.

Climate change is one of the great challenges of our time. It is a challenge that calls on each of us to consider how our own individual actions, achievements and initiatives can contribute to the preservation of our precious natural resources.

It is greatly encouraging to know that we have, in this country, so many young citizens who strive to develop new visions for our shared future. As President of Ireland I am very proud of those citizens, and inspired by their generous will to contribute to the development of a better and more equal world.

I congratulate all those taking part in the final Showcase and Award Ceremony, and I thank you for your commitment to the crafting of a shared world that is democratic, enriching and respectful of our fragile planet.

Welcome to ECO-UNESCO's Young Environmentalist Awards Showcase and Ceremony 2019.

This year marks 20 years of the Young Environmentalist Awards and we're delighted to welcome you to our very special celebration. Since the inception of the Awards in 1999, we have worked with tens of thousands of young people who have been protecting the environment through their action project work each year.

This year we've expanded our Showcase and are proudly exhibiting over 100 of the finalist projects which have come from over 322 registered entries from thousands of young people all across Ireland. Each of today's finalists came to a regional ECO-Den, a Dragons' Den style semi-finals where they pitched their projects to a panel of judges in order to secure their spot at this year's Showcase and Awards Ceremony. Through Young Environmentalist Awards action projects, young people are voicing your concerns about the natural environment through projects on climate change, biodiversity loss, over consumption and pollution.

The Young Environmentalist Awards has grown throughout the years with tens of thousands of young people from all across the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland participating, helping to conserve and protect the environment and promote sustainable development, and encouraging others to do the same. We are immensely proud of all of the achievements of young people participating in this year's Young Environmentalist Awards. You have shown fantastic creativity, innovation and enthusiasm in your approach to protecting the environment and promoting environmental awareness amongst your peers, schools, youth groups and wider community.

We would like to commend the hard work, time and effort put into the projects by all the groups involved. We would also like to commend your YEA Mentors, the leaders and teachers who support you in your work. We would like to thank everybody who has supported the Young Environmentalist Awards in the past 20 years and all those who have made our Young Environmentalist Awards 2019 such as special event. We want to thank our sponsors, our funders, our judging panel and our special guests. We greatly appreciate your time, interest and commitment and we look forward to working with you again in the future. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment Richard Bruton to our event today. We want to especially thank the ECO-UNESCO team who have worked tirelessly to make this year's Young Environmentalist Awards Showcase and Ceremony such a special occasion. We also want to commend all of the past ECO-UNESCO staff and volunteers who throughout the years have worked to build our Young Environmentalist programme.

We encourage you to continue your great work and to encourage others to take environmental action and spread the spirit of the Young Environmentalist Awards.

Thank you for making the Young Environmentalist Awards such a success and we hope you have a wonderful day!



Jamie Cudden
Chairperson
ECO-UNESCO



Elaine Nevin
National Director
ECO-UNESCO

Download the #YEA19 App



<http://tiny.cc/YEA19>

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#YEA19: Celebrating 20 Years



49,000+

young people involved since 1999

1999

YEA is developed by ECO-UNESCO and launched by President Mary McAleese

2000

The first Young Environmentalist Awards Final is held in the Law Society of Ireland and is attended by President Mary McAleese

2001

YEA opens up to participants from Northern Ireland



2003

An Taoiseach Bertie Ahern presents the Young Environmentalist Awards for the second consecutive year

2004

ENFO The Environmental Information Service becomes a key YEA supporter. 13 participant groups attended finals

2010

First semi-final ECO-Dens held. 55 Finalists reach the Annual Showcase



2011

Special guests included: Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald, TD; and former President of Ireland and former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Dr Mary Robinson

2012

60 Finalists reach and attended annual national YEA Showcase



2013

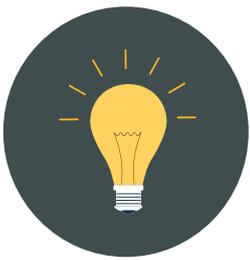
4 regional ECO-Dens held. Annual National YEA Showcase attended by Michael D. Higgins, President of Ireland

2013

Planet Pals project enter for the award for the first time and win. They will go on to continue their project, entering and winning again in 2016

2014

Awards continue to grow with 75 groups invited to attend the Showcase and Awards. Special guests: UNESCO Representative Mr Han Qunli, the Secretary of UNESCO MAB Program; and Lord Mayor of Dublin Oisín Quinn



4,000+

young people engaged in #YEA2019



322+

projects registered for #YEA19



102

finalist groups invited to the #YEA19 Gala Showcase



7

regional semi-final ECO-Dens held for #YEA19



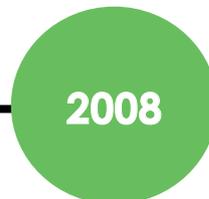
Special Guest: Minister for the Environment, Dick Roche, TD in attendance



Increase in participation from the non-formal youth sector



YEA Showcase venue moves to the Mansion House for the first time and Awards Ceremony becomes much bigger – approaching 700 guests



YEA Showcase launched by Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, John Gormley, TD



10 year anniversary celebrations include a photo exhibition of YEA through the years at the Grenhouse, ENFO building



80 groups invited to Showcase and Awards. Special guests included Minister for Foreign Affairs Sean Sherlock, TD and Irish architect, environmentalist and media personality, Duncan Stewart of ECO-Eye



Over 40,000 young people have taken part in the Young Environmentalist Awards to date



#YEA2017 trended on Twitter (+273,300 engagements on social media)



Largest amount of registrations to date (318)



36 groups received 6 Steps to Success training enabling them to design, carry out and reflect on their local, environmental action projects



YEA celebrates its 20th Anniversary in the Convention Centre Dublin. 102 projects make the final Showcase & Awards Ceremony

Young Environmentalist Awards 2019 Showcase and Awards Ceremony

Showcase: 14.00-16.00

Level 3 'Earth Floor'

08:30	Doors open
08:30 - 10:00	Project set up
10.00	Event opens to public
10:00 - 11:00	Judging (YELLOW)
11:00 - 12:00	Judging (GREEN)
12:00 - 13:00	Judging (BLUE)
12:34 - 13:15	Photo Shoot (All welcome!)
13:00 - 13:45	Lunch

Level 4 'Sea Floor'

10:00am - 1:45pm	Interactive Exhibitions Open

Level 5 'Sky Floor'

10am	Cafe Opens
10:45-11:30am	Teach Meet (Teachers & Mentors only)
11:45am-12:45pm	YEA Anniversary Event (Teachers, Mentors & invited guests only)
12:45-1:45pm:	Special Guest Lunch (Invite only)
	Cafe Open

Main Auditorium 'Star Floor'

11:00-11:25	Talk 1: Sustainable Fashion: It's not all hemp knickers!
11:30-11:55	Talk 2: Who? Me? I can do THAT?!
12:00 - 12:25	Talk 1: Sustainable Fashion: It's not all hemp knickers!
12:35 - 13:00	Talk 2: Who? Me? I can do THAT?!

Special guest only event:

10:45-11:45, Eco-Cem Room, Level 1: #NoTimeToWaste Youth Summit Final Event. Supported by Leargas & Erasmus +

Awards Ceremony: 14.00-16.15

Main Auditorium 'Star Floor'

Access via Earth Floor

13:45 - 14:00	Enter Auditorium
14:00 - 16:15	Awards Ceremony

#YEA19 Level 3

'Earth Floor'



Level 3 'Earth Floor': Project Stand Key

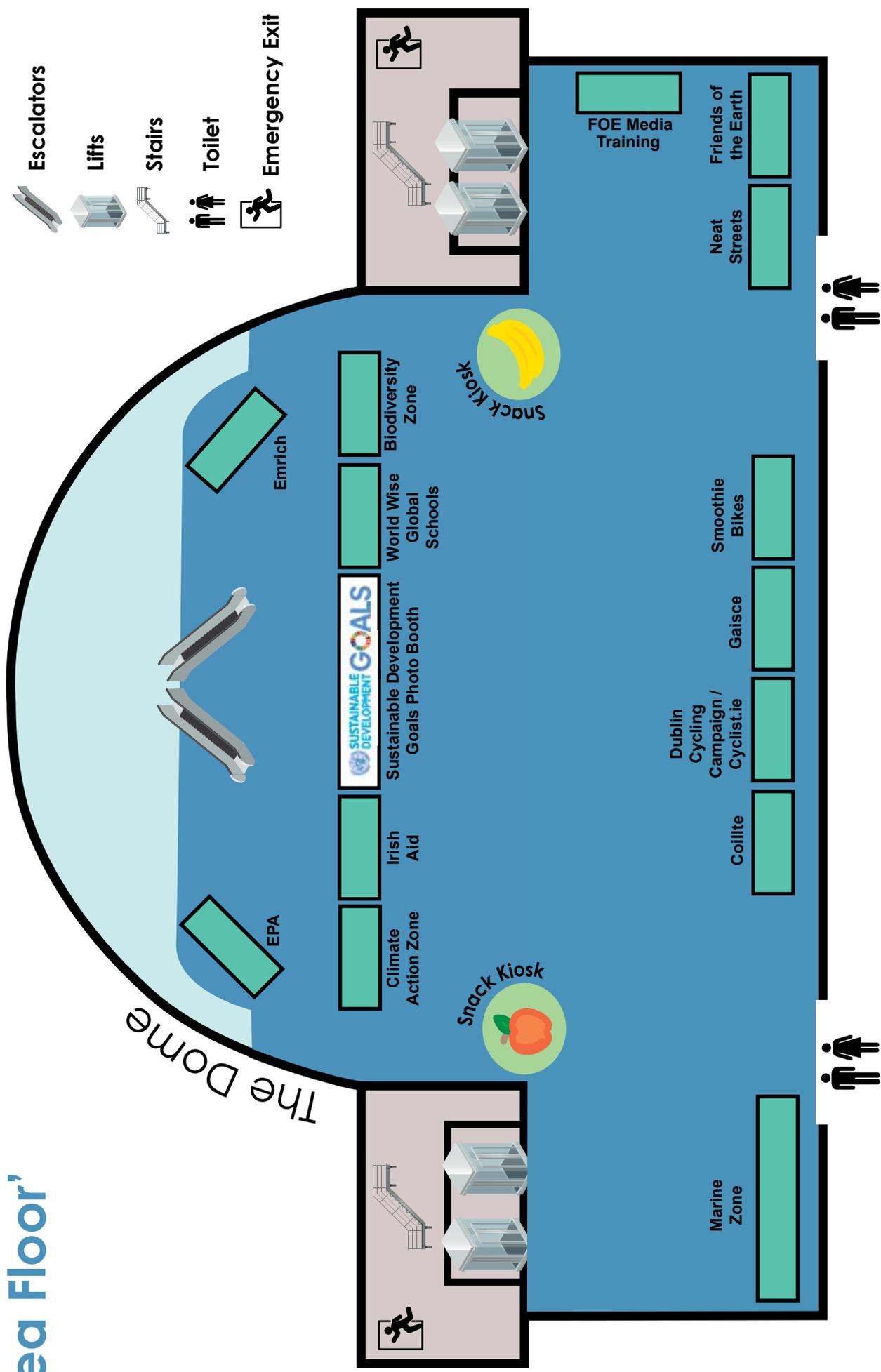
County	School/Organisation	Project Name	Stand #	Page#
Antrim	St Joseph's ECO Club (2019-018)	Water Project	A10	32
Cavan	Bailieborough Community School (2019-048)	Eco-Sports Solutions	C02	20
Cavan	Bailieborough Community School (2019-050)	Away with the Fairies	C07	15
Cavan	Cootehill Youthreach (2019-100)	Organic Controls & Sprays for Pests....	F01	13
Clare	Colaiste Muire Secondary School (2019-016)	Biodiversity – Being Part of the Solution...	A08	14
Clare	Mary Immaculate Secondary School (2019-052)	A Well-being Green Area For Our School	B03	24
Clare	Mary Immaculate Secondary School (2019-095)	Communicating Climate Change	C06	16
Clare	St. John Bosco Community College (2019-132)	'Sowing for the Soul' - Our School Wellbeing Garden	D02	25
Cork	Colaiste Muire (2019-2399)	From Fish to Fork - 'Take 3 for the Sea'	G09	31
Cork	Educate Together Secondary School (2019-213)	Eco-School	F06	22
Cork	Educate Together Secondary School (2019-282)	Pull The Brakes / Climate Action Organisers	G08	17
Cork	Dromleigh N.S. (Team STEAM) (2019-149)	Are Chemical Cleaning Agents Costing us the Earth?	D07	33
Cork	Millstreet Community School (2019-216)	Herbal Leys: An Alternative to Artificial Fertilizers	F09	23
Cork	Millstreet Community School (2019-227)	An Evaluation of River Pollution Monitoring...	G04	31
Cork	Patrician Academy (2019-077)	Prevent Plastic Pollution of our Seas	B12	18
Cork	Scoil na nÓg, Glanmire (2019-255)	The Carbon Footprint In Everyday Life	H11	34
Cork	Scoil na nÓg, Glanmire (2019-276)	Think Life in Slow Motion...	G10	34
Cork	Ursuline Secondary School (2019-101)	Plastic People	C12	28
Donegal	Loreto Secondary School (2019-221)	Lead the Scene to Keep it Green	F10	29
Down	Down High School (2019-021)	Be Fair to Bees	A11	12
Dublin	Ardgillan Community College (2019-084)	Exercise and it's Benefits to Me and the Earth!	A01	24
Dublin	Ardgillan Community College (2019-133)	Reduce 1 Use	C03	28
Dublin	Ardgillan Community College (2019-069)	Fast Fashionistas	D09	18
Dublin	Ardgillan Community College (2019-067)	The Bee-utiful Junkyard	D04	13
Dublin	Belvedere College (2019-219)	Amplified, Renewable Bioelectrical Energy....	E10	23
Dublin	Blackrock College (2019-267)	Becoming Carbon Neutral	F08	17
Dublin	Drimnagh Castle Secondary School (2019-120)	Pond Preservation: A Natural innovation	B01	13
Dublin	Drimnagh Castle Secondary School (2019-121)	Let's Talk Dirty	B06	28
Dublin	Drimnagh Castle Secondary School (2019-130)	Running from Climate Change	B09	16
Dublin	ECO-UNESCO. Dublin (2019-268)	Water You Doing	G01	29
Dublin	ECO-UNESCO. Dublin (2019-269)	Friendly Food Fridge	G02	30
Dublin	ECO-UNESCO. Dublin (2019-272)	Teenager Danger	A04	23
Dublin	ECO-UNESCO. Dublin (2019-273)	Something Fishy	H05	32
Dublin	John Scottus Secondary School (2019-243)	Children's Story about the Environment	H02	19
Dublin	John Scottus Secondary School (2019-244)	Sensory Garden	H03	22
Dublin	John Scottus Secondary School (2019-027)	A Bike Powered Phone Charger	B04	26
Dublin	Kingswood Community College (2019-209)	Tackling Traffic	E09	17
Dublin	Newpark Comprehensive (2019-144)	Plastic Outta the Park	D05	28
Dublin	Pobalscoil Neasáin (2019-131)	Dig Deep for Wellness!	B10	24
Dublin	South Area Youth Service (2019-265)	SAYS Solar Heater	F07	26
Dublin	St Finians (2019-015)	Bird Feeders Extraordinaire...	A07	12
Dublin	St. Andrew's College (2019-135)	The Effect of Global Warming on Biodiversity	C04	14
Dublin	St. Tiernan's Community School (2019-117)	Polar Bear Aware!	A16	20
Galway	Coláiste Iognáid (2019-247)	Fools for Fuels: Air Pollution	G11	25
Galway	Colaiste Naomh Eoin (2019-204)	Binse Gréine	E11	26
Galway	Glenamaddy Community School (2019-127)	Plastic Heroes- Rethink How you Drink!	F03	15
Galway	Glenamaddy Community School (2019-141)	Ashes: An Undervalued Nutrient	F11	29
Galway	Mercy College Woodford (2019-024)	Irish Aquatic Life and River Pollution	A12	32
Galway	Presentation College Headford (2019-001)	A Jewel in Natures Crown	A05	21
Galway	St Jarlath's College (2019-199)	Making our School More Green	E06	30

