



APRIL 2022

EVERYONE'S EVENLODE



Education, Community, Access & Recreation: monthly update

EDUCATION

Key Meetings

- Meeting with key volunteers from North Leigh Roman Villa, to discuss possible education links, open days and walks.
- Meeting with Rupert Littlewood, Head of Geography at Cherwell School, Oxford to do site visits for 150 students river surveying in July.

Events / publicity

- Duke of Edinburgh 9th April. Six children at Combe Mill from Marlborough School, Cotswolds School and Thomas Rich School. They presented to the group on their online homework and continued clearing the site.
- Europa School, 31st March 30 Year 8 (German) for a whole day session at Combe Mill. They were split into three groups and Ros and Rowan presented on the water meadows, woodlands and did some pond dipping.
- Europa School, 7th April 30 Year 8 (French) for a whole day session at Combe Mill. They were split into three groups and Rowan and Ruth presented on the water meadows, woodlands and did some pond dipping.
- Combe Primary, 30 Years 5 and 6 for a session at the river. Session ran on 1st April.
- Charlbury Primary School, 29 Year 1s for a wildflower and meadow seed bomb sowing session. Session ran on 26th April.

Progress/Decisions:

Plans for next month

- See 'school bookings' sections
- Two delivery sessions to school with high percentage of FSM students in conjunction with Cotswold Wardens. New links and session delivery with Stonesfield Primary School. Charlbury School Science Week – different sessions delivered to several year groups across the week.

Education, Community, Access & Recreation: monthly update - cont

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Key Meetings

- Interview with Katie Jarvis for Cotswolds Lion.
- Rowan attended a day's workshop learning how to weave willow waterfowl at Larkswold, on the River Evenlode, and made some good potential links there. Willow weaving will be part of community engagement at the fairs.
- Ros went to Flatford Mill in Suffolk, to do a two-day course on 'Tracks and Signs' with the Field Studies Council. Tracks and signs are a part of the schools lesson plans.

Events/publicity

Progress/decisions

- Confirmed to attend IF Science Festival - Oxford in October.
- Wychwood Fair is now confirmed as Sunday 31st July, this is the same weekend as the Charlbury River Festival. Some extra help will be needed to man both fairs.
- Plans for River Community day at Charlbury River Festival are firming up - each day will end with a parade of the river goddess through the festival - should make for some great photos!
- Farm open day at the Ponsonby's postponed to mid September due to lack of speaker and sheep!

Plans for next month

- First of the guided walks led by Wardens at Bruern on 4th May.
- Ruth to attend Charlbury Wildlife group Water Vole meeting on 7th May.
- Trial walk at Daylesford with Will
- Meeting with WASP community and education team
- QR code proposal to go to FIPL - now submitting 15 for Farm Ed, 1 for Sars Brook and 5 for Ditchley as the pilot



A pupil from Combe Primary learning about yellow fish signs



Pond dipping



Rowan with her willow woven goose

Schools bookings

Primary

Charlbury (Kirstie Mahony)

- 26th April – Yr 1 – wildflowers at school. RM
- 24th May – Yr 2 – pond-dipping at Porter's Pond – with support from Christine Elliott, Warden of Blenheim Farm Nature Reserve. RM/RWJ
- Science week 23rd May – Yr 5 – (Laura Craig/Kate Managhan) – visiting the leaky dam at Wigwell – in science or after school. School involvement in build possible - Sat. 26th Feb date advertised through school newsletter and in May on secondary dam, brush-cleared especially for the children. RM/RWJ
- Yr 6 – same week – to be confirmed. Waiting to hear from class teacher.
- Yr 3 - 6th May at FarmED

St Mary's Primary, Chipping Norton (Heidi Gibbs' contact)

- 2nd March – Farm Ed - 48 Year 3/4s (Split the groups so ECP leads will have an am and pm group). Pond-dipping, track and signs, food chain game, water speed measuring.
- Tues 7th June - Year 1 and 2 class (57 children!)

