

# SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER

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The BTFWW mission is to educate and inspire our pupils to embrace a sustainable lifestyle and mindset and to take action to make the changes they feel are needed to improve the world around them. This newsletter showcases our school and community projects. There are three issues per year.

## • P3 Composting Champions!

This year the children of P3 in all sections are working to support our School Garden compost by collecting their own food waste from the Mensa and taking the compostable food back to feed our composter! They are measuring it for Green School. We hope to have lots of super-rich compost to keep our School Gardens healthy! Thanks to Prof. Hayman and Prof. Cooper for organising and thank you also to the Maintenance Team who always support our projects.

## • Secondary Repair Shop Expanding!

The students of the Repair Shop are fixing more things than ever, including a coffee machine, a school light sensor, an air compressor, school Christmas lights, a microwave oven, and even a broken smartphone with just 10 euros spare parts! They have recently installed a new workbench for their projects in room D004. If you have something to fix, please send an email to: [alberto.vis@teacher.eursc.eu](mailto:alberto.vis@teacher.eursc.eu)



## • Spanish Materna Story 'The Last Tree'

The children in Spanish Materna have listened to the story of "The Last Tree" by María Quintana Silva with Prof. Reboso. It is a children's story that highlights the importance of caring for the environment and nature where a little boy dedicates himself to planting new trees, recycling, and caring for the environment, hoping that one day the last tree will not be so alone.



• **Materna Eco Bear Recycling**

Materna ENA have been learning about recycling with the help of Eco Bear Honey! With Prof. Young and Prof. Rhodes they have made their own miniature recycling bins which they then used to learn how to sort rubbish correctly.



• **Secondary Erasmus Maris Project**

The Erasmus Maris Project promotes sustainability through experiential learning. Earlier this year students visited Valencia to learn about microplastics pollution, combining hands-on data collection with critical laboratory work. With Prof. Bortels and Prof. Dudal, they will be undertaking water sampling, data analysis, and presentations to our school community.

We are excited to see their work. Congratulations to the students and teachers for the success of this project.

• **Secondary Fattoria Field Trip**

S5 biology students spent two busy days at Fattoria Rancina, taking measurements, collecting data, making observations, testing hypotheses, and investigating the human impact on nearby habitats.

Well done to our burgeoning scientists for their fantastic teamwork. Our students understand that we are one part of this great ecosystem that is our planet.

A big thank you to our biology teachers and technician for organising this trip and to the owners of Fattoria Rancina for their warm welcome.



- Primary No water = no life

Primary children have been learning about the importance of water and have made this educational display.



- Italian National Tree Day for Materna

Children of the Materna joined Dott. Sanzi to plant a new tree together to celebrate the Day of the Tree on November the 21st.

They really enjoyed learning how to plant a tree, even when it started snowing!

- Primary and Materna Snack Waste for Green School

The Primary and Materna classes all counted their snack waste for one week in November to see how much they have. They were very impressed to see that many classes had very little! We are going to work on ways that we can reduce our waste even more for Green School.



• **Secondary Anton Dohrn Zoological Station**

In September, S7 biology students, accompanied by their teacher, Prof. Pirrami, visited the marine biology laboratory of the Anton Dohrn Zoological Station in Ischia. They participated in a presentation of the work of two researchers: one on ocean acidification as a consequence of global warming, and the other on molecular biology in the study of ecosystems.



Later, they enjoyed a guided snorkelling session in the waters in front of the idyllic Aragonese Castle, allowing them to explore a marine ecosystem firsthand.



• **P5 Biodiversity Project**

The P5 French and German classes are working on a Biodiversity project to observe the evolution of three areas of ground behind the Erasmus building over this year. They will compare three areas: the first where grass will grow and the gardeners will mow it. In the second area, they will let the plants grow by themselves; and in the third, the goal will be to help the fauna and flora to develop.

The objective of the experiment is to see the evolution of biodiversity according to the differences. We will follow the project and show you the results. Thanks to Prof. Heinlet, Prof. Perrin and Jacapo from the Maintenance Team.



• **Materna Bird Feeders**

In Materna ENB, Eco Bear has been helping them to learn about Reducing, Reusing and Recycling with Prof. Öhrn and Prof. Rivers-Scott.

4 semaines plus tard, le gazon a poussé!

