

Dalbeattie Primary

Rotary Young Environmentalist Competition 2023

Who are our young environmentalists?

- They are Rory, Lucy J, Isabella and Lucy S. They were formed as a sub group of our eco group in 2022-2023 and will continue their work in 2023-2024



In January 2023 we were invited, by Dalbeattie and District Rotary Club, to enter the Rotary's Young Environmentalist competition

The criteria for the competition entry was to show evidence of how we had monitored and enhanced wildlife habitat in our school grounds. For this we focussed on the results of two RSPB birdwatches and evidenced what we did in between to attract more birds to our playground.

This was the first page of our submission

Rotary Young Environmentalist Entry January 2023

Junior Category- age up to 10

Biodiversity Research Area: **Focus on Monitoring and Enhancing Bird Wildlife in School Grounds**

[Dalbeattie Primary School](#)



[Our Young Environmentalist Group: Lucy, Lucy, Isabella, Rory](#)

[\(a sub group of our main Eco Group\)](#)

Overview:

Dalbeattie Primary moved to its new school building at Dalbeattie Learning Campus in November 2017. Since then, the Eco Committee has been active in making improvements to the school grounds in terms of provision for wildlife habitat. At the time of handover, we had a partial playground but were handed our entire grounds, complete with large class planters in the summer of 2018. Since then there has been a focus on stocking the planters with a variety

We included evidence of the birds we saw and graphs demonstrated our results.

Now that school has returned to a normal pattern of activity again, eco activities have resumed fully. Moreover, we have noticed, as part of day to day informal observations that species of smaller bird wildlife are much more evident in the playground. In January 2023, therefore the Eco Schools committee has registered to take part in the RSPB Bird Watch 2023. A small sub group of 4 members will form the 'Bird Watch Group' and will compare the new results with previous data. These were our results from the birdwatch day:



wagtail 1



wagtail 2



sparrows

We even captured some videos as proof!

We compared results from two birdwatches



We talked about the things we had done in between to attract more birds.



We also tied this in with work carried out by P6/7 where Rory was part of the class.



We also had to plan next steps in our project to monitor and enhance habitat.....

One of our plans is to install a wildlife recording board, made by Dalbeattie Men's Shed.

We submitted our entry and waited....

We were delighted to be the regional winners.
This was decided in March 2023....

This meant we were entered into the national
level of the competition.

In July 2023 the final results were
announced....

We are thrilled to
be the UK Winners
(Junior category) of
the Rotary Young
Environmentalists
Competition 2023 !



Our 4 young environmentalists receive a certificate each and we have an Amazon voucher award of £75 for school!



Today, we are delighted to have members from Dalbeattie and District Rotary Club to present the awards.