

# November Eco Newsletter

## Fairaware School



I am delighted to tell you that Tilery Primary School is now a Fairaware School. This means that our children are aware of what Fairtrade is and can recognise the Fairtrade logo. They are aware that by buying items with the Fairtrade logo on them means that the farmers are receiving a fair deal and are receiving a fair pay for the products that they produce.

## Cut Your Carbon in November

Climate change is harming our planet, melting ice caps and creating dangerous weather events including drought, and floods.

### Why cut your carbon?

- 1 Make 5 miles of travel 'active'.** Did you know, a petrol car creates around 1kg of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions (or 'CO<sub>2</sub>e') every 5 miles? 'Active Travel' - such as walking, scooting, wheeling, or cycling - doesn't emit anything! So, we're challenging you to make 5 miles of travel active. Whether it's a single 5-mile trip, or five 1-mile trips... ditch the drive!
- 2 Go plant-based for a day.** Meat production is responsible for around 14% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. Choose a day to go plant-based and discover how delicious cutting carbon can be! By switching from a meat-based diet to a plant-based diet, for just one day, you can reduce your emissions by nearly 3kg CO<sub>2</sub>e.
- 3 Turn down the heating by 1° for a week.** Heating is the biggest source of carbon emissions in many homes. So pop on a jacket and drop the thermostat by 1°. Completing this challenge could prevent an additional 6kg CO<sub>2</sub>e!
- 4 Buy nothing new for 1 month.** The production of every item that you buy has a carbon footprint. Write a list of every non-essential item that you bought (or was bought for you) last month. Put them into categories - e.g. clothing, toys, or cosmetics - and don't buy anything from one of these categories for 1 month. If you purchase 1kg less stuff during the month, you can save an average of 6kg CO<sub>2</sub>e.
- 5 Substitute 4 baths for 4 showers and limit them to 4 minutes.** Cleaning and pumping water to our homes creates carbon emissions. So does generating energy to heat it. This means that shorter showers are good for our planet! Limiting 4 showers to 4 minutes will save around 1.5kg of CO<sub>2</sub>e. We recommend using a 4-minute song as a timer that you can sing-along to!
- 6 Switch off all of your non-essential electrical devices for an hour.** Electricity can account for 25% of your home's carbon footprint. Think about when your family uses the most unnecessary electricity, maybe you're gaming, or perhaps watching TV? At that time, turn off all non-essentials for 1 hour and do something device-free!

Your teacher will give you a copy of the checklist to fill in, at home.

Governments must act and big businesses need to change.

But we can also play a part. Making small daily changes can add up to make a big difference.

We're challenging you to complete 6 small activities across November, at home, with friends and family. Each activity will reduce your carbon emissions and inspire others to act.



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6. Switch off all non-essential electrical devices for an hour