The M2 children have been learning about how they can reuse objects for other purposes by making bird feeders out of old plastic bottles. They filled the bottles with seeds and made holes in them to poke old lolly sticks inside for the birds to stand on. The birds loved them!



• Italian National Tree Day for Secondary

The Membro Ecologico of the Secondary Student Council, along with students and staff, marked the occasion on 21st November by planting an olive tree on campus. This meaningful gesture symbolizes our shared commitment to a hopeful, sustainable, and peaceful future. The tree was also planted in memory of former staff member Eoin Pól Ó Rúis, who sadly passed away in July 2023.



• Materna IT Christmas Art with recycled materials

As part of the Materna's harmonized topic about Recycling, the Materna IT class have created beautiful christmas artwork using recycled materials. Thanks to Prof. Carzedda.



• Parents Ski Sale

The parents organised the annual Ski Sale with some lovely cakes and hot drinks to keep everyone warm.

It's a great annual tradition to help everyone enable to give new homes to preloved skis and clothing without having to buy new! Thanks to AGSEV and the parents for organising.



• Materna 'Just Take One Paper Towel' project

The M2 children of Materna ENB wanted to Reduce the number of paper towels everyone uses. They decided to make some posters and have stuck them around the Materna and Primary bathrooms.





• **Plastic Pollution Fresk for Secondary S5 Students**

Developed by the Tara Ocean Foundation, the Plastic Pollution Fresk is an introductory tool to the issues surrounding plastic pollution. During an engaging, collaborative workshop, students are encouraged to acquire knowledge and think in groups to gradually build a fresk, using cards to be positioned logically in relation to each other. Thanks to Prof. Lestra who is one of our Secondary trained Climate Fresk facilitators.

• **Annual Shoe Box Gift Collection**

This year the annual Shoe Box gift collection organised by the school and JRC continues, and we are happy to see many boxes being collected by our generous community, thank you to everyone!



• **Climate Fresk for Primary P5 Students**

This year the P5 students are working with trained teachers and local trained facilitators to discuss climate change through the Climate Fresk workshop programme.

As participants link the causes and effects of climate change, they are able to take a step back and understand the systemic nature of the challenges. Thanks to Prof. Perrin and parent Alison Micklem who are our trained Climate Fresk facilitators.

• **Membro Ecologico Secondary**

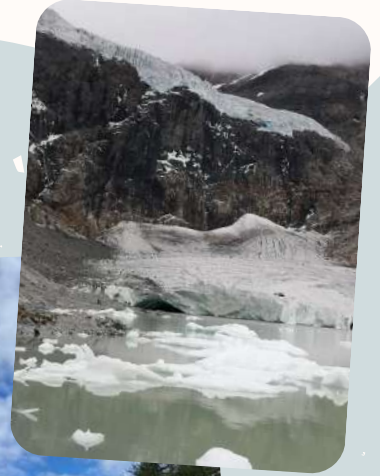
The Secondary Membro Ecologico S7 students are working towards several projects this year including:

- Selling school water bottles across all European Schools to discourage the use of single-use plastic water bottles at school
- Investigating starting their own Climate Academy
- Planning a synchronised bake sale with the other European Schools to group profits and give a larger donation all together to a charity/organisation
- Planning a synchronised art exhibition with all European schools using waste/recycled material



- **Secondary Alpine Explorations**

Twenty-two lucky S7 geography four period students, accompanied by Prof. Kolkiewicz and Prof. Cawthorne enjoyed a breath-taking field trip to the Valmalenco Alpine region. Over three days, students explored glacial landforms, agritourism, mountain tourism, hydroelectric power, and the impacts of climate change. A standout event was a hike to the Fellaria Glacier, passing the Gera hydroelectric dam and Lake Gera. This hands-on learning experience brought classroom concepts to life and deepened students' understanding of both physical and human geography. We are so fortunate to have these natural resources on our doorstep. Let's protect them!



- **Parents and JRC Plogging**

This year the ESV parents and JRC Green Team have joined together for a Plogging event in Ispra.

What is plogging? Plogging is a combination of jogging and picking up litter. Lots collected and more events to come, all welcome to join! Thanks to the AGSEV sustainability team.

- **The Ispra Repair Cafe & Swap Shop**

ESV parents have also joined forces with the Ispra Repair Cafe & Swap Shop which takes place every month at the Ispra old train station. Here you can come and swap clothes, shoes, fix broken things, repair bicycles and connect over coffee and cake. All welcome!