#YEA19

County	School/Organisation	Project Name	Stand #	Page#
Galway	St Jarlath's College (2019-260)	Memorial Garden	H12	25
Galway	St Jarlath's College (2019-261)	Courtyard Garden - Outdoor Classroom	H13	20
Galway	St Pauls Sec. School Oughterard (2019-034)	Waste Management in our School	B02	27
Galway	St. Patrick's Primary School (2019-009)	Sustainability	H06	33
Kerry	Evan, Alex and Dylan (2019-079)	Evan, Alex and Dylan's Tralee Can Clean Up	C05	33
Kerry	Castleisland Community College (2019-128)	Fairtraders	D01	21
Kerry	Mercy Mounthawk Sec. School (2019-017)	Raising Awareness About Biodiversity	B05	12
Kerry	Mercy Mounthawk Sec. School (2019-212)	Is Graphene an Effective Alternative to Plastic ?	F05	23
Kerry	St. Brigid's Pres. Sec. School (2019-177)	Spare the Bear	D08	19
Kerry	St. Brigid's Pres. Sec. School (2019-206)	Small Things Tell Big Stories	E12	21
Kerry	Presentation Sec. School Cloonbeg (2019-187)	Don't Flush Even in a Rush	E02	29
Kerry	Presentation Sec. School Cloonbeg (2019-191)	Clean Green	E05	23
Kilkenny	Loreto Kilkenny (2019-231)	If Not Me, then Who? If Not Now, then When?	H01	17
Limerick	Colaiste Nano Nagle (2019-064)	Biodiversitbee	B11	14
Limerick	Coláiste Mhuire Askeaton (2019-086)	Death by Plastic	A02	27
Longford	Lanesboro Community College (2019-106)	Wasps are Wonderful!	F02	14
Louth	Dundalk Grammar School (2019-051)	DGS Environmentalists	C08	30
Louth	ECO-UNESCO, Louth (2019-274)	Battle for the Boyne	H07	31
Mayo	St Mary's Ballina (2019-222)	Developing Better Protection from Coastal....	G03	16
Meath	Ashbourne Community School (2019-115)	Be the Change	A15	18
Meath	Eureka Secondary School (2019-073)	The Bug Hotel	E01	12
Meath	Eureka Secondary School (2019-074)	Upcycling and Reusing Products to Avoid Waste	E07	19
Meath	Eureka Secondary School (2019-087)	Alluring Scraps	A03	19
Meath	Eureka Secondary School (2019-153)	When Bees Thrive, We Survive	D06	13
Monaghan	Beech Hill College (2019-041)	Practical Plastics #Plexit	C01	27
Monaghan	Clones Youth Club (2019-062)	Community Youth Garden	D03	22
Offaly	St. Brendans (2019-176)	A Vegetarian World	G05	15
Roscommon	Coláiste Chiaráin (2019-031)	Water Pollution in our Local Area	B08	31
Roscommon	Coláiste Chiaráin (2019-028)	Waste & Litter Management	B07	30
Roscommon	Abbey Community College (2019-202)	ACC RECYCLING	G06	29
Spain	Resilience.Earth (2019-283)	Green Lights	H10	20
Tipperary	Loreto Secondary School Clonmel (2019-013)	Ban the Bottle	A06	30
Tipperary	St. Mary's Nenagh (2019-145)	The Blind Eye	F12	18
Waterford	St Paul's Community College (2019-143)	Bee The Change	C11	14
Westmeath	Athlone Community College (2019-194)	Climate Action Awareness	E04	16
Westmeath	Athlone Community College (2019-234)	Horti-culture	H08	19
Westmeath	Moate Community School (2019-138)	Stimulating The Senses in Our Sensory Garden	C09	21
Westmeath	Moate Community School (2019-251)	Purification To Save The Nation	F04	32
Westmeath	Moate Community School (2019-271)	Energy Conservation To Save Our Nation	G07	26
Westmeath	Our Lady's Bower (2019-070)	Get to Know our Greenway	D10	13
Wexford	FCJ Secondary School (2019-090)	Reducing Plastic Feels Fantastic	A13	15
Wexford	St Colman's N.S. Ballindaggin (2019-160)	Save a Bit Start to Switch	D11	33
Wexford	St Colman's N.S. Ballindaggin (2019-162)	Cup Alert	D12	34
Wexford	St Colman's N.S. Ballindaggin (2019-163)	Wildflower Girls	E03	34
Wicklow	ECO-UNESCO, Wicklow (2019-278)	Bray Bikes	H09	22
Wicklow	Loreto Sec. School , Bray (2019-053)	Seeing Yellow	C10	24
Wicklow	Loreto Sec. School Bray (2019-080)	TY Charity Ball	A09	24
Wicklow	Loreto Sec. School Bray (2019-081)	The Wild Waste	E08	27
Wicklow	Loreto Sec. School Bray (2019-082)	Green Sense	H04	22
Wicklow	Loreto Sec. School Bray (2019-108)	One Step Bray	A14	28
Wicklow	Presentation College (2019-211)	Blue Is The New Green	G12	31

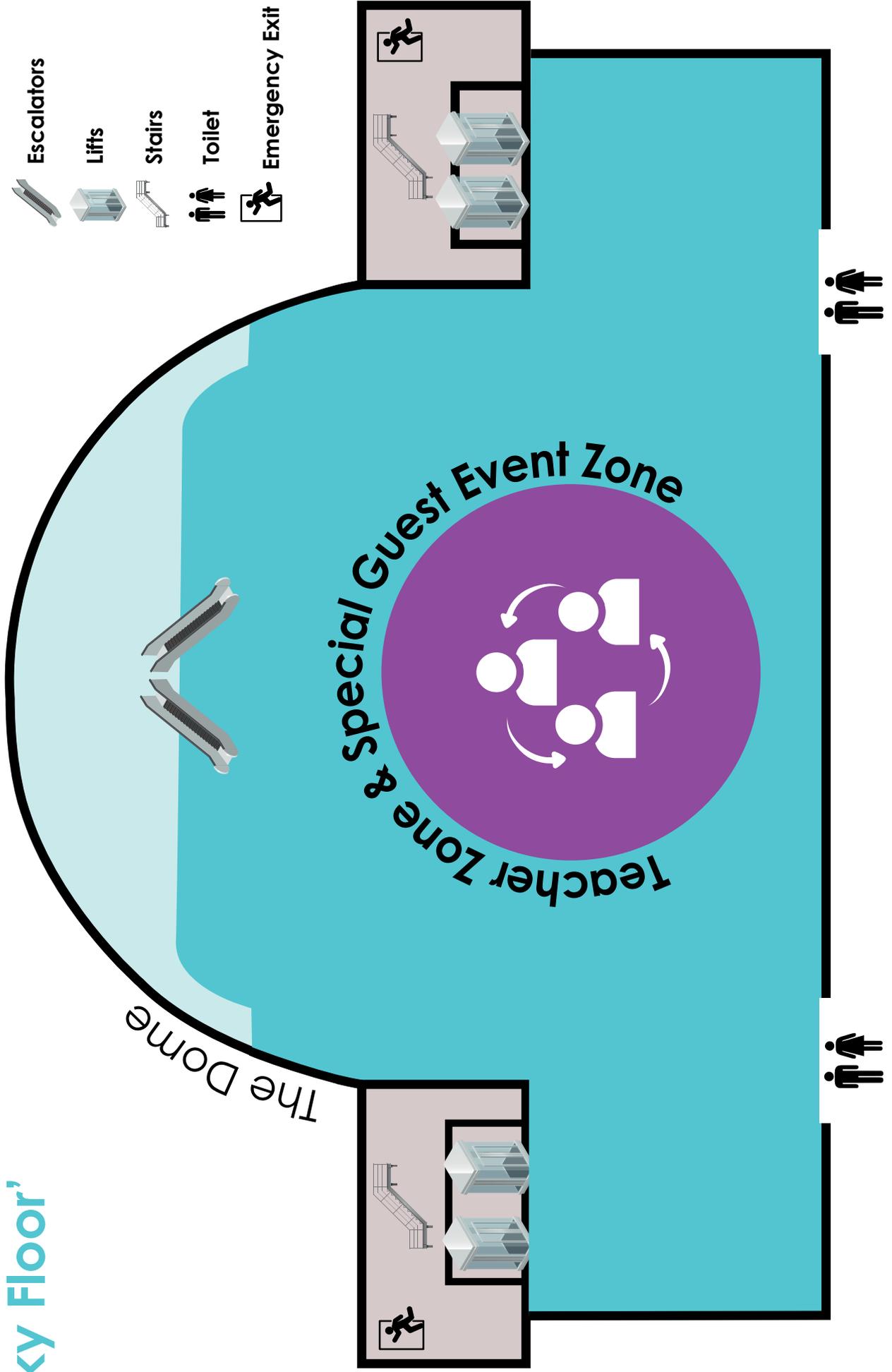
#YEA19 Level 4

'Sea Floor'



#YEA19 Level 5

'Sky Floor'



Finalist Project Summaries

Biodiversity - Senior



Nikola Barda, Leona Barry, Julia Baster Montero, Antsa Bisang, Oisín Byrne, Chloe Delaney Mallin, Sanija Eglite, Valeria Garcia Gallardo, Jennifer Gibney, Luca Gutzler, Jason Korpos, Martina Lliteras Bedos, Pablo Martin, Godwill Matos, Anna McMahan, Noemi Nowack, James O'Reilly, Alvaro Peinad.

Bird Feeders Extraordinaire- "Killing Two Birds with One Stone!"

St Finians, Dublin. 2019-015, Stand #A07.

Our group had a range of environmental issues we felt strongly about and wanted to target. We learned that birds were choking and dying from plastic waste and were becoming endangered. This knowledge drove us to do something about these issues. We aimed to increase biodiversity of birds around our school and local area. Previously we only commonly saw two types of birds. We also aimed to reduce the amount of plastic waste we had in our school and raise awareness of ways to reuse our waste in our school and locality. We learnt birds often help bees as birds keep pests away from flowers by eating those pests which protects flowers, hence ensuring the bees can feed themselves and pollinate, bees being another vital endangered species. In effect, our project is to help the birds as well as helping the bees and aiding pollination along with reducing/reusing plastic waste. An outcome we had not anticipated was the increase in volume of beautiful humming sounds from our new visitors (birds) as we leave the School grounds at the end of each day, hence our subtitle "killing two birds with one stone!", or in our case "killing more than two birds with one stone."



Alan Brosnan, Fionn De Quadros, Melissa Dennehy, Orla Mai Duggan, Shane Elton, Lisa Flannery, Donnacha Fox, Conor Gaynor, Cian Godley, Siobhan Griffin, Zygimantas Kaletka, Ayesha Keoghán O'Connell, Maksymilian Korowski, Johann Maritz, Oliwia Miszczak, Promise Moughalu, Callum O' Neill McCannon, Ruslan Pilipchik, Matthew Quilter, Jane Sicat, Raymond Sila, Brid Stack, Grace Tagney, Hannah Tansley, Megan Tearle and Kate Waldron.

Raising Awareness About Biodiversity

Mercy Mounthawk Secondary School, Kerry. 2019-017, Stand #B05.

As a group we decided that global warming and the damage it is doing to our environment is a huge issue today and more attention needs to be brought to the problem. We started by researching biodiversity so we could understand the topic ourselves. We then carried out a survey with the first years to see what they knew about biodiversity. Some of our group then went to the first years and explained the topic of biodiversity to them. We wanted to gain further awareness about biodiversity, so we decided to make a display at our schools open day. We made birdhouses, bug hotels and flowerpots out of recycled tyres. On the open day in our school we displayed these. We also handed out more surveys and instructed people on how to make their own bird houses, with leaflets. We also held a scavenger hunt for the first years in our school in our school garden. They had to identify various types of plants and trees to further their knowledge on our local biodiversity. As the weather gets better, our class also plans to renovate our school garden and make it more youth friendly and appealing.



Annie Magowan, Jack Campbell, Charlie Griffith, Rachel Hunter, Hope McCarthy, Adam Fermor.

Be Fair to Bees

Down High School, Down. 2019-021, Stand #A11.

Several years of youth-lead research demonstrated that there were four times the number of pollinators on the farms with agri incentives, compared to those without. The plight of pollinators became an urgent priority. The project goals were to raise awareness in the wider community for the need of immediate action and to safeguard habitats for pollinators. The methodology involved collecting relevant data in the field, observations and independent research. We produced a scientific report and poster for the Nuffield/Sentinus event at Queen's University Belfast. The whole group set about raising awareness in their wider community; Feedback to RSPB members, peer groups and school community, local nursery and primary schools, all schools in N. Ireland and beyond, through the development of a Parliament e-petition. The field work results highlighted the difficulties pollinators face with regards to climate change and have helped to develop advice for new pollinator options for the Environmental Farming Scheme. We developed better links with our neighbouring schools, supporting them in developing their Eco Schools Action Plans. Raising of the E-petition has given pupils a platform to voice real environmental concerns. Attending a 'Youth Listen Up' event and Presenting at a Farmers for Wildlife event at Stormont and interviews with BBC NI have helped to raise the project profile.



Chelsea Hand & Holly Philipps.

The Bug Hotel

Eureka Secondary School, Meath. 2019-073, Stand #E01.

Our bug hotel is a house for bugs that is a safe environment for them to thrive in. We set them up in our flower beds and hedges to encourage their sustainability. We made our hotels out of recycled boxes and tins. We showed our first years how to do this and to encourage their use at home. Our insect population around the school has increased and this will hopefully lead to better pollination of our plants.



Keelin Tapley, Sophie Mahon, Holly Davis, Robyn Gleeson, Aisling Woods.

The Bee-autiful Junkyard

Ardgillan Community College, Dublin. 2019-067, Stand #D04.

The Bee-autiful Junkyard is a garden in our school, designed to raise awareness about the importance of bees in society. The main idea behind building the garden was to create something made completely from recycled materials to encourage up-cycling. We were inspired to do something that could directly help bee populations, as opposed to simply raising awareness about their plight. We had learned that habitat loss due to farming and deforestation/urbanisation has led to a decline in bees in recent years, and so we decided to give back to the hardy pollinators that had given so much to us. Our junkyard is a refuge for bees in our school consisting of nectar rich flowers and a bee hotel. A bee hotel is a place that solitary bees can go to build their nest. Solitary bees are different from other bees because they don't belong to a hive, instead using bee hotels as a home. They're less likely to sting and are responsible for around a third of all the food we eat! Most materials used in the garden were recycled, such as old tyres, used water bottles, scrap piping and pallets from a nearby building site. We wanted to use these materials so that they weren't sent to landfill causing more pollution in our environment. Our Bee-autiful Junkyard has already been a success this springtime. We've been welcoming in the new residents to our bee hotel and hope that we can inspire other schools to do the same.



Alanna Broderick, Isabel Costello, Eabha Crehan, Veena Dandu, Faith Greene, Katie Delaney, Aoife McDermott, Ciara Keenan Devlin, Aimee McNamara, Ella Meares, Olivia Riordan.

Get to Know Our Greenway

Our Lady's Bower, Westmeath. 2019-070, Stand #D10.

