**Eco Minutes. Wednesday 5th December**

**Present:** Miss Heenan, Mrs Ola, Jim McGladrigan, Mrs Matonti, Mrs Dignall, Mrs Boswell, Mrs Murray, Mr Miller

**Apologies**:Tracey Harrison (Tesco)

* Miss Heenan welcomed and introduced everyone present.
* Everyone had an opportunity to look through the range of photographs etc displayed on the table demonstrating eco school work at BEYC.
* Mrs Ola gave a brief outline of Eco School. She then explained the process of completing the **environmental review** with children and how this informs us of our focus topics. (3 out of 10 topics) Mrs Ola shared our draft **Action Plans** for our current topics of **litter, water** and **energy**.
* Miss Heenan explained how we are currently working on compiling a pictorial Energy Checklist for the children to use to be “Eco Monitors” regarding lights on/off.
* Miss Heenan explained how in recent years much of our evidence regarding eco has been put on the blog and not always on the noticeboard and asked for people’s views on this. Many parents said they enjoyed reading the blog but said they don’t always have time to read the blog and said it would be helpful to also have eco information on the noticeboard to catch their eye as they passed.
* Staff agreed to display more on the eco noticeboard rather than just on the blog and on newsletters.
* Parents shared suggestions as follows regarding eco at BEYC;
* **Promote awareness of dangers of plastic eg. not using straws, plastic bags, glitter (edible glitter for reindeer food next year?) Staff to contact milk company again re straws.**
* **Encourage eco activities at home through Adventure Ted**
* **Encourage families to email BEYC their photos of eco work at home and in the community (eg. Picking up litter)**
* **Encourage children and adults to put their rubbish in the bin as children lead by example and it’s important to share the message as young as possible**
* Jim McGladrigan explained his and the WLC Cleaner Communities Team’s previous work with BEYC (National Spring Clean, Litter Poster Campaign on the cycle path, and workshops with the children involving powerpoints, Erik the Dog Mascot, recycling games and paper making.)
* Miss Heenan mentioned the national Wrigley Litter Less Campaign and explained how we had applied and were successful. BEYC applied for £200 for child sized litter picks for children to use both in the nursery grounds and also out and about in our local community. Mrs Murray agreed that her own child and other children always noticed and commented on litter every time they went on their Forest Schools walk on the cycle path last year.
* As part of this **Wrigley Litter Less** campaign we need to;
1. Launch the campaign at BEYC in January
2. promote and inform our community throughout the campaign process. For example through social media, the press or school bulletins.
3. carry out at least three measurements of the litter collected in our chosen location which should be the same location each time. (Everyone agreed the cycle path as a location) Parent helpers required.
* Jim, Parents and staff suggested many ideas for launch day;
* **Taking photos at start of project “Environmental visual audit”**
* **Banners and outdoor stencils to promote campaign**
* **Workshops with children**
* **Emphasise recycling materials used at art area with children**
* **Jim to contact MacDonalds again re previously mentioned joint litter pick**
* **Jim to contact Lyndsay at WLC re workshops**
* **Miss Heenan and Mrs Ola to contact Council Media Team and West Lothian Courier**
* **Ask other nursery staff for ideas for activities for Launch Day**
* **Share photos on Wester Inch Communities Page**

**A.O.B.** Parents also suggested;

* making and putting up a sign (including photos of backs of children) after the campaign to show “BEYC children cleaned this section of the cycle path.”
* Promote the Wrigley campaign with other parents, children and staff as a sort of “New Year’s Resolution”.
* Taking part in RSPB Big Schools Birdwatch in 2019 as it was successful in 2018 and some children like to make birdcakes at home.
* **Points of Action**

Decide on launch date and the first litter pick date.