

THE TWS PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL NEWSLETTER

EVERY SINGLE THING WE CHANGE MAKES A DIFFERENCE

EVENTS AT A GLANCE 2020

- TWS Journey
- Interview-CEO UNeduCcate Ms. Melanie
- Parent Article
- Arabic League
- Student Article
- Interview-Assistant Principal Ms.Chanda
- Simply Bottle Initiative
- Bulletin Board
- Tips to make Life Greener



THE VISION

To empower all (young) people by giving them the tools to be able to take positive action towards creating their own sustainable, Earth friendly future.

THE MISSION

To enable (young) people to lower their carbon footprint (CF) by completing a series of easy to follow challenges.

OUR ACHIEVEMENT

The Westminster School, Dubai has won eduCcate Global Silver Award in Sustainability and Climate Change Learning through eduCcate Global. We ensure that our students are aware of our evolving and dynamic world, our human impact, and the steps society needs to take to ensure a sustainable future. The 'eduCcate Global' helps us to up-skill teachers and equip our school with knowledge they need to transform learning to action and empower students.

GREENOPONICS LEARNING

AREA



UPCOMING EVENTS 2021

- Green Ambassadors meeting
- Article writing competition
- Clean plate challenge
- Plant a tree sapling
- Carbon footprint challenges
- Elocution Competition
- House Assemblies
- Student write-ups – upcoming newsletter issue

A GLIMPSE INTO OUR JOURNEY TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY

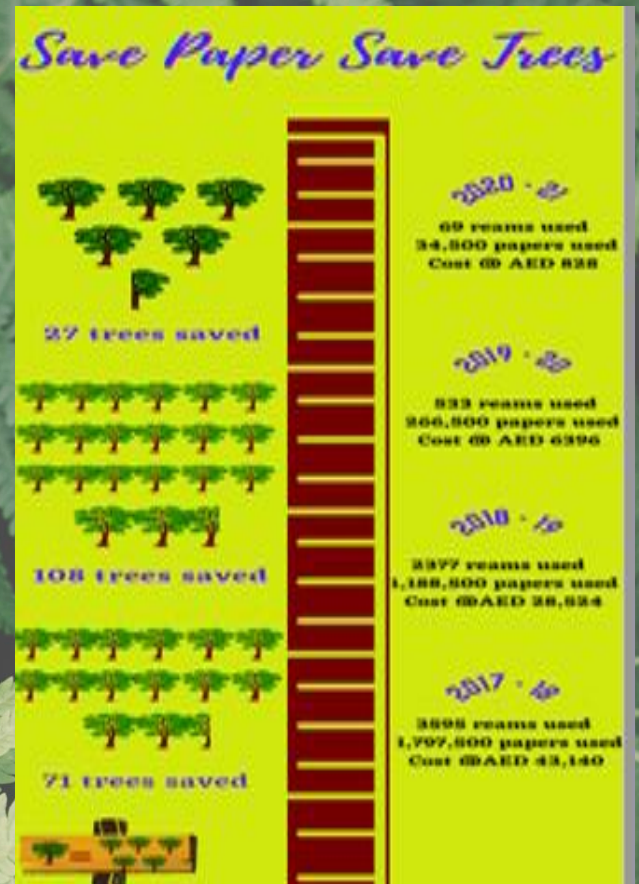
From the beginning of 2020, The Westminster School, Dubai set on special mission to be a sustainable carbon neutral school. To achieve this goal they partnered with eduCcate Global and has already achieved the Bronze and Silver Award quicker than any school in the world. The Westminster School, Dubai is now the first and only 'Centre of Excellence in Sustainability and Climate Change Learning' in the Middle East and is also the largest school in the world to have achieved this status. EduCcate Global is a Not-For Profit Organization that is a joint partner of UNITAR, which was launched in the United Kingdom. The school achieved Bronze Award in February, 2020. This was quickly followed by the Silver Award (June 2020) and they are now in a position to complete the Gold Award. Through its climate change work the school estimates that it has already saved over 200 trees and over 40,000 AED a year by reducing paper usage alone. These awards are a huge achievement for the school especially since the work took place remotely during the pandemic. At TWS, Climate Change literacy and its impact was still important to us during the COVID – 19 lockdown period, and so teachers independently took the initiative to complete the Climate literacy course. The whole school team consisting of 292 teachers and leaders have successfully completed online eduCcate Global courses. Currently, each and every class at TWS has one Climate Literacy teacher who equips the school with the knowledge they need to transform learning to action and empower students, among whom there are 8 Student Ambassadors and 115 student volunteers. During these months, the focus remained on two fronts – skill development for social good and collective action for sustainable change. The target areas were:



