

Green-Schools work over the past two years

Climate Action Week Displays

During Climate Action Week, in October of last year, the Committee started the week off with a powerful, vibrant display which was on view in the Assembly area. The display highlighted the effects of The Fashion and Farming Industries on Global warming. We also focused on the Fashion Industries excessive use of water as we were tackling The Water Theme.

According to the Pulse of Fashion report in 2015 the industry was responsible for 1,715 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions. The UN states that the fashion industry consumes more energy than the aviation and shipping industry combined. The Pulse report forecast fashion emissions to grow by 63% by 2030.

Agriculture accounts for the majority of methane (CH₄) emissions in Ireland (85%) due to the dominance of cattle and sheep livestock production in Irish agricultural output. These ruminant animals release CH₄ as a bi-product of microbial fermentation of food in the rumen and large intestine. This process, called *enteric fermentation*, produces more than half of all GHG emissions from agriculture.

The display's aim was to enlighten the school community and make them more aware of Climate Change concerns and to highlight what small actions we can take as a community to combat Climate Change. We decided to have a used clothes collection as a ridiculous amount of clothing is thrown away each year in our fast fashion culture. We gathered a considerable amount of clothes during the week which we donated to charity. A prize was awarded to the student who brought in the largest amount of clothes.

We listed other ways in which people could play their part to reduce emissions e.g., walk to school, eat a plant based lunch, buy less clothes and wear the clothes you already have piling up in your cupboard. The committee also ran an art club at lunch time throughout the week where students made hats and dickie bows out of recycled materials.

The Climate Action display of October 2020 focused specifically on Travel as this is our new Theme. We once again created a vibrant display focusing on car and aeroplane emissions to grab the attention of The School Community.

Climate Action Week March

In March of 2018 our school teamed up with Pipers Hill Secondary School and we went on a Climate Action march through the streets of Naas. The Committee created a number of different posters to highlight the impact of Global warming with slogans such as “ Glaciers are Shrinking what are we thinking’ .This turned into the chant’ Glaciers are shrinking what is Leo thinking” We also chanted “There is no planet B let’s find plan B”

We marched to the Council Offices, met with the Lead Energy Officer there and then went on to The Law Court in Naas town and met with a local TD who addressed the large group of students. He praised their actions and assured them that his party was committed to addressing Climate Change. Much support was given to the march by passing onlookers.

Water Awareness Day

In Feb of 2019 we had a Water Awareness Day where The Committee members put up an impressive display solely about water concerns. We created a water awareness quiz to encourage students to absorb the facts about water wastage and water shortages around the world. At the end of the day all the answered quiz sheets were gathered from the collection box and the winner received a prize.

Walk for water event

In March 2019 we did our own walk for water through the streets of Naas to highlight the struggle of women and children in third world countries. These people have to walk long distances each day just to get basic water supplies, something we take for granted. We also wanted to highlight how much water the people of Ireland waste and wanted to stress that water is precious and so we chanted our Green Code slogan “ **Turn of the tap , turn off the shower, save water every hour**”. Once again posters were created and used to get our message across to the wider Community.