



North Baddesley Junior School
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'Respectful hearts, Aspiring minds, Resilient spirits.'

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Finance Officer: Mrs T. Turner

June 3rd 2026

REF Week beginning 15th June 2026: 'The Big Green Week'

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our annual REF (Real Earth Force) week will be taking place in the week beginning 15th June 2026.

These are exciting days when we will be taking part in environmental activities both in class and in our school grounds, including gardening and pond dipping. Some of these activities can be dirty and/or wet so please send your child in appropriately dressed, indeed a change of clothes might be sensible – all named of course. The children will be out and about as much as possible so keep an eye on the weather forecast to decide whether your child should bring in sun hat and cream or wellies and waterproofs!

To help make these days a success we would appreciate contributions from you to help with our activities.

The items we need are:

- Outdoor plants particularly: bedding flowers, herb and tomato plants
- Logs for our log pile
- Garden canes, string and garden wire
- Garden compost/ bags of top soil
- Seeds and plant labels
- Unwanted Soft toys for Swap Day (running Monday-Thursday break times)
- Donate cardboard kitchen rolls, buttons, beads, ribbon and crafty bits for our mindful craft activities
- In date cooking resources: flour, caster / icing sugar, sunflower oil, oats, cupcake papers, foil.

These items can be sent in to your child's class teacher or to the school office (Mrs Murphy).

During this week, activities will include:

Monday 15th -From today, send in your Cardboard Box Challenge models. Send in Soft Toys for Swap Day

Tuesday 16th -REF photo competition in by today (£1 per photo to enter) Emailed to ecocommunity@northbaddesley-jun.hants.sch.uk or named memory stick.

Wednesday 17th – Really Wild Dress up Day (£1 donation for Turtle Adoption) prizes for the best dressed. For individual competitions see attached sheet.

Thursday 18th -Cardboard Box Challenge competition day - remember to add description, name and class to your entry.

Thursday 18th -Just Don't Waste Appeal -Last day to send in bagged clothes/shoes to support our nominated charity The Salvation Army. Which class will collect the most as part of our June Green League challenge?

If you would like to help during REF week, and have been CRB/DBS checked, please join in the fun. There is plenty to do from pond dipping and gardening to crafting, cooking to shelter building. Any offers of help, via the school office. Thank you for supporting this year's REF week.

Yours Sincerely,

L. Murphy

Mrs Murphy
Eco Committee



REF: The Big Green Week - Just Don't Waste!

(15th June - 19th June 2026)

World Sea Turtle Day is Tuesday 16th June This year we will be looking at the wonderful world of sea turtles, their habitats, conservation and challenges they face. We would love to see your turtle art, models, poems and facts (Name & class on anything you send in)



Just Don't Waste! Sir David Attenborough celebrated his 100th birthday this year; we will be thinking about his beliefs that children are the great hope for the future. He wants you to become 'Planet Protectors', be curious about the world. When people ask David Attenborough how we can save the planet, he says: 'Just don't waste.' Not just plastic - he means everything. Don't waste food: Only put on your plate what you will actually eat. Don't waste energy: Switch off lights and devices. Don't waste things: Repair broken toys and wear clothes until they are truly worn out. Can you take the My "Just Don't Waste" Challenge?

Planet Protectors Cardboard Box Challenge - Closing

date: Thursday 18th June



Here's a challenge for you, what can you design and create using cardboard packaging and paper? Can you turn a cardboard box into an endangered animal or into a mini garden with real plants? Or maybe, you can build a clean energy miniature house with solar panels and wind turbines? How about an underwater turtle habitat? Get your creative head on and use mostly recycled items. Have fun saving the planet!

REF Week Photo Competition - Closing date: Tuesday 16th June



Are you one of our 'Planet Protectors'? Experience Nature: Go outside! Send in your 'Big Green' photos taken by YOU - maybe of a butterfly feeder teaming with red admirals in your garden, a field of wildflowers or how about capturing recycling in action? Entries on a memory stick so they can be printed and framed if you are a winner. Amazon Gift Vouchers for the winners. Remember, full name and class on your memory

stick also, where and when taken. Photos emailed in must be of high resolution to allow printing. Send to Mrs Murphy: ecocommunity@northbaddesley-jun.hants.sch.uk Winning photos will be enlarged, printed, framed and put on display at school. (£1 entry per photo)

The Really Wild Dress Up Day - Wednesday 17th June

Dust off your butterfly wings, dig out your furry ears or paint on some spots or stripes! Now's your chance to express your really wild side! What about dressing up as an intrepid explorer? To celebrate **The Really Wild Dress Up Day**, we will be dressing up - animal/bug/ bird/ flower/ camo themed costume / t-shirt. How about a turtle outfit? Donations of **£1 per child**, raising money so we can support turtle conservation and also adopt an injured turtle.



June Green League Recycle Challenge: Items to Recycle - in by Thursday 18th June

As part of 'Just Don't waste' we are encouraging the recycling of clothing/shoes. Please donate unwanted, clean items of clothing, bedding & shoes. We are supporting the Salvation Army to help people in need. Send in bagged via your class teacher.

Soft Toy Swap (15th-19th June) children can either donate unwanted soft toys to our swap event or bring in a teddy or similar to swap at break times during REF week.

REF Week 2026

🌍 My "Just Don't Waste" Challenge! 🌍

"Don't waste electricity, don't waste food, don't waste power.

Look after the natural world." – *Sir David Attenborough*

Name: _____ Class: _____

Tick off each eco-mission as you complete it this week. Can you tick them all?



🍴 Food Missions

- **The Clean Plate:** I only took what I could eat and left zero waste on my lunch plate.

Which days: Mon / Tues / Wed / Thurs / Fri / Sat / Sunday

- **Fridge Finder:** I checked the fridge and ate a snack that needed using up before it went bad. I ate:

- **Wrapper-Free:** I brought my lunch or snacks in reusable tubs instead of single-use plastic.

Which days? Mon / Tues / Wed / Thurs / Fri / Sat / Sunday

💡 Energy & Water Missions

- **Light Switch Scout:** I turned off the lights and screens every time I left an empty room. Which room was it?

What did you turn off?

- **Tap Tracker:** I turned off the tap completely while brushing my teeth to save water.

Colour in which days: Mon / Tues / Wed / Thurs / Fri / Sat / Sunday

- **Layer Up:** I put on a jumper instead of asking to turn up the heating when I felt chilly.

♻️ Things & Toy Missions

- **Scrap Saver:** I used both sides of my drawing or school paper before putting it in the recycling bin.

- **The Fixer:** I repaired something broken (like a toy or a book) instead of throwing it away.

- **Wardrobe Remix:** I wore an outfit I already own instead of wanting new clothes.

🌱 Nature & Community Missions

- **Litter Lifter:** I safely picked up and binned pieces of rubbish at school or in the park.

- **Nature Helper:** I did something to help local wildlife, like making a bird feeder or a bug hotel.

- **Eco-Leader:** I taught one friend or family member about David Attenborough's "Just Don't Waste" rule. Who was it?

Did you do anything else?