As part of the moderate impact, we will be gifting all TWS staff with a jute bag as a New Year gift.



OUR EFFORTS IN NUMBERS



"WHAT YOU DO MAKES
A DIFFERENCE, AND YOU
HAVE TO DECIDE WHAT
KIND OF DIFFERENCE
YOU WANT TO MAKE."

-JANE GOODALL

#STANDFORTREES

INTERVIEW WITH MS.MELANIE HARWOOD-CEO UNEDUCCATE GLOBAL



Melanie Harwood is an education entrepreneur and self-styled disruptor based in England. As the Co-Founder and CEO of eduCcate Global, a not-for-profit organization, she has partnered with the United Nations (UNITAR) to educate teachers and, in turn, the next generation, about climate change and sustainability. Her unorthodox approach ultimately aims to create an army of Greta Thunbergs, via the thinking that “teachers don't just teach children, they teach entire communities”. The eduCcate Global Programme, accredited by the UN, is working to put a climate-change teacher in every classroom in every school in the world. EduCcate Global's cross- curricular lessons touch every aspect of climate change: climate science, gender and environment; the link between climate change and cities, law and children; health, sustainable diet and climate change; climate-change adaptation and mitigation; and sustainability and the green economy. Melanie's personal mission is to deliver the future leaders our planet desperately needs right now.

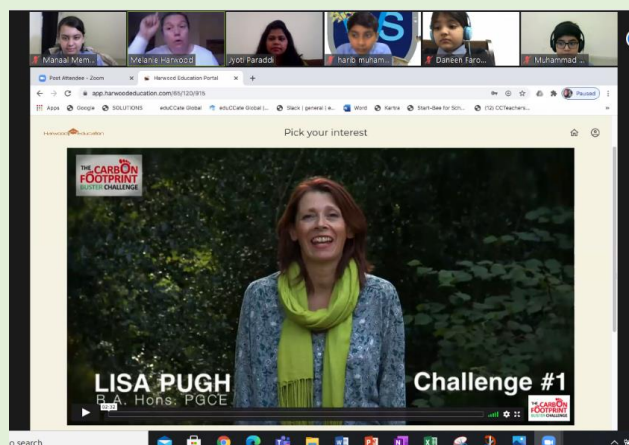
Our Green Ambassadors **Mohammad Muhaddis, Manaal Memon, Harib Muhammed** and **Daneen Farooq** under the guidance of Ms. Jyoti Paraddi, Lead Teacher of UNeduCcate Global Sustainability and climate change, had an opportunity to conduct an online interactive zoom session with Ms. Melanie Harwood, Co-founder and CEO of eduCcate Global on 29th November 2020 along with Mr. Robert Macay, CEO and inventor of Brand day 2020 was also part of the session.

During the interview, Ms. Melanie stated that she was highly impressed by the awareness and commitment of our Green Ambassadors.

Ms. Melanie was all praise for the support that she is receiving from TWS, especially the leadership team, right from Ms. Vijayakumari Sathyan Head of school and her TWS team.

Citing the Bronze and Silver achievements of the TWS Ms. Melanie mentioned that TWS is the first school worldwide to deliver 'The Carbon Footprint Buster Challenge Programme.' TWS has three presentations and these are podcasts too, which are spreading to schools and into homes and businesses throughout the world. She informed that 'The Guardian' is going to write a feature about the Sustainable Schools Virtual Summit. She appreciated Juniors and Seniors Eco club and the Virtual Recovery Summit led by Ms. Vijayakumari Sathyan, the Head of school.