The aim of our project was to examine, identify and audit the wildflowers growing on our local Greenway with the intention of producing a display that could be used by the community to help them notice and appreciate the "weeds" growing there and realise the beauty of these species. We also wanted to see if the Greenway is a healthy environment as regards air pollution and to compare it with the centre of town where our school is located for air pollution. This is because the Greenway runs through the centre of the town as well. We wanted to source help with identifying the plants and to take photos of the flowering plants. We wanted to produce a labelled display that would act as a guide for the community and to display it in the community so that they would be more aware of the importance of biodiversity and the great diversity of wildflowers. We researched how to monitor air quality and then monitored the air quality there and compare it to our school. We display our findings in the community and investigated if the council would use our display on the Greenway itself.

Organic Controls and Sprays for Pests and Diseases in the Garden

Cootehill Youthreach, Cavan. 2019-100, Stand #F01.

We created a range of organic pesticides as a means of controlling pests and diseases in the garden. We used a variety of oils and vegetables, flowers and fruit to create these including vegetable oil, garlic, chillies, neem oil, washing up liquid, soap, orange peel and chrysanthemums. These natural foods and liquids are then measured, chopped, mixed and put into a blender to create an organic paste or liquid which can be sprayed on plants, flowers fruit and vegetables, to prevent the spread of pests and diseases. An organic spray using vinegar can also be used to control weeds. We used organic barriers using coffee grounds and crushed eggshells which can be placed around fruit and vegetables to deter slugs and other pests. Our group designed and constructed a range of wildlife animals and insects including birds, butterflies, ladybirds, slugs, worms and a hedgehog as part of the ECO-Art & Design element of the project.



Davina Lynch, Jason Mannering, Des O'Connor, Jason O'Neill, Megan Tierney.

Pond Preservation: A Natural Innovation

Drimnagh Castle Secondary School, Dublin. 2019-120, Stand #B01.

This year, we decided as a group to continue our school's previous work on our own pond. The water of the pond was of a low quality, and constantly needed maintenance. We wanted to improve the quality of the school pond itself and improve the local ecosystem by planting various plants. These included rushes, lilies and water lilies. We hoped to improve the quality of life of our local ecosystem, and create a self-sustaining, clean water source for it by adding these plants. We wanted to create a place for young people to go to clear their head and unwind. We wanted to spread awareness about the kind of wildlife we come across. We succeeded in letting people know how to treat and take care of the wildlife around our pond. Due to this, we added more plants and flowers to try and increase the amount of wildlife near our pond. In doing this we hoped that our actions would improve the overall quality of our school pond and bring more attention to our school pond.



Jamie Cunningham, Leon Lupu Paul Lee Christian Michelena Allen Ibba Ron Luza Adam Doyle Cain Hopkins.

When Bees Thrive, We Survive

Eureka Secondary School, Meath. 2019-153, Stand #D06.

Our project is about the protecting and sustaining the bee population and making others aware of their importance in our natural world. We want to educate the public on how they can help care for and protect the bees.



Hannah Mooney & Rachel Corroon.



Olivia McKeivitt & Matthew McCrea.

The Effect of Global Warming on Biodiversity

St. Andrew's College, Dublin. 2019-135, Stand # C04.

Our project is an awareness project on what causes unseasonal blooming of plants and insect hatching and how it impacts the environment around them e.g. the extinction of bees, crop destruction and biodiversity loss. This links in with the 15th SDG (life on land). We came up with this idea because we noticed that plants are blooming out of season, and people are commenting on it more and more. Our goal was to spread awareness and conduct research. It is a problem that people rarely see as being serious because when most people think of global warming an image of hotter and more extreme weather comes to mind. We want to show that global warming is more than that and it effects every part of our planet.

Biodiversity - Junior



Wajeeha Shahzadi, Fatima Bibi, Maha Shahzadi, Iqra Mubarak, Ajirah Hanifi, Shafia Urooj, Christina McCarthy, Elmin Saffiyah, Ellie Rose Mannion, Lucia Babs Nazi, Azad Haleema Nasir, Megan McNamara, Mariam Sanjrani, Nisha Habib, Feruza Rometo, Chloe Reddan Nancy Ekhatior.

Biodiversitbee

Colaiste Nano Nagle, Limerick. 2019-064, Stand #B11.

We wanted to learn more about biodiversity and why it is important. We focused on bees and pollination as they are threatened in Ireland today. One third of bees' species are extinct in Ireland and another one third of species are vulnerable. We created a wildlife area in our school lawn and planted flowers, trees and heathers to encourage bees and butterflies to our inner-city school lawn. We are also working on creating a sensory space with a solar powered water feature, wind chimes and sand area for young people with autism.



Adam Armstrong-Wrightson, Lachlan Beirne, Francis Brady, Jasmine Breslin, Hetija Bula, Ryan Byrne, Matthew Canning, Sophie Champan, Dylan Corcoran, Mark Cullen, Shauna Donlon, Matthew Donohoe, Rebekah Donohue, Luke Dowd, Byron Duignan, Shania Earley, Eimhin Farrell, Paul Lee, Eimhin Farrell, Paul Lee.

Wasps are Wonderful!

Lanesboro Community College, Longford. 2019-106, Stand #F02.

Wasps get a lot of bad press, but do they really deserve it? Our mission is to put the record straight and get the truth out about Wasps! Wasps are important as pollinators and pest controllers. They protect crops and gardens by controlling pests and consuming insects. Did you know that there are 75,000 different species of wasp in the world! We decided to do three things: study the wasps ourselves by building a 'bug hotel', observing the wasps in action and carry out a survey to find out what people really thought of wasps. We ran a poster campaign to give the wasps a much-needed PR overhaul. Wasps are wonderful!



Beth Kelly, Isabella Laffan, Shauna Coughlan, Hugo Nimo Carrero, Paddy Sullivan, Freya Grant, Ben Cahill, Holly Wickham, Caelinn Fitzgerald.

Bee The Change

St Paul's Community College, Waterford. 2019-143, Stand #C11.

We had heard about the rapid decline in bee species and that many bee species are in danger of becoming extinct. We researched the importance of bees, only to discover that bees have a hand (or a wing) in providing us with so many of the types of foods we eat each day such as apples, strawberries, pears etc. All these need to be pollinated in order to be able to grow and this is where the bees come in. We noticed that our school did not have any places that were particularly attractive for bees to come and search for pollen. We wanted to create a pollinator friendly zone in our school courtyard and raise awareness of the danger bees are currently in and what everyone can do to help. We got a team of first year students together and invited in a guest speaker from the National Biodiversity Centre of Ireland to give us more information about bees, we then carried out an awareness campaign in school and on social media and we designed and created a pollinator zone in the courtyard. We successfully created the pollinator zone by building raised beds, bee hotels and planting pollinator friendly plants in the garden. We were happy with the project because people in school were talking about it and asking us questions. The area looks nice too so it's great for young people and bees.



Katie Duson, Kate Harty, Sophie Rynne, Keira Loftus, Sara Liani, Jennifer Weston, Aisling Conway, Aoibhinn O'Sullivan, Lucy O'Connor, Rose Carter, Ciara Miesle.

Biodiversity – Being Part of the Solution Not Part of the Problem

Colaiste Muire Secondary School, Clare 2019-016, Stand #A08.

We increased Biodiversity in our school and the wider community and tried to reduce the impact humans have on the environment. Biodiversity talks were held at school to help with our pollinator plan. We planted flowers, created new wildlife habitats and organised a tree planting day in orchards around town. We raised money through selling ecological produce to fund ourselves. We joined with the SRC to change people's habits around plastic consumption and implemented a school-wide plastic ban. We organised a Climate Strike at School and in the town centre, highlighting the problems with Global Warming and demanding action from the government. We addressed the politicians at our Council Chamber with several proposed changes and are continuing to work with them to follow through on the action points. We set up social media accounts and used poster campaigns and a stall in the canteen to raise awareness at every stage. We look forward to continuing our work to "Be part of the solution - not part of the problem".

Climate Change - Senior



Amie Dreelan, Aoife Wheeler, Eilish O'Rourke, Eimear Donohoe, Eimear Doyle, Katelynn Cowman, Katie Byrne, Lucy Kinsella, Luke Garland, Maisy Courtney Keane, Molly Kearns, Nicole McGrath, Norah McGinty, Olivia D'arcy, Robyn Markey, Saoirse Norris-O'Toole, Ben Holmes.

'Reducing Plastic Feels Fantastic'

FCJ Secondary School, Wexford. 2019-090, Stand #A13.

Our project focuses on the detrimental effects that single use plastic and food-packaging waste can have on the environment. We have completed many endeavours to reduce plastic usage, raise awareness of this significant issue and encourage others to change their plastic and food packaging habits. We handed out a survey to determine young people's understanding of climate change, held a poster competition, started a collection container to monitor single use plastic usage, and raised awareness in our local community by handing out informative fliers. We also created a grandparent survey to get the older generation's opinion on climate change, surveyed local businesses to see how much plastic they use, ran a campaign in our local town in conjunction with Wexford County Council, and created our eco-friendly mascot "Brittany the Bottle". Over the course of our project, we worked with members of our school, local community and of the county council to promote our project and to inform people of the damages currently being done by the over usage of single use plastic and food packaging waste on the environment. We have observed a drastic decrease in the usage of single use plastic and food packaging waste in our school and have successfully reached our goals of informing the public and encouraging them to cut down on their plastic usage.



Emma Clarke, Josiah Mahon, Steven Hanratty, Sinead Smith, Shannon Kerlin, Shakira Smith, Kayleigh Ward, Ava McKeon, Ciara Collins.

Away with the Fairies

Baillieborough Community School, Cavan. 2019-050, Stand #C07.

Our project 'Away with the Fairies' is aimed at educating young children about Ireland's native forests through Celtic mythology and fairies. We had always wanted to work with young children since we believe education about climate change from an early age is an excellent way to combat the issue. The idea of using fairies and Celtic mythology to help illustrate the issue to young audiences came from us wanting to make the experience fun and engaging for the children involved. The project goals are to educate children about climate change and loss of forests, and to create a connection between the children and the environment. We're achieving this by building raised beds, bee hotels and planting pollinator friendly plants in the garden. We were happy with the project because people in school were talking about it and asking us questions. The area looks nice too so it's great for students and bees.



Alex Brady, Megan Hough, Eve Murray.

A Vegetarian World

St Brendans, Offaly. 2019-176, Stand #G05.

Our project is based on Irish people's changing perceptions of vegetarians and the environmental impact of consuming meat. In recent years, vegetarianism has become more popular. 8% of Irish people are believed to be vegetarian and 2% of those are vegan. There is little information available about how people perceive vegetarians, so we felt this was an area that needed to be investigated in addition to how much reducing meat consumption can reduce your carbon emissions. Global warming is a major issue today on our planet, and people need to be aware that something as simple as eating meat on a daily basis contributes greatly to this problem. We surveyed people in our community to find out if they are aware of how bad for the environment meat consumption is, and we analysed the data and displayed it clearly in diagram format.



Emma Mahe, Caoimhe O'Boyle, Dave Ward, Aina Parra Argila.

Plastic Heroes- Rethink How you Drink!

Glenamaddy Community School, Galway. 2019-127, Stand #F03.

Our goal is to raise awareness of plastic and to make a difference in reducing the amount of plastic being used in our school community and the wider world. We have strongly emphasised the three R's throughout our campaign. These three R's are reduce, reuse, and recycle. We have been working on initiatives to do with the three R's. We built a bottle bank for our school. The name of this project is Message in A Bottle. This encouraged recycling but we know that recycling is not a solution to plastic, it is just an improvement compared to all the plastic bottles that were ending up in our landfill bins; we also have amazing prizes for this initiative. When our bottle bank is full, we will be picking out four bottles that people have put their name in. Our next initiative is reusable bottles. This comes under reducing and reusing. We have been sponsored by Glenamaddy Credit Union, Glen Blinds and DG Roofing. In September, when the new school year starts, we will be giving out the bottles to the rest of the school in the hope of decreasing to amount of plastic usage to 0. We have achieved part our goal already as we have succeeded in the recycling initiative. Also, people are even starting to bring their own reusable bottle and cut out on plastic in their daily lives.



Conor Barry, Ben Murray, Ben Norton, Ryan Duffy, Nakul Babooram, Yaroslav Kondaurov, Robert Lichota.

Running from Climate Change

Drimnagh Castle Secondary School, Dublin. 2019-130, Stand #B09.

Our action project is about climate change and raising awareness for it. To achieve this, we have brainstormed many ideas including; a board game, a videogame and a card game. We came up with these ideas because we wanted to reach a lot of people. The goal of this project is to raise awareness about the consequences of climate change. We have chosen the video-game idea due to fact that we thought that it would reach more people. Therefore, we have created a side-scrolling, endless runner computer game. The objective of this game is to run through the effects of climate change and try to survive a world where we did not try to adapt to climate change. As a result of our project, we raised awareness for climate change. We put posters around the school to let people know what we are doing and how we are doing it. More and more people got to know the effects of climate change if they do not adapt to it.



Ella Callaghan, Amy Dunning, Amy Shanahan, Brian Monaghan, Dylan Reilly, Kirsten Greasley, Kylie King, Kyle McGrath, Luke Clinton, Lauren Mulvihill, Oisín McLoughlin, Sarah Butler, Selina Dubure, Shane Frawley-Murphy, Seán Lynch, Sínead Mullin, Luke Kennedy, Adam O'Grady, Mary Sheehan, Kate Nevin.

Climate Action Awareness

Athlone Community College, Westmeath. 2019-194, Stand #E04.

We believe that to tackle climate change we must take several approaches. Our first step was to raise awareness that it is not just something that affects us globally but locally too, and the same action - planting trees, can mitigate the threat of desertification in Africa as well as flooding in Athlone. First years created a mural of trees and planted trees to reflect the 'Great Green Wall' project in Africa, which aims to plant an 8,000KM 'Green Wall' of trees to halt climate change, drought, famine, conflict and migration. The next step was to engage all subject departments in our school to complete an action project for Climate Action Week. Everyone created awareness posters, the Home Economics Department made locally sourced jam, Materials Technology displayed projects relating to sustainability, and CSPE and Geography classes made pledges. We are also aware that our Biodiversity in Westmeath, Ireland and globally is threatened due to habitat loss as a result of climate change. Young people in TY became mentors to young people in our Biodiversity Club. They also assisted with Westmeath County Council's Greenway Biodiversity plan by working with an ecologist to survey local habitats. Finally, to raise awareness about CO2 emissions we ran a 'Park and Stroll, Take the Greenway Day' in Athlone. By doing this we could save tonnes of emissions daily, as well as improve our health.



Leah Hannon Lauren Tuffy.

Developing Better Protection from Coastal Erosion due to Sea Level Rise

St. Mary's (Ballina), Mayo. 2019-222, Stand #G03.

Our project focused on sea level rise and sought to provide better coastal erosion protection while incorporating a wildlife habitat and using natural seashell materials. We got the idea for our project when we noticed a lot of coastal erosion on our local coastline. As we began to research the topic, we started to realise that climate change induced sea level rise is anticipated to be one of the greatest challenges for humanity over the coming century. The three problems we wanted to solve were the problem of coastal erosion, the problem of habitat protection in the intertidal zone and the problem of seashell waste. Coastal erosion and flooding pose a serious risk to Ireland's coastal areas and this is particularly the case as Ireland's major cities and key pieces of infrastructure are located on the coast. We developed a coastal protection prototype using two experiments we designed and tested in a wave simulation tank. We then created a sustainable coastal protection structure that we made out of eco-friendly concrete which we then placed on the coastline in Enniscrone Co Sligo, with permission from the County Council. We have raised awareness of the issue of Sea Level Rise that is occurring due to Global Warming through Twitter, YouTube and presenting in Schools. We also got commitments from young people on actions they will take to reduce global warming.

Climate Change - Junior



Fionn Shannon, Jack Shannon, Jack Lynch, April O'Calaghan, Mary-Kate O'Dwyer, Aisling O'Donoghue, Gavin O'Brien, Amy Collins, Rachel Carter.

Communicating Climate Change

Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Clare. 2019-095, Stand #C06.

