

# School Talk



## St. Joseph's CBS

Over the last year the boys of St. Joseph's CBS Primary School in Fairview, Dublin 3 have been getting involved in loads of activities to explore and protect their local environment! In each issue of Nature News we hope to introduce you to a school that plays a big part in looking after their local environment.



Our Green School Committee meets every Monday to make sure our school continues to be environmentally friendly. The committee has made up a Green School Song, which our band 'The Groovy Blues' can perform. The first letter of each line spells out our school's name...Joey's!  
The words are:

*Just about everything  
can be reused,  
One class a week bring  
whatever they choose,  
Even fruit and veg  
goes in the compost  
bin,  
You must be green  
'round here or that  
would be a...  
Sin!!!*

The lads have been working hard at recycling as much of the school's daily waste as possible, from paper and milk cartons, to plastic bottles and even batteries!!! The boys put all their fruit and vegetable waste in the school's compost bins. This compost is used everyday in the school garden, where classes grow flowers and plants and even goes in our wormery!!

As regards recycling, we have green bins in the school, which are collected each month, but the boys also make regular trips to our local 'Bring Centre' in North Strand. Every week a different class organises a whole-school collection of recyclable things like batteries, plastic bottles, stamps etc. which are then brought down there.

That's not all though!!! The Joey's lads also go outside their school to protect their local area! For example, here we see the boys from 4<sup>th</sup> class doing some spring cleaning on our local beach, Dollymount Strand, and in Fairview Park. Joey's boys also mapped out the whole of Fairview and Marino and performed surveys on the

amount of litter bins in our local area!

Back inside the school, the boys are kept very busy too! The boys did so well last year in the areas of science and nature studies

visited the school to talk about natural history and Irish wildlife. Joey's boys also attended a talk in ENFO about how to spot and protect whales and dolphins in Irish waters.



Above: Clean-up at Fairview Park



Above: Naturally dyed t-shirts.  
Right: Clean-up at Dollymount



that they were awarded the 'Discover Primary Science Award of Excellence'. As part of their studies, the lads visited the Natural History Museum in Dublin City Centre, Dublin Zoo, the Ark project and the Bray Aquarium. Guest speaker Mr. Patrick Madden also

The lads found out that Howth Head, near Joey's school, is a great place to spot lots of sea life!

Some boys designed their own trendy t-shirts, using all natural dyes from red cabbage, lemon juice, vinegar and baking soda!!!

So finally, with all of this great science and nature study being done in Joey's, plus the way everyone around our school behaves in an environmentally friendly way every day, we hope to get a Green Schools Flag for our school in the spring of 2006. We really hope we get it because in Joey's we like to say that we're 'The best and busiest little school in the world!!!'.

Article by  
Mr. Ciarán Caulfield,  
class teacher in  
St. Joseph's CBS.  
If you would like to contact  
St. Joseph's CBS School, please  
check out our website  
[www.Stjosephscbs.ie](http://www.Stjosephscbs.ie)