



grow

The newsletter of
Jane Goodall's
roots&shoots

UNITED KINGDOM

Dear Members,

As we approach the end of another extremely hectic but productive year, it's always wise to take a few moments of reflection out of our busy schedules.

We lead such hectic lives these days that we often miss the things that are right in front of us. Technology, for all its advances, hasn't helped this process. More often than not, it has indeed added to our already heavy workload. Commitment to digital gadgets and what is now described as 'screen time' has become practically addictive; creating distance, especially with our younger generation, from the natural world.

That's why I get such great pleasure when I read all about your on-going dedication and commitment to our planet and have the privilege of visiting our many member schools who have created amazing projects in and around the natural environment. See inside for more details on their efforts and hard work.

As for compassion, which is also a commodity in short supply in our society today, Christmas is the perfect opportunity for us to explore its real meaning. Let's take some time out during the holiday season to put it to work in our everyday lives.

Wishing you a very Merry one and all the best for the New Year.



Tara Golshan
Executive Director, Education



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Our Photograph Winner Ella McIvor enjoys her NG Prize!



Photos: Lisa Davies

Ella and
Edén at the
Wetlands
Centre
London



“As the winner of the Roots & Shoots Most Outstanding Photograph competition I was lucky to be invited to visit the London HQ of National Geographic Kids Magazine to look behind the scenes of the making of the magazines and the photos behind the stories.

I learned about the editing process and where the photos come from and how they come up with new stories each week. I met the team and it looked the most fun place to work ever – they even gave us cake. I came out thinking I really wanted to work there. Best job ever!

The next part of the day was to visit The London Wetland Centre - the perfect photo opportunity! It is a wonderful place to spot and photograph birds of all kinds in their natural habitat. Even with planes close overhead it feels like a wilderness with huge lakes and woodland right in the middle of London. Unlike many of the wonderful places in London like the royal parks and zoo, most of

the wildlife choose to come here of their own free will, often migrating many hundreds or even thousands of miles. That's what makes it so special – it is as natural as can be. Getting to see birds doing their thing is what the centre is all about! As well as the hides which overlook the lakes to watch the birds (some with telescopes) there are lots of guided tours as well as special activities and challenges for young rangers. My friend Edén and I learned how to spot birds and identify their everyday behaviour such as dabbling and preening. We used a checklist to note our observations and kept a logbook.

The centre isn't just about birds, it also focuses on inhabitants of the ponds and we really enjoyed pond dipping, swirling our nets to catch and examine pond life under a giant microscope.

But my favourite were the otters, Todd and Pip. I know they are not

continued ▶

FEATURED SCHOOL

Students at Damers prove themselves to be unstoppable!

Since the Roots & Shoots Awards in March the school has embedded the R&S pledges. Each class makes a pledge each half term to help the community, animals or the environment.



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It is monitored by teachers and our junior governors and at the end, the class who has made the biggest impact wins Mr H Junior for the next half term. Pledges include making Poundbury plastic free, designing and making bug hotels to bring nature to the school grounds, to bring the outside indoors and to make the air inside our classrooms healthier. Following our trip to the Roots & Shoots awards Sophie, a pupil in Year 3, said it was a magical day that she will always remember and it has inspired her to follow in Jane Goodall's footsteps.

At Damers we get lots of organisations to work with the children. These include: Urban Health Partnership, Butterfly Conservation, RSPB, Weymouth and Dorchester Beekeeper Association, East Dorset Bat Rescue and Rehab and Hedgehog Friendly Dorchester. Their talks come alive because they bring their wildlife friends to school for the children to see, touch and hold. We will be adopting some hedgehogs from October 2018.

To learn about all of Damers fantastic projects and activities in more detail,



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1. Planting in the school garden. 2. Recycling. 3. Selling at Poundbury Farmers Market.

read the full article on the Roots & Shoots website: bit.ly/RSDamers

Catherine Smith, Headteacher couldn't feel more proud of the school's achievements in this area over the last few years. *'Our move to a new school site in Poundbury in April 2017 has provided us with so many opportunities to share our relentless efforts in this area with local businesses and the community. Our children are natural leaders and have some powerful messages to share with regard to sustainability and our place of responsibility in the natural world and I feel incredibly proud to watch them work their magic on a daily basis. They are driven by their mission to ensure that they always choose the positive difference that they want to make however great or small.'*

Get your rhino Christmas cards now and help Roots & Shoots too!