We investigated the effects of climate change in North Clare. There is a lot of media coverage about climate change globally, but we wanted to gather evidence from experts working in the field of climate change and relate this to our local area. We collected videos of the extreme weather experienced. We invited a guest climatology expert from Met Eireann Seamus Walsh who explained the state of Ireland's climate and the impacts of climate change for Ireland. Pat Cronin, an archaeologist told us of a discovery of a submerged coastal cave with stalagmites and stalactites which he and his team had dated to help estimate the rate of sea level rise locally. We interviewed a Burren Beo representative who made suggestions on how farmers could cut down on their carbon footprint and adapt to adverse weather. We commissioned a 3D map of Clare to allow us to visualise coastal areas which may be negatively impacted by sea level rise to the end of this century. We will put a video together to make a film about climate change in north Clare. We will be hosting a gallery event in the Pavilion theatre Lisdoonvarna on the 24th of May, our school will gather on the main road and march to the Pavilion holding climate action banners and once there, we will show the film. We hope to make the issue of climate change more relevant to the people of North Clare.



Medha Trehan & Clíodhna McGowan.

If Not Me, Then Who? If Not Now, Then When?

Loreto, Kilkenny. 2019-231, Stand #H01.

We decided to enter the YEAs when we were paired up in our CSPE class to carry out a project on the melting of the polar ice caps. Researching for our project made us realise the true extent of the effects of climate change and global warming, so we decided to raise as much awareness on the topic as we could. We put up posters around the school, spread the word through social media, made speeches at assemblies, showed a documentary to all first years, took part in a protest with the sixth years and made a speech at the Kilkenny Music Festival. People in our school are now more aware of how big a crisis climate change really is. Our big idea to combat climate change idea is to plant vegetables and supply them to our canteen. We will also approach our local SuperValu and ask them if they'll be willing to sell our organic, packaging free, locally grown vegetables.



Max Mullen Ethan & Leon Ryan.

Becoming Carbon Neutral

Blackrock College, Dublin. 2019-267, Stand #F08.

Climate change is presented as a broad concept, we wanted to make it personal. As thirteen year olds we did not know what climate change meant for us. In 2018, we discussed our views with our geography teacher and classmates and realised we are not alone in our lack of understanding of climate change. The title of the project 'Becoming Carbon Neutral' is based on the simple concept of the carbon cycle. The aim of the project is to calculate the main carbon emissions we release into the atmosphere, determine the size of carbon sink needed to negate our emissions and communicate this in simple terms to raise awareness. Through a series of surveys, we assessed 700 people's awareness of climate change, calculated the main carbon dioxide emissions of participants, explained this in simple terms, communicated our findings, and got people to make commitments to act.



Oisin Twomey, Sumaya Mohammed, Siobhan Roseno, Mira Henchi, Molly Mercier-Redmond, Georgia Doherty, Joni Morris, Tudor-Marian Cucu, Lucy Sky Dunne, Jack O Dowd, Gráinne O'Sullivan, Odhrán Ward, Cian Byrne, Milly Fortune-Chea, Eve Wilson.

Pull The Brakes / Climate Action Organisers

Cork Educate Together Secondary School, Cork. 2019-282, Stand #G08.

Our project is about climate justice and organising climate strikes. Some of our group had heard about Greta Thunberg's strike in Sweden and were inspired to do something similar in Ireland. We got permission to take some time at the end of the school day and meet on December 16th. At the meeting, so many people wanted to speak it was incredible! There was a huge desire to do something big. From this meeting onward the movement was completely student led. Our primary goal was to raise awareness on climate change and how poorly Ireland's leaders have responded to meeting the 2020 goals.



Anna McPeake, Holly Wickendon, Abby McKeever, Orla Dunne, Sophie Sue Brierton.

Tackling Traffic

Kingswood Community College, Dublin. 2019-209, Stand #E09.

We are a new school, and our goal was to create a culture of environmentally conscious transport to and from school. We had noticed a lot of traffic coming and going from the school, so we considered the damage that this was doing to the environment and wanted to learn more. When we realised the effects of car emissions, we knew that we had to change this. We decided to create a campaign to encourage students to walk, cycle, carpool or take the bus. We carried out surveys, brainstormed ideas, counted the number of cars arriving, and designed posters. We had our very first 'Walk on Wednesday' as part of well-being week, and lots of students walked and cycled to school. It is hoped that our campaign will continue to reduce the number of cars travelling to and from school and, therefore, reduce CO2 emissions. We hope to continue this campaign into the coming year to make Kingswood CC a greener place for all.

ECO-Art & Design - Senior



Louise Harrison, Keeva Doherty, Holly Roche, Britney Ebanda, Temi Alabi, Izabela Batyi-Kolat, Kerene Londa, Hannah Macken.

Fast Fashionistas

Ardgillan Community College, Dublin. 2019-069, Stand #D09.

We chose this project because we are interested in fashion. As part of Transition Year, we all took part in Junk Couture and learned about using recycled materials to make clothes. We also noticed that influencers and bloggers were posting about sustainable fashion. We decided to try and set up a place where people could swap and sell old clothes and raise awareness about fast fashion. We hope that our project can open people's eyes to how much we can recycle and reuse as much as they can and see the importance of recycling and reusing.



Tom O'Callaghan, Finnian Daly, Emmanuel Blayil, Conor Lavery, Joel Oronsaye, Henry Egbo.

Prevent Plastic Pollution of Our Seas

Patrician Academy, Cork. 2019-077, Stand #B12.

Our project is about reducing plastic waste in our school, our community and our seas. We used different departments in our school to assist us. The science element of the project was the study of single use plastic bottles in the school. A reusable metal water bottle was introduced, and it was observed and recorded that there was a reduction of plastic bottles by an astonishing 70%! The project was entered into the BT Young Scientist in which we won a highly commended mark. The Art department created posters, a fantastic mural of the sea, a dolphin made from plastic bottles and printed t-shirts with pollution slogans. The mural displayed the beautiful world we have under the sea and how we are destroying it with plastic. The dolphin was made by the Special Educational classes using recycled plastic bottles. The English department held poetry and slogan competitions based on 'Plastic Pollution of Our Seas' throughout the school. These were recited and displayed in the school, the local library and at the An Taisce, Green Schools, Marine Environment Conference in Galway. The Music department entertained the audiences at the events we attended by involving the choir and playing traditional music all associated with the Environment. We raised awareness by creating a calendar of events such as the first Environmental Day in our school; we presented our project to the Mallow Chamber of Commerce and every Friday we are involved in a plastic litter pick in conjunction with Mallow Tidy Towns.



Alice McGrath, Jessie Huang, Faramade Owode.

Be the Change

Ashbourne Community School, Meath. 2019-115, Stand #A15.

Our YEA project has evolved from an Environmental Science module on our TY course. We learned about the plastic pollution crisis currently facing our planet and were challenged as individuals to see "What can you change?". We have developed a range of different artistic media to highlight this global threat to our environment, raising awareness on a local, national and global scale. As Climate Ambassadors, we have travelled extensively with our project and witnessed the impact it has had on audiences of all ages. Our project includes a plastic whale made from discarded plastic, as a statement sculptural piece representing the damage our plastic waste is doing to all marine life forms. We made an outfit from recycled fabrics, plastics and paper. We made a short film titled "What can we change?" in which we challenge our audience to examine their plastic footprint to see what simple changes can be made as well as an animation on plastic/bamboo toothbrushes. We organised a toothbrush exchange where every first-year student received a bamboo toothbrush. We created posters and noticeboards designed to confront us with the reality of what our disposable society is doing to the ocean environment.



Claudia Grousu, Amy Lombard, Magdalena Moran, Emily O'Reilly, Anna Mai Clancy, Shannon Collins,

The Blind Eye

St. Mary's (Nenagh), Tipperary. 2019-145, Stand #F12.

We wanted to raise awareness for climate change and how we are all choosing to ignore the worrying side effects. We felt that as half of the group were quite artistic it would make sense to raise awareness using an art piece. We planned what we wanted the painting to look like. Then we wrote a letter to our Principal in order to get permission to hang up the piece once we were finished. We then began to sketch it out on a piece of wood and paint it using vibrant, acrylic paints. We planned out the colours that we wanted to use for the hair, buildings etc. We feel that it has made us, our teachers and fellow students in our school think about climate change more as they see it every day in the canteen. Parents will also see it during open nights, parent teacher meetings, graduations etc and so raising awareness about climate change and our tendency to turn "a blind eye" to it.



Aishling Coffey, Marie Courtney, Grace Courtney, Caolinn O'Donoghue, Lia Murphy

Spare the Bear

St. Brigid's Presentation Secondary School, Kerry. 2019-177, Stand #D08.

After deciding to take part in #YEA19, we discussed issues such as the ice caps melting, water rising, animals dying and loss of natural habitats. After brainstorming, we came up with the idea of making a polar bear to raise awareness of the fact that they are an endangered species on earth due to climate change. To bring our project to life we made a polar bear from papier-mache. We set up an Instagram account @sparethebears to help spread awareness about our project and uploaded pictures of our progress regularly. Once the polar bear was finished, we set up a display in our school canteen. The papier-mache polar bear sat in a box of ice, and we took a time-lapse of the ice melting to give a more comprehensible version of what happens every day. We definitely raised awareness about climate change, and we received messages to our Instagram account, praising our display and our effort. We are continuing to upload information on our Instagram account and are presenting information about our project and the endangered status of the polar bear in new and innovative ways.



Katie McCorley, Selina Dubure, Lauren Mulvihill.

Horti-Culture

Athlone Community College, Westmeath. 2019-234, Stand #H08.

This project is about reusing plastic and other recyclable materials. Our project goal was to make a fashionable outfit out of the materials that we gathered. We decided to utilise single-use plastics from the gardening industry as we wanted to promote the messages of reducing plastic waste, promoting ethical and sustainable fashion, and gardening for the environment. We came up with a design for our outfit, then we had to gather suitable materials from local garden centres and gardeners. We created our outfit and used it to create awareness around the negative impacts of single-use plastics and the unsustainable practices in the fashion industry. We also used social media and held a flash mob to raise awareness. As a result, our school canteen has now committed to halting the use of single-use plastics!



Emily Mason, Peter McMullan, Hoang Thanh Tung, Anna Greene, Ronan Cavanagh

Childrens Story about the Environment

John Scottus Secondary School, Dublin. 2019-243, Stand #H02.

We are creating a book to educate young children about the importance of our environment and the problems our environment is facing. It will highlight problems such as litter, waste, air pollution, noise pollution and the loss of plant and wildlife. Our school recently moved from the busy urban area of Donnybrook, Dublin 4 to a more green location in Rathmichael, Co Dublin and we wanted to use this move as a basis for our book.



Emily Halton, Jessica Lynch, Kate Sheridan, Aimee Smith, Saoirse McInerney, Niamh O'Reilly and Megan Canavan.

Upcycling and Reusing Products to Avoid Waste

Eureka Secondary School, Meath. 2019-074, Stand #E07.

Our project was a great success among the first years in our school. Our goal was to make people more aware of upcycling products and being resourceful. Our target audience is the first years and we spoke to them about the topic and did a workshop with them about making the products at home! As a result of our project people are more aware of the waste that can be caused if we don't upcycle and reuse products. To make these products we searched around the school for recyclable products to use. We really enjoyed spreading awareness around this topic as we feel as though it is a vital change we all need to make in order to help our planet.



Lia Mc Namara, Kotryna Kurseviciute, Victoria Oghuan.

Alluring Scraps

Eureka Secondary School, Meath. 2019-087, Stand #A03.

Our project 'Alluring Scraps' is about spreading awareness about litter pollution. We wanted to find a new creative way to recycle and to include recycling in something meaningful and creative. We did this by making pieces of art from recycled materials. By doing this we gave litter a longer lifetime with a motive of self-expression. We made pieces of art out of paper, metal and plastic scraps. We used recycled frames and other various materials. We made our pieces this way, to show that spreading awareness about litter pollution can be done in a peaceful and creative way. We proved that to make art you do not need expensive resources and as long as you are passionate about what you are doing, you can make a difference.

ECO-Art & Design - Junior



Polar Bear Aware!

St. Tiernan's Community School, Dublin. 2019-117, Stand #A16.

We wanted to highlight how the average person can make a difference in the world by creating a short-animated film that highlights all the right and wrong things people in Dublin are doing. We hope that this film will generate a lot of attention and highlight the fact that we can help make a difference. A good example is a lesson for everyone!

LeslieAnn Pagan, Ariana Charac, Silvia Pita, Dmitry Tararyskin, Megan O'Rourke, Caitlyn Ellis Curran, Christabel Iwuaba, Josephine Mills, Liviu Moranu, Sam Paisley, Armaan Solkar, Jakub Zagola, Martyna Wasiak, Adam Mooney, Joana Ferreira, Jacob Meci.

ECO-Community Development - Senior



Courtyard Garden - Outdoor Classroom

St Jarlath's College, Galway. 2019-261, Stand #H13.

This project was started by the TY class of 2016/17, and after permission was granted to work on it, we decided we wanted to make hanging benches that attached to the walls. A wooden bench was designed for each window, and we attached them with metal brackets. After that, we painted and primed them. Our modernisation of the first-year courtyard has given the new first years a place to eat their lunch outside on a nice day, instead of being stuck inside. We hope to keep track of the cleanliness of the courtyard, and this phase may be finished but our work on the courtyard will continue!

Daniel Carroll, Niall Monaghan, Brian Costello, Greg Hughes, Michael Duffy.



Eco-Sports Solutions

Bailieborough Community School, Cavan. 2019-048, Stand #C02.

Our aim is to promote environmentally friendly sports buildings and facilities, and to increase biodiversity in sports grounds around Ireland. Our idea was formed when we thought about the negative impact of sports buildings and their grounds on the environment. Sports are of paramount importance to every community and with the increased problem of global warming we knew that this would be a prominent area to target. We wanted to create a model of sustainability in sports for any community to follow and to raise awareness to our local communities. We created a PowerPoint, outlining the main points to construct a sustainable model and we contacted many experts in their respective fields for advice. We interviewed one of the experts in a face-to-face meeting and contacted the others through email. To raise awareness, we presented our project to various classes in our school as global warming is a matter that greatly affects young people and now they are more aware of the effect that sport has on the environment. We have provided people with the information and solutions needed to make a positive change in the building and running of sports facilities and events. In the future we hope to take our project one step further and present our Eco-Sports Solution presentation to local sporting facilities and organisations in our locality.

Niamh Kelly, Aoife Moore, Kyla McGowan, Caoimhe Lynch.



Green Lights

Resilience.Earth, Spain. 2019-283, Stand #H10.

We are Green Lights and we wanted to make a change in our local community. We're from a part of Spain where many different groups are trying to make a change, but we feel that they are doing it inefficiently because they are not connected together. Faced with this huge waste of potential, we decided to take action and create a powerful union between all of these groups. We started an assembly, and more than 25 people and 10 organisations have joined so far. There are many movements that are achieving a real change, but the struggle must be taken on by everyone. Together we can build the change!

Agnes Hernández, Cesc Tresserras, Gina Libai, Ramón Buxó i Georgina Orero.

This project was developed as part of the #NoTimeToWaste Youth Summit, see p. 39.



A Jewel in Nature's Crown

Presentation College Headford, Co. Galway. 2019-001, Stand #A05.

Our project focuses on the promotion of tourism in the local forested area of Knockma, Co. Galway. We designed a website, tourist leaflet and story map of the area using GIS software. We also carried out a survey over three days to see exactly what people wanted when visiting the area. We worked alongside the NUIG Innovate team, National Parks and Wildlife Services, and the Caherlistrane Community Council. We came up with many new ideas for the area, but the one that resonated with us the most was to make the forest walk wheelchair friendly by installing an ashcrete path.

