

YSGOL DYFFRYN CONWY WIN A COVETED NATIONAL AWARD

Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy, Llanrwst are celebrating after winning an internationally recognised environmental award. This is the first time that the school has won the coveted Green Banner Award as part of the educational environmental programme, Eco-Schools.

The award is an international programme which is managed in Wales by the charity 'Keep Wales Tidy' and is funded by the Welsh Government. 90% of schools in Wales have registered for the programme.

The Eco-Schools programme is an inspiring one that engages learners to lead change in their communities, and helps them learn how to live in a sustainable way as a world-wide citizens. It also provides them with the information and support they need to make changes and to be made which will help their school, their environment and their wider community – such as reducing waste, energy use, transport, living well and waste.

As part of the Ec-schools assessment the school's Eco Council presented the improvements they had made over the last five years and specifically since September 2016. This includes reducing the use of electricity through monitoring electricity use in classrooms, ensuring that lights and electrical equipment are switched off at lunch times and at the end of the day as part of the EON 'Switch Off Fortnight' scheme each November.

The Council also took part in the Keep Wales Tidy scheme to reduce rubbish by holding assemblies for years 7-13 to gain the support of all staff and pupils to reduce rubbish around the school. The rubbish collected was weighed at the beginning of May and again at the beginning of June with a significant reduction in the rubbish collected in June. This proved the success of the 'Bin it' scheme.

The Council also presented their work recycling plastic to the Eco-Schools' assessor. Plastic has been collected and recycled for use with year 8's Technology projects.

Catrin Hughes from 'Keep Wales Tidy' said:

"It was a pleasure to see the school's enthusiasm towards the programme and wonderful to hear about the work that has been done to try to and has succeeded to reduce the waste

around the school. The Council members should be very pleased with their endeavours to take care of their environment as well as the positive impact of their actions.”

She added:

“Congratulations to Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy in their achievements. This is an excellent example of the engagement of young people in Wales to ensure a sustainable future for their schools in addition to the wider community and environment.”



Some of the Eco-Council members receiving their award.