Blockley Primary, (Will Dennis's contact)

- Tuesday 15th March - whole school – 156 pupils from Year 1 - Year 6 across the day. River dipping, farm walk around Daylesford and tracks & signs/tree identification, plus work on the season. RM/RR

Great Rollright School at Daylesford, (Will Dennis)

- June 16th – 27 Yr 3/4
- July 7th – 48 Yr 1/2 (KS1)
- July 12th – 30 Yr 5/6
- 'The smaller older groups will be lovely and they will let me know their curriculum themes closer to the time. As we discussed, I will sort out a revised route for the smalls which will centre around the market garden and involve more activities.'

Combe (Rachel Joannou, head teacher - 'The project sounds brilliant')

- Thursdays 10th, 24th March and 1st April: 3 sessions for Year 5-6 who are doing rivers this term, first with River Box and then down to the River Evenlode within walking distance of their school, as well as a visit to Combe Mill. RM/RWJ + RR when poss (can do 1st April).
- Session 1 - 1-3pm in the classroom 10th March
- Session 2 - 12-3pm down at the river 24th March – postponed due to Covid
- Session 3 – (1-4pm, picking up from Combe Mill) 1st April: Now 'yellow fish' work on drains and pond/river dipping at the river. Wellbeing session postponed until later (probably summer term).

Stonesfield (Sarah Walker – FS freelancer – speaking to science lead, Emma)

- Yr 6 in Forest School – take frog and toad – have school pond.
- Tuesdays: 3rd, 10th and 17th May for KS1 children. KS2 dates to be confirmed. RM/RWJ
- Have asked for 'tips on pond wildlife and how it's different to running water'. Also interested in wildlife corridors, hedgerows (whole catchment NFM and environmental approach) and life cycle of frogs.

Read on for secondary schools update

Schools bookings

Secondary

Kingham Hill (Kyle Mc Farlane, Head of Geography)

- Sat 29th Jan – morning workshop session with boarders – Cancelled.

'The Assistant Head is very keen to have CNL back at a later date - Ed will keep us updated'

Rendcomb College (David Illingworth, Deputy Head and Geography teacher)

- Spring Term – soil sampling and woodland fieldwork for 'A Level' geographers at Combe.
- Weds 23rd March. RM/RWJ

Marlborough School, Woodstock (Alexandra Wilkinson)

- Duke of Edinburgh's Award volunteers to form working party at Combe Mill. DoFE SW office (Simon) have agreed to a volunteer format to include once a month working party session, with students working independently at home on research and learning resources in the weeks in between these sessions. RM/RWJ/RR First or second Saturday of the month 5/3, 9/4, 7/5, 11/6 – confirmed.

St Gregory the Great School, Oxford (Harriet Pitcher)

- Looking at dates for GCSE Year 11 Geography river surveying/fieldwork in next academic year. September dates offered – 13th/15th, 20th/22nd, 27th/29th Sept. Waiting to hear.

Europa School, Culham - 2 sessions:

- 31st March and 7th April. RM/RWJ/RR for 31/3 and RWJ/RR for 7/4 with RM at Greystones GWT (Wendy Foster, Combe Mill contact point. Teacher is Tanya Simpson) Year 8s.

Swan School, Oxford - 4 visits:

- Twice a week in the fortnight before/after Easter holiday
- (In the weeks of 4th-8th April but not 6/4 or 7/4 - Europa on those days and 27th-29th April?) – RM/RWJ – Wendy offering them consecutive Thursday (see 20.21hr email of 3/2/22)

Cherwell School, Oxford (Rupert Littlewood)

- Recce visit on Tues 26th April and then sessions for 150 Year 8 students on Thurs 14th, Fri 15th and Tue 19th July on river surveying and pond dipping. 19th July at Stonesfield. Other 2 visits at Combe Mill. Jen Hurst available to help with all three sessions. River surveying plus food chain/web in woodland

PGCE Providers

Oxford University (Steve Puttick)

- Planning to bring PGCE geographers next academic year – session details and costings sent.
- Steve Puttick emailed on 27th March that he is 'hoping to get onto fieldwork plans for next year in the next couple of months.'

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