Hannah Connolly, Ellen Mc Dermott, Hannah O'Brien, Aisling Small, Nadine O Toole, Aoibhinn Ni Bhroinn, Ruth Higgins, Michael Fitzpatrick, Lia Fellingner, John Garvey, Sinead O Connor, Hannah Toher, Yana Greer, Katie Behan, Sophie Flanagan, Laoise Halloran, Luke Tierney, Stella Gilliganrosin Barrins, Mchaela Greaney, Keeva Tedders, Kamila Kandzel, Jack Gibbons, Nicole Curtin.



Fairtraders

Castleisland Community College, Kerry. 2019-128, Stand #D01.

Castleisland Community College became a Fairtrade School in 2015 and the Fair traders decided to try and make Castleisland a Fairtrade Town. The Fair traders contacted Fairtrade Ireland who explained that different sectors of the town needed to become involved in the project. The Fair Traders pitched their idea to the Chamber of Alliance, politicians, coffee shops, restaurants, Super Value and Castleisland Tidy Towns. Local primary schools were contacted with information and a workshop regarding Fairtrade. Coffee shops and restaurants in the town were approached regarding selling and promoting Fairtrade products. Various events were organised by the Fair traders to highlight the benefits of Fairtrade e.g. during Fairtrade Fortnight a banana plantation worker visited, Juliet Arku from Ghana was organised by the Fair Traders for all the community to attend. Local media were regularly contacted during the campaign and Castleisland Town became the 50th Fairtrade Town in Ireland. The Fair Traders collaborated with Fairtrade Ireland and designed the first bilingual Fairtrade town signs in Ireland which can be seen in Castleisland. They also worked with Fairtrade Ireland on a new CSPE Action Guide which is available for all secondary schools nationally. They have promoted Fairtrade footballs within their own school, local soccer clubs and primary schools.

Joseph Sheehy, Paul O Connor, Ruth Borgeat, Conor O Sullivan, Liam Moloney, Niall Fagan.



Small Things Tell Big Stories

St. Brigid's Presentation Secondary School, Kerry. 2019-206, Stand #E12.

The goal of the project was to promote planting in the community, encourage a more sustainable way of living, and encourage people to grow more plants and trees. We decided to start small, with something everybody can manage. Herbs come in plastic packaging and often recipes only call for a small amount of them, so you end up with food wastage. By growing your own herbs, you avoid waste, packaging, transport, and pesticides. Herbs require minimal effort but yield a great reward, so we felt they are a good way to introduce people to a more sustainable way of living. We made posters and hung them up around the school and created plant pots from clay and used plastic bottles. We put these on display around our school to raise awareness on the topic. We also invited young people to come and create their own plant pot and plant their own herbs. We are continuing to raise awareness on the issue and intend to create a mosaic ceramic installation, encouraging people to grow their own.

Isobel Stack, Caoimhe O Shea, Naoise O' Shea, Eimear Talbot, Leah O Connor, Shauna Somers, Edel Sweetman, Claire Stagg, Alicia Wynne, Shauna White, Grainne Spillane, Angel Yip, Alibhe Murphy, Mairead O Donoghue, Eva Quinn, Sarah McMahon, Laura O' Sullivan, Ciara Moynihan, Ava Leslie.



Stimulating The Senses in Our Sensory Garden

Moate Community School, Westmeath. 2019-138, Stand #C09.

Our project was about developing our Sensory Garden at the local Amenity Park in Moate. We decided that a butterfly garden would be beneficial as it stimulates our senses and creates a sanctuary for butterflies and bees which are a hugely important part of Biodiversity. We completed research on the life cycle of butterflies and the plants that butterflies are attracted to. Next, we worked with young adults with learning disabilities from St. Hilda's. We were weeding and digging and planting. We worked with local Community Enterprise Workers to improve the garden. We also worked on a water feature. We also made posters on the life cycle of butterflies. With the St Hilda's gang, we recycled a row of old school lockers to make a seating area for the butterfly garden that was decorated with butterflies. Rosemary Langtry, a local artist helped us with this. We presented a Power point to our first years and brought them on tours of the garden, to spread awareness the Butterfly Garden. We invited our mayor Frankie Keena and vice mayor John Dolan to attend the launch of our butterfly garden. As a result of our project we launched our butterfly garden in the local sensory garden in February.

Seán Treacy, Troy Bradley, Luke Power, Dylan Nulty, Emily Níami, Lucy Evans, Alanna Shortall, Daragh Counihan.



Anna Cloney, Aoife Fitzgerald, Lynne Gavin.

Green Sense

Loreto Secondary School Bray, Wicklow. 2019-082, Stand #H04.

Our project involves creating a sense garden in our local library to help our community by giving them a public space to go and entice their senses in nature. We hope it will inspire them to plant flowers at home and be more aware of the environment and the world around them.



Jessica Spratt, Delfine Ryan, Julia Ivanova, Sasha Beatty, Mencía Garrido, Rocio Moneo.

Sensory Garden

John Scottus Secondary School, Dublin. 2019-244, Stand #H03.

For our YEA project, we decided to create a sensory garden in our school grounds. We chose this idea because our school recently moved to a location with much larger school grounds, and we were inspired by all the space and nature around us. Our goal was to create a good garden design and start the garden in a way that the next years transition year can continue it. We created a mood board and wrote up our plans. We also drew many sketches of the initial landscape design and after drawing up our final design, we started marking out on the grass where things would go. What we hope to achieve as a result of this project is a space where students can go to relax and connect with nature through their senses. We also hoped to encourage wildlife into the garden.



Meadhbh Wogan Murphy, Wiktorija Weintritt, Sophie Finucane, Annabel Garstin, Julianne San Diego, Michelle Rapliza, Julie Cleary, Sinead Paglinawan, Zahra Walsh, Sarah Farrell, Isabelle Bradley, Clara Jeffrey, Paul Megna, Michael O'Brien, Cillian Murphy, Dylan Downes, Daniel Jones, Amy Healy, Samantha Chigwedere, Alex Moore.

Bray Bikes

ECO-UNESCO, Wicklow. 2019-278, Stand #H09.

Bray Bikes started through agreement in our group that our town was over-congested with traffic and lacking in public transport. We came up with the idea of designing a 'Bray Bikes' scheme similar to the Dublin Bikes. We designed a survey to find out what people thought of the idea, designed a logo, and scouted key traffic and population locations to design a map of potential bike stands. We then proposed our project to a Transport and Bikes Expert from Dublin City Council, and the next step will be to meet with Wicklow County Council, the Department of Transport, and potential sponsors. Our main aim is to lobby the Council and Government to implement Bray Bikes in our town.

This project was developed as part of the #NoTimeToWaste Youth Summit, see p. 39.

ECO-Community Development - Junior



Cormac Adamson, Kieran O'Harte, Odhran Mc Phillips, Pauric O'Reilly, Callum Reilly, Jacob Smuzny.

Community Youth Garden

Clones Youth Club, Monaghan. 2019-062, Stand #D03.

We took a derelict piece of land behind our youth centre which was an eyesore and turned it into a useable and welcoming space for our community. We have vegetables, plants and sensory elements in the garden. We have an area to sit and reflect and colourful fun elements. Its is a space for everyone.



Sophie Durity, Elodie Bonhomme, Faduma Mohammed, Lily Pabiau.

Eco-School

Cork Educate Together Secondary School, Cork. 2019-213, Stand #F06.

Four our YEA project, we aimed to create a sustainable eco-friendly school as part of our sustainable action project. We chose to vastly reduce the number of single-use plastics consumed by our school community, as we wanted to minimise the chance that they will end up in the ocean or inside a sea-creatures belly. We also started using a compost bin, which helped to reduce our waste and produce great quality soil.

ECO-Innovation - Senior



Ciara O'Mahony, Rebecca Hayes, Lisa Curran, Aoife Hickey.

Clean Green

Presentation Secondary School Cloonbeg, Kerry. 2019-191, Stand #E05.

Clean Green works towards reducing the use of industrial cleaners by encouraging our community to use natural alternatives. We aimed to achieve this by making people aware of the harmful effects that industrial cleaners have on the environment, particularly on aquatic life. We carried out a number of actions as part of our awareness campaign, including holding an Awareness Day in Tralee town, presenting a PowerPoint to primary schools, running a social media and poster campaign, and writing a song entitled 'Save the Fish'. We also got local celebrities to endorse our project and took part in the 'MyEcoResolution' campaign, which is run by Cara Delevigne. We encouraged people to use natural cleaners by handing out recipes in our school and town, and by carrying out demonstrations on how to make our cleaners. #don'tbemeanccleangreen!



Natalia Talaga & Temisan King-Chaninomi.

Is Graphene an Effective Alternative to Plastic ?

Mercy Mounthawk Secondary School, Kerry. 2019-212, Stand #F05.

Plastic is versatile, lightweight, flexible, moisture resistant, strong, and relatively inexpensive. Those are the attractive qualities that lead us to such an insatiable appetite and over-consumption of plastic goods. However, durable and very slow to degrade, plastic materials that are used in the production of so many products all, ultimately, become waste with staying power. We have no choice but to significantly reduce our usage of its products. Yet, we do not want to return to the utilization of products used by our predecessors. Therefore, we believe that the commercialisation of the recently discovered Graphene will solve our current plastic issue. Graphene is a highly conductive form of elemental carbon that is composed of a single flat sheet of atoms arranged in a repeating hexagonal pattern. Its range of excellent properties such as flexibility, conductivity, strength and durability further prove that Graphene is an ideal replacement for plastic. Nonetheless, we cannot have another waste crisis. This leaves us with the question: is Graphene environmentally-friendly?



Ulysses Jalop, Alex Fitzgerald, Devin Gallagher, Lauren Durham.

Teenager Danger

ECO-UNESCO, Dublin. 2019-272, Stand #A04.

This project seeks to highlight the potential environmental hazards that are contained in products aimed at teenagers. After establishing our project group, we investigated the products which teenagers use which are potentially harmful to the environment. We then gauged use of such products and raised awareness about their environmental effects.

This project was developed as part of the #NoTimeToWaste Youth Summit, see p. 39.



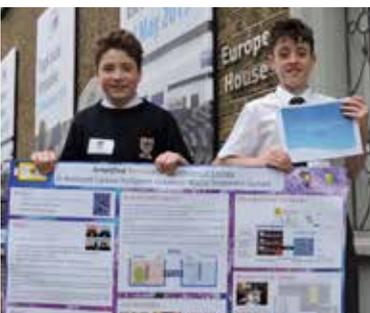
Bevin Murphy, Darren Kiely, Omar Daly.

Herbal Leys, an Alternative to Artificial Fertilizers

Millstreet Community School, Cork. 2019-216, Stand #F09.

We're looking into the benefits of using herbal leys as an alternative to artificial fertilizers. Herbal leys are a mixture of herbs and legumes which fertilize the soil naturally with deeper roots than perennial rye grass, so are more drought resistance. They aid biodiversity, help bees and reduce vets bills for farmers who graze their animals on the leys.

ECO-Innovation - Junior



Garret Molloy & Oscar Ward.

Amplified, Renewable Bioelectrical Energy in Reduced Carbon Footprint Livestock Waste Treatment System

Belvedere College, Dublin. 2019-219, Stand #E10.

We want to identify and create renewable energy projects, from easily accessible sources. We want to provide power to those without the infrastructure to access it, in the remotest of areas. Crop and livestock farming are huge net contributors to carbon emissions, so everyone would benefit from a solution that reduces their carbon footprint. Livestock waste is abundant and if not used as fertilizer, needs to be treated. Using this waste as an energy source will provide electricity and generate clean water - whilst treating the waste and reducing the negative effluent. Our project is based on a renewable, biologically driven fuel cell, that is powered by livestock waste. We boost the electricity generated to make this a useable power source whilst at the same time we both treat the waste used and generate clean water.

ECO-Health & Well-being - Senior



Bláthnaid Marsh, Róisín Roche, Eve McMahon, Sean Casserly, Sarah McNamara, Cliona Stout, Holly Nilan, Ruth Costello, Emma Haran, Killian Burke, Lisa Shannon, Eva Harrington, Orlaith Petty, Dylan Egan, Matthew Sheedy, Harry Wainwright, Aine Brennan, Emma Vaughan, Aoife McNamara.

A Wellbeing Green Area for our School

Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Clare. 2019-052, Stand #B03.

Our project is to create a well-being green area in our school because there was no green space in our school. We really felt that young people should be given a space where they can relax surrounded by nature. We are an inclusive and caring school and we felt that it is important to recognise this by creating the well-being area. We split into groups and came up with ideas on how we could make this area look beautiful while also being eco-friendly. We created a tile mosaic and painted scenery from our local area onto the walls. As the yard was paved, we built raised planters in which we planted several different flowers and plants. We also planted herb boxes and worked with the home economics teacher on the use of the herbs we are growing. We also have benches for everyone to sit on. We are making a 'positivity tree' to promote well-being and mental health. We want this well-being area to be a vibrant and colourful place; a place that will brighten up people's day. It is important for young people with exams, to have somewhere that is positive and encouraging. It is clear to us that this well-being area will benefit everyone and will add a great deal of positivity to our school environment as well as benefiting nature.



Ella Shanley, Louise Pert, Roisin Ivory, Rachel Horan, Katie Ronayne Byrne, Nicole Byrne, Katie Murray.

Seeing Yellow

Loreto Secondary School, Bray, Co. Wicklow. 2019-053, Stand #C10.

We are creating a book which will be a collection of anecdotes about mental health. We are collecting these stories from people of all ages and all walks of life, highlighting issues of mental health and how people can get through these challenging times by connecting with nature. We want people to know they are not alone in their struggle. We want everyone to be able to relate to a story in the book and find inspiration and encouragement that will help them face their challenges and find each day a little easier and more positive.



Emily Sheridan, Mairead Sheridan, Orla Jackson, Melanie Walsh, Nicole McDonnell, Lillie Byrne.

TY Charity Ball

Loreto Secondary School, Bray, Co. Wicklow. 2019-080, Stand #A09.

We organised a ball in aid of the Open-Door Day-Care Centre in Bray. We hosted the ball in the Royal Hotel Bray and raised over one thousand euro. We had dancing and a meal at the ball, and we planted flowers with the Open-Door members when we presented them with our cheque.



Hannah O Neill, Abigail Ward, Jakub Kossykowski, Mohammed Zian, Juliet Owusu, Aaron Corr, Samuel Kovalcuk

Exercise and it's Benefits to me and the Earth!

Ardgillan Community College, Dublin. 2019-084, Stand #A01.

Our project is based around two topics; walking to school to improve negative environmental impact of vehicles as well as improving our well-being, mental and physical health. We want to show the benefits of walking to school and encourage as many young people as possible to walk some distance in the mornings and the evenings rather than being collected by car from the school grounds. We want to raise awareness of the negative impact of vehicle emissions on the environment and how walking instead will also improve people's health and well-being. It's a win win!



Caoimhe Flemming, Tiernan Darling, Jonathan Hayes, Jette Grau, Paul Oswald, Mark Roche, Imelda Rodriguez, Eoin Treacy.

Dig Deep for Wellness!

Pobalscoil Neasáin, Dublin. 2019-131, Stand #B10.

Our team has been developing our eco garden located in the school. We have been tackling the areas of food waste by taking donations of food and distributing it throughout the school through 'Food Cloud', while also using left-over coffee granules for the soil so that more food can be grown in the garden. We have been planting more flowers and plants that are attractive to bees as we are involved with the school's first Beehive. We have been extending the area of the eco garden to incorporate more ground for increased use by young people. So far, we have planted approximately 50 trees in the school grounds and an additional 50 outside of the school. We have achieved great results but there is a lot more to do!



Megan Cooney, Sarah Casey, Lyonah Burke, Emma Byrne, Sean Harte, Conor Kenny, Michael Madigan, Harry Keane, Billy Delap, Damien McMahon, Aitana del Campo, Sofia Gorriz, Adam O'Shea, Adam Wallace, Lewis Wragg, Eve Garry, Heather Moore, Zoe Nagle, Mike Kirwan, Gavin O'Brien.

