

Thursday 27/06/24 08:31

Dear Colleagues,

Recent Education Strategy Committee

The Committee met at Epping Forest, a great opportunity for trustees to visit a Centre. The agenda included an update on the Strategic Plan based around the 4Rs (Reach, Recovery, Recognition and Resilience). We also considered what might impact our work over the next 10 years including citizen science, urban ecology, climate change, wellbeing and nature connection.

The committee considered the impact of AI's role in our educational delivery and looked at how the Youth Council can have greater impact across our charity by developing the youth voice. The committee also endorsed plans for extending day provision in Scotland. If you want to find out more about any of these topics click [here](#) or contact staff rep Chloe Toorneini.

What's happening with the People Plan?

Progress on our People Plan actions is regularly updated. You can see for yourself what has been completed and the work in progress in the [latest update here](#). This month's [Occasional Staff Newsletter](#) also looked in greater depth at some of our People Plan actions. In particular it highlighted the work on staff training, development, career progression paths and recognition. It's a quick read but will help bring you up to speed on what's going.

Green Fund Applications for Summer 2024 now open

Green Fund supports projects developed and delivered by staff at our locations across the charity. They are focussed on reducing our carbon emissions as we move towards Net Zero and on supporting Nature Recovery. Your centre's Sustainability Coordinator will lead on developing projects and applications, with support from their staff team and Centre Manager. Sustainability Manager Sam Thurston is also available to discuss potential project ideas. The deadline for applications is 5pm on 31st August 2024 and further details on how to apply [can be found here](#).

Green Fund projects from last winter are already in full swing including at Preston Montford where staff have been thinning trees and planting saplings and wildflowers to boost the biodiversity of the woodland on site. This project aims to improve woodland areas for wildlife and act as both a teaching resource and carbon capture site.

Award Nomination

Field Studies Council has been nominated for a [School Travel Award 2024](#) in the Best Geography Learning Experience. Just to be clear (at a time of questionable behaviour around the election!) votes can only be accepted from teachers and educational visits co-ordinators but it's great to make the [list of finalists](#) against some fairly tough competition. Thank you to the many who make our Geography Field Trips such a good experience.

Special Mention

In that great tradition of rooting for the underdog, congratulations to Kate Chesshire from the finance team and Dixie her rescue greyhound who won Best in Show at Hector's Greyhound Rescue charity show. Dixie regularly brings Kate to work with her where she has developed a fondness for both cake and document shredding.



Welcome, welcome back and congratulations to:

Georgia Creig who has returned as a Tutor at Rhyd-y-Creiau

Julie Lockyer has been promoted to Lead Housekeeper at Margam

At Juniper Hall, Alice Crane has been promoted from Trainee Tutor to Tutor and Priscilla Corte

De Jesus has become a permanent Hospitality and Catering Assistant

Hospitality and Catering Assistants Sophie Rowe and Yani Dolage have joined Nettlecombe and Castle Head respectively.

Previous Catch Ups and the latest Health & Wellbeing Newsletter can be found here on the [staff news page of the intranet](#).

Best Regards

Mark