Her message in a nutshell was we all have to work together in this fight on climate change. Knowledge is power, so we need to share the knowledge. The more we learn, we can teach others.



PARENT ARTICLE :MS.HINA USMANI



Climate control, in simple terms is maintaining and adjusting the climate in our houses or vehicles we travel in. But understanding climate control in a wider sense is the need of the hour, especially when it has much wider implications. The term climate change refers to those variations that persist for a longer period of time.

The main cause affecting the earth's atmosphere is global warming. The issue is so serious that an immediate action is required collectively by all the leading nations for the survival of human race. A 2015 Oxfam report calculated that the wealthiest 10% of the global population were responsible for half of all greenhouse gas emissions. The increased levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide produced by the use of fossil fuels is the main factor in it.

As it is said it all begins from home. I strictly believe that changing our habits can help us control the climate change in a positive way and there by preserving our Mother Nature for our offspring.

Individual action on climate control can include personal choices in many areas, such as diet, means of long- and short-distance travel, household energy use, consumption of goods and services etc. Individuals can also engage in local and political advocacy around issues of climate change.

ARABIC LEAGUE

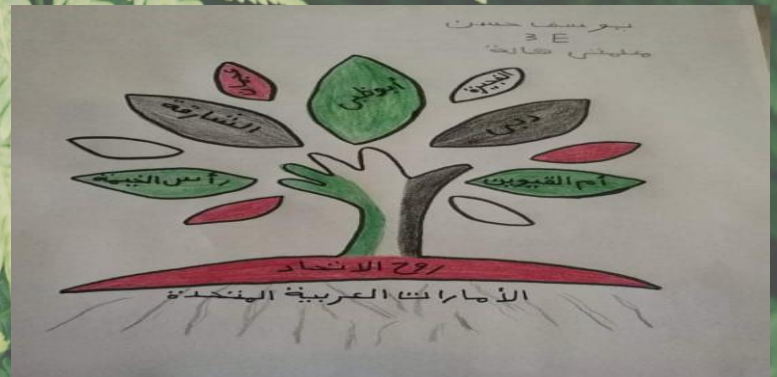
STUDENT'S CORNER YUSUF HASSAN-3E

تهتم دولة الإمارات بالبيئة وتقوم بالتجديد دائما و تنظيف الملاعب، والحرم المدرسي، والطرق المجاورة للمدرسة، والتقاط النفايات عن الأرصفة، كذلك يتم التخلص من الأعشاب الضارة حول الورود المزروعة في المدرسة وتشجعنا معلمتي على جمع جميع اللعب البلاستيكية ونقوم بتدويرها لصنع منها اشكال فنية جميلة , كما تعمل على تعزيز الحفاظ على نظافة غرفة الصف ، وفي غرف الرسم يمكن ان نغطي الطاولات اثناء استخدام الغراء او التلوين، بهدف الحفاظ على نظافتها، وتحديد أماكن مخصصة لأغراض الطلاب الخاصة مثل حقائب الظهر، وصناديق الطعام، وغيرها لتجنب الفوضى والازدحام .

اشكر مدرستي على اهتمامها بالبيئة

أنا اسمي يوسف

حسن



INTERVIEW WITH THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF PRIMARY- MS. CHANDA PANT



In a short interaction with our Assistant Principal Primary, our Eco-club members Muhammad Muhaddis and Daneen Farooq were able to list out the actions taken so far and the suggestions to bring further awareness on climate change. Ms. Chanda Pant, our Assistant Principal Primary spoke about the vegetable garden planted in the FS area to help students connect science and climate change. Students and staff are encouraged to be an active participant in the Anti-littering programmes organized by the students at different levels during the years. Ms. Chanda stressed on creating long lasting imprints in the minds of young students about small steps which will lead to climate change. The interaction ended with a short visit to the garden area where the Assistant Principal briefed about Greenponics.