'Sowing for the Soul' - Our School Well-being Garden

St. John Bosco Community College, Clare. 2019-132, Stand #D02.

We wanted to rejuvenate a central courtyard in our school as a well-being area which will be used by the school community. We decided to call our project 'Sowing for the Soul - Our School Well-being Garden'. We got advice from the Seed Savers educational officer who facilitated a workshop with our group, teaching us about biodiversity and helping us to create a plan for our school garden. We fund-raised to pay for resources needed for the project and used recycled/re-purposed materials for decorating the space including mosaics, bird-boxes and stone art. We refreshed the existing flower bed and planted plants and herbs which may be used in Home Economics classes. The well-being garden will be a starting and finishing point for a school walking route. Our garden continues to be a work-in-progress. We hope our garden will be used as a place of relaxation and as an outdoor classroom.



Eoin O' Máille, Madeline Mitchell, Róisín McGrath.

Fools for Fuels: Air Pollution

Coláiste Iognáid, Galway. 2019-247, Stand #G11.

Our project is based on air pollution in Galway City schools. The aim of this project is to investigate levels of particulate matter in the air around ten Galway City schools, and to establish what fuels are causing such air pollution. We also want to establish a link between air pollution and asthma. We have a year of data collected using NUI Galway's 'Galway City Air-Monitoring Node' which is located in our school. The experimental methods we used were; 1. The 'Galway City Air-Monitoring node' (the egg). 2. Hand-held monitors which establish air quality when walking, cycling or driving within the locality of Galway city centre. 3. We conducted a survey of 100 homes inquiring about heating sources and health eg. the number of asthma sufferers. 4. Testing soil samples in the area to compare the pH levels with a constant.



David Flanagan, Dara Heneghan, Conor Glynn, Liam Lennon, Sean Brennan, Ciarán Morris.

Memorial Garden

St Jarlath's College, Galway. 2019-260, Stand #H12.

This project involved the cleaning up and re-planting of a memorial garden within the school grounds that had been neglected. Our group created insect boxes & bird feeders as well as sourcing and planting various wild flowers and shrubs.

Energy - Senior



A Bike Powered Phone Charger

John Scottus Secondary School, Dublin. 2019-027, Stand #B04.

Our group realised that energy was being wasted by people overcharging their phones. We came up with a creative, eco-friendly and fun way to charge your phone. We fitted a motor to a bike so it would charge your phone while you cycle. Pedalling makes the wheel turn which makes the motor generate energy and charges your phone.

Nathan Boissier, James Mungavin, Edward Yun, Robert O'Brien, Paidi Kinlay,



Binse Gréine

Colaiste Naomh Eoin, Galway. 2019-204, Stand #E11.

Tá muid fíor bhródúil as an luach náisiúnta atá ag an tionscadail glas seo.

Our project was inspired by a solar charging bench that we came across while on a school trip to London. We have designed and built a solar charging bench for Inis Meáin. We have also initiated a plan for a nationwide campaign that will result in the introduction of eco charging benches in the towns and villages of Ireland. We have increased the knowledge of renewable energy not only within our school but within our island community. This feasible project will have far reaching consequences and an eco treasure.

Alex Mac Seoin, Maebh Áine Ní Dhuffaigh, Chantelle Prendergast.



Energy Conservation To Save Our Nation

Moate Community School, Westmeath. 2019-271, Stand #G07.

Our project is about creating awareness of energy conservation and the different types of renewable energies that are available. We hosted an energy awareness day in school, where the The Rediscovery Centre carried out an Energy Workshop with our fellow transition years. After that, we gave a presentation to first years in our school and made posters with them. We are displaying these and other posters around the school in celebration of our 'Energy Awareness Day'. We also wanted to make a piece of equipment that would run on solar energy alone, so we created our very own solar oven!

Lauren Farrell & Michaela Kearney ODonnell.



SAYS Solar Heater

South Area Youth Service, Dublin. 2019-265, Stand #F07.

In SAYS we promote an 'Eco Holistic' approach and through this we have a number of projects built up over the years and would like to use this opportunity to put some of our popular ones on display such as our secret garden and our bee hives we keep on the roof of our center. Our latest project has been our solar heater we constructed out of old drinking cans we painted black to attract the sun. We pierced holes on the bottom and top of each can, this allows the air to flow through slowly while the sun heats the air. The air then travels through the cans and through the vent into our games room in Mayo.

Alannah Walsh, Megan Sherlock, Summer Sheridan, David Murray, Daniel Johnston.

Waste - Senior



Aaron Cronnelly, Kevin Fahy, Jonathan Walsh, Alex Mc Donnell, Oisín Fleming, Leah Burtin-Conn, Cian Yelverton, Joseph Edwards.

Waste Management in our School

St Pauls Secondary School Oughterard, Galway. 2019-034, Stand #B02.

This project is about creating a waste management plan for our school. It is based on the three principles of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. Every subject department, all staff and management are involved in creating the plan of action. We had two main short-term goals, we want to reduce the amount of plastic and paper waste and we want to raise awareness of the negative impact of waste on the environment. Our overall goal is to make our school a green school and an influencer in our community. The main actions taken so far are surveys for the students and staff on their views on waste management. We trained the student council to deliver workshops on waste and its impact on environment to CSPE classes. We attended workshops on global goals to help inform us about the issues. Our two main achievements so far are that we have created better awareness of the importance of waste management in our school and we have identified simple steps that everyone in school can follow to make the school less wasteful. We have become ambassadors for change in our school and are finalists in the YEA 2019 competition.



Colleen Moffett, Paddy O'Donoghue-Drage, Kyle Crean Mc Kenna, Caitlin Crudden, Haylie Mc Quaid, Hannah Brady.

Practical Plastics #Plexit

Beech Hill College, Monaghan. 2019-041, Stand #C01.

We wanted to illuminate the dangers of plastic pollution and how plastic can be reused in a non-destructive way that doesn't endanger the environment. Our idea evolved from a documentary 'Plastic Pollution' which we watched with our teacher on Netflix. It inspired us to enforce a ban of single-use plastic in our school. In the video we created, we showed examples of other ways to use plastic such as the plastic couch, the mural made out of plastic bottles, caps and wrappers, animal houses and feeders and plant pots made from plastic bottles to bring awareness of plastic pollution in the ocean. Our video shows that our main goal is being achieved. As of September 2019, all single-use plastic is banned from our school, and plastic bottles are being replaced with a reusable bottle that everyone will receive at the start of the school year. We successfully obtained a signed contract agreement from our school principal to enforce our #Plexit campaign goals. We learned while we were filming the first-year workshop, how little people know about the effect's plastic pollution has on our world. It doesn't only affect us - it effects all life around us. From our #Plexit campaign day we brought our ideas to life and encouraged students to reduce, reuse and recycle their plastic waste.



Claire Henley, Órla O'Callaghan, Della Ivory.

The Wild Waste

Loreto Secondary School Bray, Wicklow. 2019-081, Stand #E08.

Our plan was to install a wormery in the school to teach people the importance of composting at home and in school. By having a wormery in school it provides an easy way for young people to compost their food waste. The wormery will be maintained by us during the year. This would therefore reduce the amount of waste we produce. The compost from the wormery would be put to good use in horticulture class and the upkeep of the school grounds.



Rachel Costello, Jack Maune, Andrew Buttery, Ciaran O Connor, Abbie Murphy, Ellen Fitzsimons, Meadh Keaveney, Kieran Neville, Aisling Holland, Robyn Gardiner, Caitlin Fitzgerald, Emma Fitzgerald, Emma Kelly, Natasha Costello, Taylor Madigan, Ciara Moran, Niall O Connor.

Death by Plastic

Coláiste Mhuire Askeaton, Limerick. 2019-086, Stand #A02.

We decided to raise awareness of Plastic in our Oceans as we feel it is not being discussed enough amongst teenagers. We feel that teenagers need to be more proactive in coming up with ideas that can help solve problems relevant to them and that can affect their future on this planet. We were shocked by our research findings and felt a need to respond to this issue. Our project goal is to raise awareness of the amount of plastic in our oceans and the effect it is having on marine life. To date we have created a noticeboard in our school, we completed a survey and photo competition to highlight this issue amongst our peers. We designed placards that we want placed at local river and seas to encourage people to reduce littering plastic waste. We created a scratch game. We presented colouring books to children in Kolkata to highlight our issue internationally. We also have social media accounts and a sculpture which we hope to gift to Bord Iascaigh Mhara at the end of the year. We have contacted various organisations and people to help us develop our project further.



Moira Louise Burre, Eva Mc Donnell, Michelle Board, Kelli Oldham, Abbie O Mahony, Gloria Abuike.

Plastic People

Ursuline Secondary School, Cork. 2019-101, Stand #C12.

The aim of Plastic People was to educate the general public about the harm that plastic causes to the environment and to improve the recycling system in our school. We watched a film about the damage plastic is causing to the environment, animals and humans. We were all horrified at the effects plastic is having on our world. We wanted to decrease the amount of single use plastics used in our school and to improve the recycling system and to educate our local community about the detrimental effects of plastic. The first main campaign we had was Plastic Patrol where every day we would instruct the students on which item can be recycled, while others would go to a water station and refill reusable water bottles. We held an assembly in February to raise more awareness surrounding this issue. A poster competition was held for young people in our school, organized by our team. The theme of our contest was "go green plastic is obscene". We went to the three primary schools that were taking part in the competition and gave them a talk about recycling as well as about plastic. We held workshops for the sixth classes to make their own bird feeders for their school gardens out of plastic bottles. Two animated videos were created about plastic bottles and micro beads in face masks. Our project has raised a huge level of awareness in the general public and school on the topic of plastic and waste.



Orla O'Keeffe, Amy Butler, Joanne O'Sullivan, Rebecca Mahon, Saoirse Canavan.

One Step Bray

Loreto Secondary School Bray, Wicklow. 2019-108, Stand #A14.

For our project, we carried out a clean up on Bray Beach and the surrounding areas. We worked alongside the County Council to get the job done, and also brought students from the Green Schools Committee and from every year group along with us to help out. Because of our efforts, there's far less plastic clogging up the ocean!



Sean Reynolds, Jason Liu, Devin Gallagher, Glenn Dolan, Alex Fitzgerald, Jon Luza, Ulysses Jalop, Eldon Antonio.

Let's Talk Dirty

Drimnagh Castle Secondary School, Dublin. 2019-121, Stand #B06.

We noticed how much food waste there was in our school and we wanted to try and put it to good use. We decided to make a compost bin so we could make compost to use for planting to enhance ecosystems around the school. In the compost bin we can put grass, dry leaves, paper, cardboard, coffee grinds, fruit and vegetables.



Ellen Heffernan, Luke Holahan, Alex Doherty, Stefan Simonovic.

Reduce 1 Use

Ardgillan Community College, Dublin. 2019-133, Stand #C03.

We aimed to reduce single use waste in our school and replacing them with environmentally friendly biodegradable or recyclable materials. This includes replacing single use plastic food containers that are used in the canteen with biodegradable containers. We are also replacing single use plastic water bottles sold in the canteen with a reusable school bottle. We also think it is vital to spread the word by involving people who are educated on the issue of single use plastic to raise awareness and promote the swap to reusable containers.



Leah Norton, Iona Hamilton, Rose Davey, Lucy Geoghegan, Molly Allman, Maya Garcia, Verdugo Merin, Bruno Ciulli, Tadhg Sheridan.

Plastic Outta the Park

Newpark Comprehensive, Dublin. 2019-144, Stand #D05.

Newpark Comprehensive is Ireland's first single use plastic free school. This initiative was achieved by young people in TY in 2018. Continuing to campaign and educate their community about the cause, effects and solutions to plastic pollution. A new TY group were passed the baton to build on the success of Plastic Outta the Park. This year the group grew their initiative by reaching primary schools and businesses in their area. They continued to educate their peers in school and built on plastic bottles including education about straws, shampoo and soaps. Year 2 of the project has continued to promote awareness about plastic pollution and the solutions to a plastic free lifestyle. It has given the project the potential to grow and develop and to investigate multiple products to springboard into a plastic free life.



Shannon McHugh & Ciara Keaveney.

Ashes: An Undervalued Nutrient

Glenamaddy Community School, Galway. 2019-141, Stand #F11.

Open fossil fuel and wood fires are commonplace in Ireland, both as heat source and for an aesthetic purpose. Now people must put their ashes into the wheelie bin, and this takes up a lot of space and is also heavy. A lot of ashes are already dumped in ditches and roadsides. We feel that this dumping will only get worse now that the pay by weight system is in place. Our idea came from Shannon's father who collects ashes from his neighbours and friends to spread them on his land. We were interested in discovering new ways to recycle fire ashes and to educate the public on the beneficial uses of ashes on land. We also want people to be aware of what they burn and the effects it has on the environment. By carrying out experiments using different types of fire ashes as a fertilizer versus artificial fertilizers and no fertilizers on land. We discovered that spreading ashes on the grass did help the growth, which shows that ashes can be used as a fertilizer. Wood ash contains the nutrients potassium and phosphorous so when mixed with the cheaper fertilizer (just nitrogen), it is equal to the expensive fertilizer (all nutrients). We also carried out experiments on onions to test would ashes make a difference to the growth of crops. We found amazing results clearly stating that ashes improve not just the growth of the onions but also gives a nicer flavour! It's a continuous cycle!



Lia O'Connell, Rachael O'Sullivan, Emily O'Donoghue.

Don't Flush, Even in a Rush

Presentation Secondary School Cloonbeg, Kerry. 2019-187, Stand #E02.

Our project is about raising awareness of the Sinful Six - six items (cleansing wipes, plasters, tampons, sanitary pads, loo roll tubes and baby wipes) that should not be flushed down the toilet but are on a regular basis and can cause a lot of environmental damage. Through our campaign, we are raising awareness about the damage caused by the Sinful Six and encouraging our community to dispose of the Sinful Six in the correct way - by binning them! We have taken many actions to promote our project (social media campaign, radio visit, Primary School visit, Powerpoint presentation, posters, etc.) We feel we have made a positive impact on our environment and we hope to continue our work.



Dillon Johnston, National Preis, Ronan Dwyer.

ACC RECYCLING

Abbey Community College, Roscommon. 2019-202, Stand #G06.

Setting up a recycling system in our school was the main aim of our YEA project. To carry this out, we contacted Barna Waste to see if they could supply bins. Once we had set them up, we had to spread awareness on plastic pollution and teach the students in our school how to recycle properly. We made announcements over the school intercom, and gave presentations in the school. To take our project a step further, we went out to three primary schools in our area, teaching them how to recycle and about plastic pollution.



Anna Leadley, Faye Maniti, Orlaith Bennis, Maeve O'Brien, Iga Blaszyk, Séana McGarry.

Lead the Scene to Keep it Green

Loreto Secondary School, Donegal. 2019-221, Stand #F10.

Our project was about making a positive impact on our environment, reducing our carbon footprint and teaching others how they too can waste less plastic. Our project goal was to build a polytunnel completely out of recycled goods, a wormery to attract more bugs, and to establish compost bins in order to aid in the breaking down of food waste. Firstly, we collected plastic bottles from our local community. We then cut them up and inserted them onto the bamboo sticks - the first step in making a makeshift wall. We enquired about where the Home Economics team put their waste and encouraged the greener option of composting. Finally, we assembled our vegetable pots and they are now ready for plants to go in them. We have as a team grown closer together, forged new friendships, and reduced our carbon footprint.



Nicola Brinza, Sofia Hijazi, Eldon Antonio, Conor Finnegan, Jon Luza.

Water you Doing

ECO-UNESCO, Dublin. 2019-268, Stand #G01.

