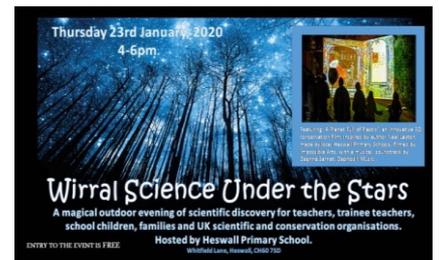




Heswall Primary School: Our Commitment to the Environment

Heswall Primary has been committed to encouraging pupils, students, staff and the wider community to pursue a more environmentally friendly life style for many years. Our environmental project work has grown from strength to strength and we are regularly contacted to support the eco work of others in local schools, universities and community groups. We have a global profile and support conservation projects overseas, in addition to working with many local organisations. Throughout the year, we celebrate significant environmental events with our school community - **sustainability is at the very heart of our curriculum**. A particular strength of our school are the large scale creative events we run to raise awareness of environmental issues with the wider community; Wirral Science Under the Stars is one great example of this-

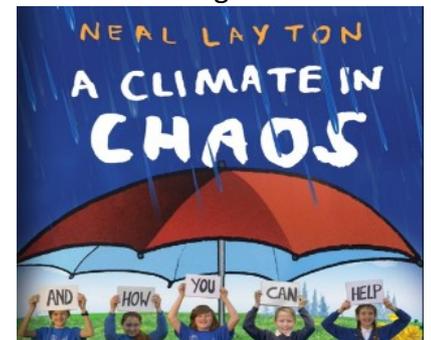
Wirral Science Under the Stars (WSUS) is a large scale event run by Heswall Primary and is an **opportunity for local school children, teachers and community members to network with environmental and scientific organisations from across Wirral**. It usually runs in January and is attended by over 1000 people and 50 organisations. During the pandemic, we even ran the event virtually! Last year (2022), we ran the event on 6th July- newly titled '**Wirral Science in the Sunshine**' (WSIS).



During the event, we show an eco film on a giant screen outdoors, which is written and created by Heswall Primary – we invite other schools and community groups to be involved in filming this too.

Last year's WSIS film, '**A Climate in Chaos**' inspired by author Neal Layton- was chosen to mark **COP26**.

Prior to the WSIS event, we held a '**climate summit**' for Wirral schools at Heswall to discuss with local environmental organisations ways in which Wirral schools can make changes to **combat the effects of climate change**.



You can view our **new** film here: [2022 Climate in Chaos](#)

You may also enjoy watching some of the eco films we have made in previous years:

- [2018 Wirral Saves the Planet](#)
- [2019 Extinction is Forever](#)
- [2020 A Planet Full of Plastic and How you can help](#)

You can hear some of the songs written for the films in collaboration with composer Daphne [here](#).

Another of our large scale community projects is: **#heswalloceanblue- Take the Plastic Pledge**



We began **#heswalloceanblue** in 2019, after discovering that a large number of children were using single-use plastic water bottles. This project was launched with a plastic pledge market, author visit and a T shirt campaign, to spread the message across the globe- we have even given some celebrities our T shirts! We run events throughout the school year to promote reduction of single use plastics in our wider community. For example, in summer 2021, we gave every child in school a litter picker and asked them to clean up Wirral during the holidays. Some of the children even took their litter pickers abroad!

We believe that every environmental project pursued with the children should have **longevity** and our entire curriculum is based around the **UN global goals**. We deliver a deeply contextualised curriculum and are constantly looking for opportunities to connect with local and global conservation organisations, to give real purpose to the children's learning. We want every child to realise that they have a **responsibly to protect the planet**. By networking with conservation professionals, the children can see for themselves real evidence of the importance of conserving their environment.

Recent examples of projects/initiatives:

- Raising money for **wolf conservation in Alaska**- this involved a live after-school skype session with children and parents to explore climate conservation with an expert live in Alaska.
- **World Ocean's Day/ Walk to School Week/ Switch Off Fortnight**
- **Plastic Pledge Market** – we created and ran stall to introduce our local community to reduce their use of single use plastics.
- **Building Butterfly Garden** with Mid Wirral Rotary Club
- **GAFI (Great Ape Film Initiative) conservation collaboration: Rainwater Harvesters & Gorilla PPE**
We have a twin school in Uganda, near the edge of the Bwindi rainforest. During the pandemic, we fundraised to send over PPE for the wardens, to protect the gorillas from catching Covid. We have also raised funds to build numerous water harvesters near to our twin school and work on collaborative environmental projects through our curriculum.
- **Trash2Treasure summer upcycling scheme**



Heswall pupils understand they are the future custodians of the planet- they wear their **#heswalloceanblue** t shirts with pride and spread the message of reducing use of single use plastics wherever they go. After leaving Heswall Primary, we hope that each and every child carries our school eco code, '**small actions make big differences**' with them -as a lasting environmental legacy.