Ms. Chanda further added, "Planting trees is way more than just carbon capture – they restore eco-systems and give life back to the soil and wildlife and can help to prevent flooding. By allowing nature to nature. We maintain the bio-diversity back which means that all wildlife can have the best chance to flourish." Going ahead we have initiated: '**Plant trees Scheme**' where students will be encouraged to **plant a tree**' saplings for a Greener Environment.



SIMPLY BOTTLE INITIATIVE



BOTTLE COLLECTION
WE ENCOURAGE MORE PEOPLE TO JOIN US AND HELP US COLLECT USED BOTTLES TO SAVE OUR ENVIRONMENT
Every morning (7:30am-8:30am) the dedicated bins will be kept on each floor, students need to dispose the used



THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL

COLLECTION OF DISCHARGED BATTERY CELL

To protect the environment, materials like lead, cadmium and mercury can poison people and animals and contaminate soil and water, and they stay in the environment for a long time. Let us join our hands in a noble initiative of collecting discharged battery cells.



Battery will be collected everyday. You need to dispose your batteries in the dedicated bins kept on each floor in the morning between 7:30am-8:30am.











The Westminster School, Dubai
A GEMS SCHOOL





Bronze Certificate of Appreciation
for being a Recycling Star with 100 House Points

This is presented to _____ of section _____
for actively participating in recycling plastic bottles and discharged batteries, thereby promoting sustainability.

Head of House

Head of Pastoral

STUDENT'S CORNER SYED HAMZA-5I



Eating the right food and exercising regularly are two strong pillars of good health and increased immunity. The toxicity in environment due to plastic waste polluting the food chain has a serious impact not only on nature but in human body too. The pandemic, Covid-19 has hit as an eye opener to mankind for getting back to the right habits to increase immunity.

At TWS healthy food habits are reinforced by encouraging children to eat one fruit daily with other healthy food. We are also making good progress in our fight against plastic pollution. We need a pollution free environment and our future goal is to be a plastic free zone.

Following is the criteria for giving House points: for the collection of used batteries and bottles-

- 1 small bottle (500ml) = 1 House Point
- 1 big bottle (1.5 lit) = 2 House Points
- 2 battery cells = 1 House Point

BULLETIN BOARD-IT'S MY WORLD

At TWS is all about keeping up with the present and the future and right now CLIMATE CHANGE needs our attention. To create an awareness in the young minds, Artists of the TWS community present "IT'S MY WORLD" An endeavor to build empathy for the endangered flora and fauna and tribes around the world. Then there is work to be done to preserve natural habitats and repopulate the eco-system. Students, Parents and Teachers become informed and be the change that the world needs-NOW!



TIPS TO MAKE LIFE GREENER

CARBON FOOTPRINT CHALLENGE



EVERY SINGLE THING WE CHANGE MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Want to feel more **empowered** about what we can do to combat climate change and help heal the Earth?

By making some very simple changes to our lifestyle we could all become the **CLIMATE CHANGE CHAMPIONS** that the Earth needs. Why not have a go and take

1. FOOD FOR THOUGHT -Become a flexitarian - by switching to 2/3rds plant based meals – avoid mass produced meat, or reduce our carbon footprint even more by going vegetarian or vegan.

2. By eating just **1 burger less a week** it reduces our carbon footprint by **2.85-3.1kg**

Becoming **Vegetarian** reduces our carbon footprint by $\frac{1}{2}$ and **vegan** is almost $\frac{3}{4}$.

3. WASTE NOT WANT NOT - Don't waste food

4. THE 7R'S - Reduce, Re-use, Re-cycle, Re-purpose, Repair, Re-think, Refuse

5. FIND YOUR VOICE – Promote Earth care - speak out, know our facts, talk to friends and family.

6. CELEBRATE AND SHARE YOUR ECO - SUCCESSES – Take a look back at all you have achieved during the challenges; which actions have had the most transformative effect on not just yourself but also all those around you? Now is a great time to celebrate how Green you through article and posters.

CONTACT US!

TWS, Dubai:
communication_tws@gemsedu.com
twsgreenambassadors@gmail.com
P.O Box - 8607



EDITED BY: MS. JYOTI PARADDI