This project aimed to raise awareness on the levels of pollution on our local beaches. Once we had established a group, we discussed a project plan which included a mass beach clean-up and a talk at our schools about beach pollution. With the rubbish we found on the beach, we made a display in order to show the recyclable potential of the waste which tarnishes our local environment.

This project was developed as part of the #NoTimeToWaste Youth Summit, see p. 39.



John Maqueto, Christian Michelena, Allen Ibbá, Cain Hopkins, Cleo Bonnerot, Ron Luza.

Friendly Food Fridge

ECO-UNESCO, Dublin. 2019-269, Stand #G02.

This project is influenced by an endeavour in France to tackle food waste. What it aimed to do was ask restaurants and community centres around Dublin to set up a fridge in which would store left-over food, and whoever is passing by could take the food. After establishing our team, we investigated how this project had been carried out in France, we set up social media websites in order to raise awareness about our project, we networked at various events on the SDGs, and spoke in our school assemblies about the project. The aim is to have at least one Food Friendly Fridge set up in an establishment in Dublin. **This project was developed as part of the #NoTimeToWaste Youth Summit, see p. 39.**



Sarah Richard & Aoife Darcy.

Waste & Litter Management

Colaiste Chiarain, Roscommon. 2019-028, Stand #B07.

The project highlights the importance of recycling in our school and local community. Plastic bottles and paper are collected, sorted and recycled in our school. Our aim is to eliminate single use plastic in our school. Reusable plates, mugs and cutlery were introduced and are used every day in our canteen. Two water refill units are installed in the canteen and central area. The units are used by everyone at our school. Food waste and tea bags are collected and composted. We are members of the Green School Committee and we have been awarded the green flag for litter and Waste in our school.



Iza Dullin, Saoirse Keating, Ella Gerard.

Ban the Bottle

Loreto Secondary School Clonmel, Tipperary. 2019-013, Stand #A06.

We noted the huge amount of single use plastic bottles that were being left strewn around the school building with nobody taking ownership. We set about sourcing reusable bottles with the school logo and student's names printed on them. Surveys were done with young people as to what kind of bottle they preferred and what price point they wanted to pay. The Board of management had discussions about it along with our principal, deputy principal and parents. The result was that young people would source their own reusable bottle and that the Green Schools Committee would oversee the printing of names. A campaign was launched to ban the bottle, posters were displayed on our notice board and announcements made over the intercom. We decided to hold an awareness day, to help highlight the problem. An Expo was organised in the school with businesses displaying their environmentally friendly products. We had homemade games made from recycled materials, a video on ocean plastic pollution shown to every year group and an online ocean plastic pollution quiz. We had a live beehive and one of our own young people displaying her honey products. Live hens and their eggs, a live demonstration of how to make beeswax wraps by one of our teachers. We also had guest speakers such as Rachel Blackmore, Sean Kelly MEP, Senator Grace O Sullivan, Mike Maunsel from LIT, Laura Cahill from World Wise Global Schools, and our Mayor, Mr. Richie Molloy who we gave a petition to get local businesses to sign up to refill reusable bottles.

Waste - Junior



Darragh Glynn, Alex Moriarty, Aaron Keppel, Daniel Hogan, John O'Brien, Taylor Kelly.

Making our School More Green

St Jarlath's College, Galway. 2019-199, Stand #E06.

We wanted to reduce our schools overall energy usage as well as the general waste we produced. To do this, we inspected the school bins and noticed that teachers and young people alike were throwing their rubbish into whichever bin they first laid their eyes on. To combat this, we bought new recycling bins with new labels on them which clearly listed what could be thrown into them. During our school inspection, we also noticed that space heaters were being left on when no one was in the room, which as well as being a waste of energy was also a fire hazard. Lights were being left on with no one in the room. Laptops, projectors, and the photocopier was also being left on in the teachers staff room. To address this problem, we made notices and labels and put them on every computer, laptop, light switch, and the photocopier in the staff room. The school also plans to bring in reusable bottles in the next school year after we highlighted the waste issue, and we will be getting rid of plastic bottles with the help of Mr Keane from the Sports Department.



Ashik Prasad, Spencer Kuria, Michael Jiang, Darius Heghedus, Chigemezu Prince Isaac, Sean McConon.

DGS Environmentalists

Dundalk Grammar School, Louth. 2019-251, Stand #C08.

Our project is on the topic of the environment and we raised awareness on the importance of the environment and global environmental issues. We have an aim of achieving the green flag for our school during this project. We got our group together as part of our CSPE action project and there are six members in the group doing this project. We have held assemblies, put stalls out for events, conducted meetings, gone on trips and completed presentations. Our actions include informing everyone about the importance of the environment. All the actions support our project and we have had positive feedbacks from the people. Now, we have applied for a biodiversity flag and recently we found out that the biodiversity flag has been awarded to our school.

Water - Senior



Gary Mulvihill, Thomas Lennon, James Flanagan.

Water Pollution in Our Local Area

Coláiste Chiaráin, Roscommon. 2019-031, Stand #B08.

Our group studied the levels of pollution in the local river and carried out a number of tests on the river. We examined the effect of the river on the local environment. We carried out a clean up and litter pick. We got the local community involved and they also participated in the river clean up. We are members of the Green Schools Committee in our school. It is our aim to keep the river clean and to prevent litter pollution.



Rory Mulcahy and Killian Bourke.

Blue Is The New Green: The Feasibility and Possible Application of Rainwater Harvesting in Irish Schools.

Presentation College, Wicklow. 2019-211, Stand #G12.

Our project investigates the feasibility of rainwater harvesting in Irish schools, based on the sufficiency of rainfall and the capacity of schools to collect said rainfall for use in school toilets and irrigation. Our results indicate that there would be no requirement for mains water if the correct infrastructure was in place to harness free rainfall – an exciting and sustainable prospect!



Luke O'Donoghue, Patrick Cronin, Dylan Downey.

An Evaluation of River Pollution Monitoring in the North Cork Area

Millstreet Community School, Cork. 2019-227, Stand #G04.

Water is often taken for granted in Ireland, but it is one of the most precious resources that we need to survive and therefore must be protected. We believe that the water standard in our local rivers is not as high as European rivers, and our project aims to examine current water testing practices by comparing tests results at random parts of rivers in the North Cork region to standard results from current controlled set points. We also want see if there is a correlation between the test results already carried out by government bodies and the time of year the samples are taken to investigate if pollution can be linked to factors such as weather and agricultural activities. It is clear that levels of ammonia, phosphates and oxidised nitrogen fluctuate hugely at different times of the year on the rivers we investigated.



Rachel Cotter, Jack Mullen, Abaigeal O'Leary, Kate Crowley.

From Fish to Fork - "Take 3 for the Sea"

Colaiste Muire, Cork. 2019-239, Stand #G09.

Microplastics are pollutants in our seas and are known to have a detrimental effect on a variety of organisms. The initial aim of our study was to quantify the occurrence, number, and size of plastic particles in fish caught off the Irish south coast. In total, 178 fish samples covering 6 species: Cod, Whiting, Herring, Horse-Mackerel, Ling and Monkfish were investigated. Plastic particles were found in three of the six examined species. In most cases, only one microplastic particle was found per fish. From reflecting on our results, we wanted to change the outcome of the amount of plastic that was present in our marine environment. To do this we organised a beach clean-up in conjunction with the local Tidy Towns committee and asked young people from TY to get involved. We also became ambassadors for "Take 3 for the Sea", an initiative that was officially launched in our area on the 1st May. The aim of this program is to encourage people to simply take three pieces of rubbish with you when you leave the beach. This simple measure will help reduce any potential contamination of marine organisms by the ingestion of plastics.



Jane Matuss, Cara Cummins, Alannah Leddy, Laura Black, Sadhbh O'Keeffe, Aaron O'Rourke, Cian Rafferty, Calum Duffy, Laoise Dunne Ward, Emma Barnes, Erin Browne, Carlo Hehir, Alan King, Joe Savage, Rianna Carroll, Megan Butterly, Holly Thornton.

Battle for the Boyne

ECO-UNESCO, Louth. 2019-274, Stand #H07.

The inspiration for our project name 'Battle for the Boyne' came from the Battle of the Boyne of 1690. Our YSD group is situated in the town of Drogheda, which the Boyne river runs through, making it an essential part of our life, history and culture. There is, unfortunately, widespread dumping, especially of trolleys, in the river which has greatly affected the local wildlife and enjoyment of the river. Our project aims to raise awareness about the pollution in our river, the effect it is having, and to lobby the council to take further action (e.g. through providing bins to discourage river dumping). Through partnership with our school science departments, we are testing water samples from areas along the River Boyne using equipment in the school labs. We are conducting these water tests under supervision of a science teacher. In doing so, we hope to bring the community closer together and restore pride and joy in our wonderful River Boyne.

This project was developed as part of the #NoTimeToWaste Youth Summit, see p. 39.



Oisín Murphy, Jay Looney, Ruiari Casey.

Purification To Save The Nation

Moate Community School, Westmeath. 2019-251, Stand #F04.

The aim of our project is to combat heavy metal, nitrates and bacteria pollution in Zambian water supplies by supplying a cheap, low technology method of purify water. We also wish to raise awareness in our local primary and secondary schools about the poor water conditions in Zambia, so we arranged some talks. We created a solar still, and tested a variety of factors effects on the distillation rate and the purification efficiency. We found that black copper as a base and cooling the glass in the lid increases the distillation rate. We also found that our solar still is a suitable way of removing the above pollutants by using AAS, nitrate test strips and agar plates.



Jenny Whelan, Sofia Sheehan, Cristina Iliesi, Caitriona Mcevoy, Stephanie Peat.

Something Fishy

ECO-UNESCO, Dublin. 2019-273, Stand #H05.

This project aimed to raise awareness amongst primary-aged children about water pollution. In order to do this, we wrote a book about two marine characters, Norris and Wallis, and the effects marine pollution has on them. We created and illustrated the book, and spoke to primary schools about the book. Going forward, we hope have the book in libraries and primary schools.

This project was developed as part of the #NoTimeToWaste Youth Summit, see p. 39.

Water - Junior



Grainne O'Reilly, Eli Bryant, Alistair Jack, Robin Madden.

Irish Aquatic Life and River Pollution

Mercy College Woodford, Galway. 2019-024, Stand #A12.

We want to raise awareness about river pollution in Ireland and how it affects the aquatic life. We feel that river pollution is a growing issue. Ireland's water quality is among the best in Europe and it is important that we preserve that. We researched the topic; using that research we conducted our own field research; we took time to go out and clean some of our local rivers. We were able to help keep the rivers in our local area clean, while learning about the pollution that occurred there. We organised a poster competition to raise awareness about the issue and delivered a power point presentation to our CSPE classes in school. As a result of our project we learned more about river pollution, monitored the quality of river water and have helped to inform others.



Matthew Donnelly, Eoin McKernan, Donncha Campbell, Adan Naveed, Anshuma Soni.

Water Project

St Joseph's ECO Club, Antrim. 2019-018, Stand #A10.

We have worked hard to be more considerate around the use of water in our school by addressing the unnecessary use and waste of water. We worked with NI Water and they encouraged our group to look at the use of single use plastic bottles. We started raising awareness in the school and then in our local communities. We reached out to politicians and influencers. We spoke to journalist and had our campaign published in the top internet news site in Northern Ireland. <https://www.belfastlive.co.uk/news/belfast-news/meet-inspiring-belfast-pupils-taking-16079918>. Our campaign has centred around a poster we created for our refill campaign, and we have put the posters up in our community to encourage others to refill their bottles. We have emailed posters to government bodies and had the campaign and poster published by the press. Throughout all this work we have learnt so much about water, plastic waste and water conservation. We as young people in St Joseph's College are aware and inspired to make more informed choices. We are less likely to buy bottles in the shop and we feel we have inspired others to follow our lead. Refill with tap water, it saves you cash and cuts down on our plastic trash.

Super Junior



John Gibbs Nur Hanif Kasey Conneely David Cleary Nathan Lee Calum Forde Conor Smith.

Sustainability

St. Patrick's Primary School, Galway. 2019-009, Stand #H06.

We wanted to show our community how interconnected our environment is. This competition has given our school wonderful opportunities to learn about our environment and how to contribute to it positively in our everyday lives. Sustainability is vital in a world that is under threat by its inhabitants. It is often said that children are our future. The children at St. Pat's would like to show you that we are very much our present! Our environmental work over the last year has taught us how interconnected the world around us is. We set out to make sure that both our school and the wider community learned what an impact our behaviour can have. By not caring for even one aspect of the environment this can have a destructive impact on everything else in the cycle. We are a city centre school without space for a proper garden, but we didn't let that stop us from creating a colourful, environmentally friendly place for wildlife and humans. We got our families involved by planting and sending home pollinator friendly flowers to increase the population of pollinators in our city. Our campaign led to social media and newspaper articles and radio reports.



Evan Nealon, Alex Nealon, Dylan Nealon.

Evan, Alex and Dylan's Tralee Canal Clean Up

Evan, Alex and Dylan's Tralee Can Clean Up, Kerry. 2019-079, Stand #C05.

Our project was to remove plastic from the Tralee canal and bay and to protect the wildlife and environment. This was inspired by seeing a swan eat Styrofoam. We clean the canal by removing the rubbish with polls, nets and brushes, we researched how to remove the rubbish safely on Seabin. We set up a Facebook page and fundraiser and told our story in the Kerry's eye newspaper asking the public to join us on our clean ups. Over 100 volunteers showed up and it was aired on RTE and TG4. We pulled close to 250 bags of rubbish out of the area including mattresses, tv's, fridges and chairs. We arrange a further two clean up and several members of the community helped. Our project got the attention of the County Council, the Mayor of Tralee and Ballyheigue inshore rescue. This led to funding for Seabin and assistance cleaning the hard to reach areas. In 6months we have removed over 400bags of rubbish from the Tralee Canal and Bay. Evan has Cystic Fibrosis and CF Ireland have asked if we would all be CF ambassadors for 2019. The project shows that CF doesn't defy Evan and stop him from doing what he wants in life. Certain bacteria are highly dangerous to Evans health. Being an ambassador entails TV, radio and print media, which will highlight the Tralee Canal Project and the issue of pollution.



Méabh Bradley, Maeve Dromey, Fiachra Kerry, Lauren O'Sullivan.

Are Chemical Cleaning Agents Costing Us the Earth?

Dromleigh N.S. (Team STEAM), Cork. 2019-149, Stand #D07.

Our project was all about trying to improve the water quality of our River Lee catchment area including the Gearagh, which is a globally unique alluvial forest habitat. We wanted to prevent it being contaminated with chemicals derived from a whole range of cleaning agents used in our homes and school (like soaps, laundry detergents and dish washing products). These products could be replaced by more naturally derived and more sustainable forms of products. We used natural product sources and showed that they could effectively replace most cleaning agents that contain lots of potentially dangerous and environmentally damaging chemicals, such as; surfactants, preservatives, perfumes, colours and optical brighteners; the effects of which are not fully known or understood. Our project has been popularly received by the wider public and especially at the three science exhibitions at which we presented our work. We informed the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, our local TDs and Environmental groups regarding our findings. We have raised awareness and changed peoples' behaviour, especially at a local level through presentations and survey analysis, such that less chemicals are now making their way into the environment. We showed that chemically based cleaning products may have significant environmental impacts and may be costing us not just the earth, but our precious water resource.



Jack Jordan, Eoin Kennedy, Isaac Kearney, Billy O' Connor, Jim Quigley, Cian Jordan.

Save a Bit, Start to Switch

St Colman's N.S. Ballindaggin, Wexford. 2019-160, Stand #D11.

We want everyone to consider buying an electric car or if that's not possible a hybrid car. We made a game and raised awareness in our school and local community. We also gave out questionnaires as well as writing a fun song to promote our message. We put up posters in local garages to raise awareness among the community. Visit our blog <http://saveabitstarttoswitch.weebly.com/>.