<http://bit.ly/RSrhinocards>



FEATURED SCHOOL

Mad Hatters Nursery – never too young to make a positive difference!



Mad Hatters Bug Hotel with boys rescuing bee

Mad Hatters nursery is fortunate enough to have a wonderful outdoor space, home to two beautiful, white rabbits called Marshmallow and Sweetie, and filled with lots of children's toys, swings and Wendy-houses. Looking after the rabbits and any other insects found in the play area is encouraged.

Throughout the year the little ones regularly check their digging patch and bug hotel for new guests. Pieces of bark, wood and stone are collected and added to the bug hotel so it's forever being extended to make room for more guests. Black Beetles, woodlice, spiders, centipedes, wasps, bees, ants and worms are often in residence.

A while back, a small child took one of the teacher's hands and led her to a puddle where they found a bee struggling to float in the water. *'Mrs Casey, we need to rescue him!'* the child exclaimed. The teacher carefully let the bee climb onto the palm of her hand where its wings started to dry and it began *'buzz, buzz, buzzing, buzzing,'* as the child sang. With Mrs Casey's help, the little boy filled a saucer with sugar and water. Mrs Casey then held her hand down to the saucer and slowly, but surely, the bee began to crawl off her palm onto the saucer where it had a revitalising drink. *'I hope he feels better,'* the little one said. *'Let's take him to the bug hotel so we can look after him!'* the child gleamed. This is exactly what they did, and where the bee may well still be.

Our Photograph Winner **Ella McIvor** enjoys her NG Prize!

► *natural inhabitants and I know they do not choose to live here but conservation is close to my heart. The talk from the warden told us about the way Asian short claw otters are being killed in the wild because they are seen as vermin and also sold in markets as tropical pets or for medicine. This means they are now in danger, along with 12 other otter species. The need for raising awareness with locals is what stayed with me the most.*

I would strongly recommend the London Wetland Centre as it offers an interactive, interesting experience where everybody can learn and have fun.

Thank you so much NG Kids and Roots & Shoots! I had the best time!"



Photo: Lisa Davies

Ella and Eden bird watching

Peace Day 2018 – What a Day!



Everyone at the beautiful Harmony Woods

Every year on September 21st, Roots & Shoots groups from around the world gather together to celebrate Roots & Shoots Peace Day and honour the UN International Day of Peace.

Dr Jane has been a UN Messenger of Peace since 2002 and she inspires us all to live in harmony with nature and each other. This year's theme for the UN International Day of Peace was "The Right to Peace – The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70 celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

Andover Trees United and the town of Andover hosted the Parade. Ten of our amazing member schools took part. The doves were flown in town and in Harmony Woods.

Thanks to the support of Test Valley Borough Council Leader Cllr Phil North, Andover Trees United worked with the Council's 'Andover Vision' team to run

5 community engagement sessions at town events in July and August to make doves and write pledges.

On the day, as well as the schools, children, teachers and parents attending, we were also delighted to welcome the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire Lady Portal MBE DL; the Mayor of Test Valley, Cllr Ian Carr; the Mayor of Andover, Cllr Barbara Townsend; Borough Councillor David Drew; Town Councillor Carol Bartholomew; Enham Parish Councillor Phil Jones and the Andover Churches.

Andover Trees United volunteers and local residents helped immensely in making the day so special – everyone got to enjoy some tasty treats at the tents set up for the day. The crowd was

awards 2019



Are you ready for the Awards 2019?

It is our most inspiring event of the year! The Roots & Shoots Annual Awards gives us the opportunity to meet our hard working groups and for them to meet each other and Dr Jane!

If you have been making a positive difference to change the world around you for the better, we need to hear about it! To learn more about the Roots & Shoots Awards 2019 and to express your interest in attending please email jasmina@janegoodall.org.uk. We hope you can join us on 14th March, 2019 at The Barbican to celebrate all your hard work.



Photos: John Baxter

Children planting a tree in honour of Dr Jane and Peace Day

buzzing with excitement, little doves with inspiring messages and pledges were tied up all over the wood and everyone reflected on what Peace is for them and how we can help achieve it locally and globally.

To watch the Roots & Shoots Peace Day video and to read guests comments on the day please visit: bit.ly/RSpeaceday18

A tree was planted in honour of Peace Day and Dr Jane and we look forward to seeing it blossom!

