**Monitoring and Evaluation**

**October/ November 2020**

**Adjustments made due to COVID-19**

Due to COVID-19, we have made a lot of changes in order to reopen our school safely. This includes extra bins in both classrooms for hand paper towels, tissue and wipes. This means we have additional waste. With social distancing, our pupils also no longer eat their lunch in the communal hall. They eat their lunch in their classroom at their desk. As a result, lunch waste that would have been recorded in the hall bins last year is now being recorded in our classroom bins. This makes it very different compare this year’s progress on waste to last years. In line with new Guidance from Green Schools, we will continue to weigh our bins. However, instead of our traditional waste audit completed during the monitoring process, we will complete bin checklists each time we dispose of our waste for one week.

Litter

* A Litter Survey was completed from the 19th of October 2020 to the 9th of November 2020. The results were the best by far to date and showed a continued marked improvement in the litter produced within the school. On 4 of the 10 days, the Litter Survey was carried out there was no litter found in the school grounds. Litter generated outside of the school was an issue according to the Litter Pickers. 5 out of the pieces of litter found 7 pieces altogether came from outside the school setting.

School Waste: Reduce, Reduce & Recycle

* Our new organic bin finally arrived from AES so we can finally make proper use of the compost bin in our classrooms. Most of the children in the senior room empty at one bin every Friday. They have learned a lot about the bins outside and are able to identify the recycling bin from the landfill etc.
* Valeria is doing a great job as our bin monitor. She is one of two people who checks the bins daily after lunch time. She is very strict and honest. She reports all errors. She then uses gloves to make amendments to the bins afterwards.
* Ms. Dunne’s Junior Room have done particularly well with their bins so far this year and are making sure the correct rubbish goes in each. They have been the classroom of the week nearly every week. Ms. Dunne did comment, however, that her pupils have to come to her teacher’s table to dispose of their rubbish so she is able to guide them regularly.

The bins in Ms. Mann’s room are the back of the classroom and the children are more likely to make mistakes. However, we are seeing improvements in recent weeks. Valeria is very strict and is really encouraging all the senior pupils to work hard for their ‘ticks’. Daily conversations are also occurring. Some of the junior pupils are becoming more vocal if they are unsure. They are asking for advice.

* The results of our bin checklists completed from October 19th to October 23rd show that we are using all of our bins correctly except for our yard bin. This acts as a compost and landfill bin which evidence of wrappers and fruit recorded. This is something we might discuss at our next Green Schools’ meeting.

Action Day

* We need to do more with Step 6: Informing and Involving.