Cup Alert

St Colman's N.S. Ballindaggin, Wexford. 2019-162, Stand #D12.

We are four fifth and sixth class girls who want everyone to use reusable coffee cups. 22,000 disposable cups an hour are thrown away in Ireland alone. We need to change this waste of precious resources. We raised awareness in our school and with our families and community. We worked with six local coffee shops in Wexford to raise awareness. We were delighted with the habits they changed. Coffee shops allowed reusable cups when they hadn't before, they have now introduced paper straws and started selling keep cups. Visit our blog <http://cupalert.weebly.com/>.

Keelan Hipwell, Kaylee Doyle, Libby Moore, Heather Bolton Lee.



Wildflower Girls

St Colman's N.S. Ballindaggin, Wexford. 2019-163, Stand #E03.

The Wildflower Girls want everyone to plant wildflowers and to encourage bees and butterflies to thrive in their natural habitats. As a group, we distributed packets of wildflower seeds to every family in our school. We are also working with three garden centres in Co. Wexford to raise awareness on the need to plant wildflowers and encourage biodiversity. Visit our blog to keep up to date with our progress: <http://wildflowergirls.weebly.com/>.

Aoife O'Gorman, Maeve Tobin, Jodi Pender, Saoirse Delaney, Eva Nola.



Think Life in Slow Motion Before You Throw Plastic in the Ocean

Scoil na nÓg, Cork. 2019-276, Stand #G10.

Our project is about the awful impact that plastic bottles have on marine life and our environment. We've started recycling the plastic bottles in our homes and in our school, and we've collected over 100 bottles throughout this project (with more to come). We have also started art classes for pupils that are interested in recycled art, and have created a poster to make the children in our school more aware of the horrifying truth! We also managed to present our project to the whole school, which was a great exercise in public speaking. The word has spread beyond the school to our families, who have decided to use eco-friendly straws and have also started making eco-bricks.

Aoibhe Ní Rathallaigh, Emma Ní Arrachtáin, Niamh Wedgebury, Mary Ní Cholmáin .



The Carbon Footprint In Everyday Life

Scoil na nÓg, Cork. 2019-255, Stand #H11.

As a result of our carbon footprints, more greenhouse gases released into the air and we wanted to make people more aware of this problem! We did some research online, and found that actions such as driving car, throwing out food and burning rubbish can really increase your carbon footprint. At the moment, we're putting posters up in our school to raise awareness about this issue, and we're also planning a cake sale to raise funds for separate recycling and general waste bins in our school.

Mark Ó Mainnín, Tara Ní Dhúnaigh, Mícheál Ó Laighean, Eilís Ní Dhrisceoil, William Mac Searraigh.

Tier 1 Funders & Sponsors



Roinn Cumarsáide, Gníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide & Comhshaoil
Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment

ECO-UNESCO's Young Environmentalist Awards is part-funded by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DCCAE). ECO-UNESCO is also part-funded by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment through the Irish Environmental Network.



ECO-UNESCO's Young Environmentalist Awards is part-funded by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA is responsible for protecting and improving the environment as a valuable asset for the people of Ireland and plays key roles in environmental regulation, provision of knowledge and advocacy for the environment.



An Roinn Leanaí agus Gnóthaí Óige
Department of Children and Youth Affairs

ECO-UNESCO is part-funded by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs which focuses on harmonising policy issues that affect children in areas such as early childhood care and education, youth justice, child welfare and protection, children and young people's participation, research on children and young people, youth work and cross-cutting initiatives for children.



An Roinn Tithíochta, Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil
Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government

ECO-UNESCO's Young Environmentalist Awards received support from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government which focuses on providing social housing supports for people who cannot afford to provide a home for themselves and creating an environment that encourages builders to deliver houses for people who wish to buy their own home.

Tier 2 Funders & Sponsors



ECO-Den Sponsors

Mayo County Council, Monaghan County Council, Roscommon County Council, Sligo County Council, Wexford County Council, Clare County Council, Dublin City Council, Kildare County Council.

Other Supporters

Irish Aid

Irish Environmental Network (Biodiversity Zone)

Make Ireland Sustainable for All

World Wise Global Schools

The Special Scheme for National Organisations (SSNO), administered by POBAL

Make Ireland Sustainable for All

Make Ireland Sustainable for All is an EC funded project implemented by World Vision Ireland, the Irish Environmental Network, Social Justice Ireland and ECO-UNESCO to promote action and awareness on the SDGs in Ireland

Acknowledgements

ECO-UNESCO would like to thank all the participants, teachers, YEA mentors and youth leaders who took part in this year's Young Environmentalist Awards. We would also like to thank our staff, volunteers and those involved in promoting and supporting our work over the last year including:

ECO-UNESCO Board:

Jamie Cudden, Marie Collins, Chris Nolan, Danny Dockery, Niall Jennings, Orla McGreal, Pdraig Ryan, David Kelly.

ECO-UNESCO Staff:

Elaine Nevin, Breon Timmons, Susie Spratt, Dunchadh Kinane, Kieran Allen, Doireann Dunbar, Gary Whelan, Mary Fleming, Eimear Manning, Clare Sheppard, Aisling Hill, Aisling Mahon, Laura-Kate Howells., Megan Kuster.

ECO-UNESCO Interns:

Hannah Charlton, Jane Neylan, Aine Farrelly, Fatia Ghalem, Baergen Schultz, Hannah Meggitt-Nuxmalo and all of our interns who have helped throughout the year, Rachel Spratt, Hannah Charlton, Michaela Sahajova, Jakub Zicha, Sarah Fuss, Macella Melo, Katharina Hippler, Niklas Hartwig, Jennifer Strencioch.

ECO-UNESCO Volunteers:

Accenture Team, ECO-UNESCO Youth for Sustainable Development Programme participants, and all of our volunteers who have helped throughout the year.

ECO-Den Expert Judging Panel:

Professor Paul Walsh (UCD), Laura Niessan (Rediscovery Centre), Anne-Marie Kelly (Laois County Council), Gary Gannon (Social Democrats), Orlaith Bermingham (Accenture), Caitriona Rogerson (IEN), Abigail Murphy (EPA), Sabrina Dekker (DCU), Clodagh Kelly (Swapsies), Lydia Mc Carthy (Trocaire), David Dodd (Dublin City Council), Dara Wyr (Kildare County Council), Ruth Maxwell (Westmeath County Council), Davnet McEllin (Galway City GRETB), Pat Dolan (NUIG), Aishling McGrath (World Wise Global Schools), Rory McAvinney (Galway Atlantaquaria), Niall O'Connor (Monaghan County Council), Andrew Gracey (Ulster Wildlife), James O'Donovan (Cork Environmental Forum), Caitriona McNaeidhe (Cork ETB), Margaret Desmond (EPA), Deirdre Hogan (UBUNTU UL), Bernier Connolly (Cork Environmental Forum), Maria Young (Cork Healthy Cities), Niamh O'Carroll (EPA).

Showcase Expert Judging Panel:

Mary Cunningam (NYCI), Lizzy Noone (World Wise Global Schools), Annette Honan (NCCA), Lydia McCarthy (Trocaire), Caitriona Rogerson (IEN), Anne Payne (Irish Aid), Samantha Fahy (DCU), Dean Eaton (DLR County Council), Gary Brady (Longford County Council), Nial O'Connor (Monaghan County Council), Siobhan Gillen (Sligo County Council), Niamh Hatchell (EPA), Margaret Desmond (EPA), Martin Hoffler (Bord Bia), Ciaran Fallon (Coillte), Paul Manning (Veolia), Paul Kenny (Tipperary Energy Agency), Madeleine Murray (Change by Degrees), Sinead Mercier (Green Party), Tony Dalton (Laois & Offaly ETB), George O'Callaghan (Limerick & Clare ETB), Sabrina Dekker (DCU), Lauren Wright (Concern), Davnet McEllin (Galway City GRETB), Alexey Janes (Ulster Wildlife Trust), Emmanuelle Place (Leargas), Evelyn O'Connor (Dept. of Education), Gretta McCarron (Local Authorities Water Programme), Deirdre Hogan (UL), Jennifer Fullton (Ulster Wildlife).

Ceremony Award Presenters:

Richard Bruton TD (Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment), Eamon Ryan TD, Sam Loni (UN SDSN), Ciarán Fallon (Coillte), Margaret Desmond (EPA), Lydia Mc Carthy (Trócaire), Frances Deasy (M&S), Eoghan Murphy TD (Minister for the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government), Clare McNamara (Department of Children and Youth Affairs), Brian Murphy (Enrich).

Special Guests:

Richard Bruton TD (Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment), Eamon Ryan TD, Sam Loni (UN SDSN).

Exhibitors:

Accenture, Coillte, Dublin Cycling Campaign, EPA, Friends of the Earth, Enrich, Gaisce, Irish Aid, Neat Streets (An Taisce), Smart Cities, Smoothie Bikes, World Wise Global Schools.

Venue:

Thank you to the Convention Centre Dublin for supporting this special event.

MCs:

Taz Kelleher & Geraldine Carton



Venue Location Map

The Convention Centre Dublin
Spencer Dock
North Wall Quay
North Wall
Dublin 1



The ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards 2019 is being held in the Convention Centre Dublin. We would like your group to gain as much from the experience as possible and for this, full cooperation and good behaviour will be expected from group members at all times. Please make note of the following rules, regulations and procedures and contact us if you have any queries or require any assistance. We look forward to a highly enjoyable event.

Project Displays

The Venue will be open for set up at 8:30am. Project displays should be ready for 9.50 (unless special arrangements have been made with Susie Spratt). Event opens to public at 10.00 sharp.

Display materials are to be prepared in advance adhering to criteria detailed above.

Please ONLY use velcro to attach displays to your exhibition board (no tape, pins etc)

You MUST NOT attach anything to the walls of the CCD by any means; tape, blue tack, drawing pins, etc.

You will need to take your display materials back with you after the awards ceremony.

Showcase

Groups MUST be present at their stands during their allocated judging times:

YELLOW BAND: 10.00 - 11.00

GREEN BAND: 11.00 – 12.00

BLUE BAND: 12.00-1.00

Consider having one or two member of your team at your stand outside of judging times to meet other guests and members of the public.

Food

Each group is responsible for organising their own lunch. A limited amount of food will be on sale at the CCD from 9.00-1.45. There are many green spaces near the CCD where packed lunches may be consumed and the CHQ building nearby has free seating areas and food outlets.

If you are bringing food or drink with you, please ensure that it is waste-free and comes in reusable snack and drink containers. There will be water fountains but no plastic cups will be provided so please bring your own reusable water bottles.

Coffee will be on sale in biodegradable cups but please bring your own keep cup if you can.

Award Ceremony

All group members must make their way to the Main Auditorium for 1.45 for the Awards Ceremony.

A representative from each award-winning group may be asked on stage about their project. Please choose a suitable spokesperson from your group in advance..

ECO-UNESCO reserves the right to eliminate and/or combine categories where there are a low number of entries or where entries are deemed not to have reached the required standard. In this situation, there may not be an award made in each category. A number of high commendations may also be made.

General Terms & Conditions

All participating group members must commit to attending the entire event (unless otherwise agreed with ECO-UNESCO.)

Leaders and teachers are responsible for the conduct of their individual groups.

Dress code is optional, we would suggest that young people should decide themselves what they wish to wear. Part of the ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards ethos is to encourage young people to make decisions for themselves.

Groups are advised to check their travel arrangements as soon as possible. Please see travel information above.

ECO-UNESCO and the Venue take no responsibility for lost or stolen or damaged goods during the event.

As per the details signed in your original YEA Registration Form, please be reminded that images and/or video footage may be utilised by ECO-UNESCO for promotional usage in print and online publications; educational resources; publicity; advertising; web content; and other ECO-UNESCO media. ECO-UNESCO may use these images/ video clips with or without names.

Please note that mentors are responsible at all times during the Showcase and Awards Ceremony for the safety and well-being of their groups. Please note that this is a large-scale event held across a number of floors and rooms. It is imperative that the young people are adequately supervised and that there is an appropriate adult/young person ratio in line with your organisation's guidelines.

About ECO-UNESCO

Founded in 1986, ECO-UNESCO is Ireland's environmental education and youth organisation which works to protect the environment by engaging, educating and empowering young people. ECO-UNESCO has a broad range of environmental education and youth programmes and services for young people in a range of settings including youth groups, schools, community groups and as independent ECO-UNESCO groups.

Our aims are to:

- Raise awareness, understanding and knowledge of the natural environment among young people.
- Engage, inspire and empower young people by facilitating their personal development and wellbeing through practical environmental projects, activities and skills development.
- Promote the protection and conservation of the environment by empowering young people to lead in action oriented environmental projects and activities and by promoting positive and environmental behaviour.
- Advocate for environmental education, education for sustainable development, the natural environment and youth development.
- Promote the ideals of UNESCO and working with like-minded organisations in Europe and globally.

ECO-UNESCO's Work

Environmental Youth Programmes

ECO-UNESCO develops and runs programmes for young people on a broad range of environmental issues through schools, youth organisations, community groups or local authorities. The programmes include environmental events and activities, environmental workshops, ECO-UNESCO Clubs, ECO-Youth Choices and Youth for Sustainable Development. ECO-UNESCO also produces environmental education resources including publications and posters suitable for young people, youth leaders, primary and secondary school teachers, youth groups, community groups and individuals.

Find out more at www.ecounesco.ie.

Training Programmes

ECO-UNESCO develops and runs training programmes for young people and trainers within non-formal and formal education, providing a specialist approach to working with young people. The programmes include one-day training courses, and a range of QQI Accredited Courses including Introduction to Sustainable Development (L5), ECO-Community Development (L3), Peer Education (L5), Outdoor Vegetable Crop Production (L3), Growing Vegetables (L4) and Ecology and the Environment (L6). ECO-UNESCO also runs a Green Youth Employability programme.

Find out more at www.ecounesco.ie.

Awards

ECO-UNESCO recognises and rewards the work of young people in environmental protection and conservation through a range of Awards programmes including our Young Environmentalist Awards. Find out more at www.yea.ie.

Link to UNESCO

ECO-UNESCO is a Key Strategic Partner of UNESCO for the implementation of the UNESCO Global Action Programme (GAP) in Education for Sustainable Development (ESD).

ECO-UNESCO is affiliated with the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (WFUCA).



ECO-UNESCO's #NoTimeToWaste Youth Summit

ECO-UNESCO's Youth Summit '#NoTimeToWaste' is culminating in a special final event at the Young Environmentalist Awards 2019.

Over the course of 2018 and 2019, 60+ young people from partners in Ireland, Catalonia, Norway and Greece came together to have a number of Structured Dialogue events with key decision Policy Makers, Councillors, Ministers, MEP's and experts. In these Structured Dialogue sessions, the young people discussed their wants and needs with these decision makers in relation to key Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) and encouraged them to take the recommendations to higher platforms. The young people took action through local action projects based on the SDG's and highlighted their work to these key Policy and Decision makers.

At the Young Environmentalist Awards 2019, the #NoTimeToWaste participants will showcase their projects, have a final chance to highlight their work to the policy makers and receive their YouthPass and Environmental Youth Leadership certificates. We would like to congratulate all the young people involved, and we hope that you continue to carry that environmental knowledge and passion with you to future endeavours.

ECO-UNESCO would like to thank all of the experts who attended the Youth Summit events.

The Youth Summit was made possible with funding from Leargas and Erasmus+.

The #NoTimeToWaste Youth Summit partners were:

ECO-UNESCO #YSD Bray

ECO-UNESCO #YSD Drogheda

ECO-UNESCO #YSD Dublin

Resilience.Earth, Spain

Hordaland Fylkeskommunie, Norway

Club for UNESCO of Piraeus & Islands, Greece



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<http://tiny.cc/YEA19>

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