We had a wonderful time and are so grateful to everyone that attended and helped organised this day! Days like this give us hope for the future and keep us going! *the Roots & Shoots team*

Beverley Grammar School

“My name is Joshua Railer and I am 12 years old. Since I was a toddler I have always been interested in nature and wildlife of all shapes and sizes.

I first became truly interested in wildlife after watching Sir David Attenborough. I was inspired by his documentaries and started to draw pictures of wild animals using my oil pastels. When I get older I would like to work with endangered animals, helping to care and protect them.

I then decided to do more wildlife artwork and write to some of the most influential people in wildlife conservation, to see if they would sign my work in the hope of raising money for animal conservation. I have been lucky enough to have my work signed by Sir David Attenborough, Steve Backshall, Simon King, Brian May and Chris Packham.

I have hearing problems and animals and wildlife is an



“I have met Steve Backshall before and his talk at one of my local theatres was amazing. I then watched a documentary with Dr Jane Goodall and it made me more determined to want to work with animals.”

escape for me as I often find being in groups and day to day chit chat difficult. Animals and the natural world make me feel calm and relaxed and exploring the outdoors makes me feel happy. Animals can't defend and stand up for themselves, especially against

the damage we humans do. When I grow up I want to be a voice for them and to make a difference”.

“I have managed to get my senior school to sign up for the Roots & Shoots programme and have spoken to my head teacher about meeting Dr Jane Goodall and how inspirational she is not just to me, but to the future generation of conservationists”.



1. Joshua Railer with his fox artwork with Nigel from Save Me Trust. 2. Dr Jane Goodall with Josh. 3. Simon King signing Josh's artwork.



Photos: Nick Railer

Dara McAnulty

Shimna Integrated College

Dara McAnulty is a 14-year-old naturalist, conservationist and activist

living in Northern Ireland. He is the author of youngfermanaghnaturalist.com and the recipient of the BBC Springwatch 'Unsprung Hero', Birdwatch Magazine 'Local Hero' and the Animal Hero 'Young Animal Hero' awards. He is writing his first book 'The Diary of a Young Naturalist' which will be published by Little Toller Books in Spring 2020.

This fascination has more recently led to activism and focused action against the declines our wildlife is facing.

“Two years ago, I started writing a blog, sharing my wonder, concern and positive action. Since then, I have spoken at conferences, events and have been featured in documentaries and TV series”.

I have been passionate about birds of prey since I was 4 years old; recently I walked thirty miles, in the middle of winter and raised £6,000 to fund a project, which will help them against persecution. The money I raised will satellite tag Buzzards, Red Kites and Hen Harriers – all of which are being illegally



“I have always been fascinated by wildlife and wild places, as a crawling baby, a curious toddler and a questioning young child.”

killed in the UK. The project called 'Hawk Eyes' will involve my local community, including young people. Anyone can do this. If you have a passion and a strong will, we can all make a difference to what we love.

Young people need to stand up for what they believe in and fight for our planet. There is so much we can do. Open our eyes to the wonders of nature, learn about species and the challenges they face. Make more ethical choices in our food, cosmetics and household items. Reduce the amount of plastic we use and educate others about all the challenges

we are facing – the biggest of which, is climate change.

I am autistic, and part of my character is determination. We don't give up and are very focused on our passions. My passion is fighting for nature and I won't ever give up. I ask you to join me and fight too; because we need as many young people as possible joining forces for collective good. The planet is our life support system, when it doesn't properly function, neither do we. It's so important to come together, for good.

Recently, at The Animal Hero Awards, I had the huge privilege to meet Dr Jane Goodall, we were both awarded for our work there – it was a tremendous honour and one of the best moments of my life. Dr Goodall is one of my heroes and we should all help her, come together and make a difference. Even if your actions seem insignificant; doing something means you are a part of change. A part of the solution. Positive action through Roots & Shoots is an amazingly powerful way to make a valuable contribution, it is such a brilliant way to engage children and teachers. I am very much looking forward to creating meaningful action through my own Roots & Shoots group at school. Be a part of change. A part of the solution.”

"We Made it Together!" Roots & Shoots Slovakia



Photos: Roots & Shoots Slovakia

The Roots & Shoots education program has existed in Slovakia for nearly two years. This year, 10 schools were involved in the program, within which the primary and secondary school students helped revive local communities across Slovakia. The teams under the leadership of their teachers have been able to link their schools with local residents, local authorities, various institutions, businesses, and bring solutions to small but significant local problems, thanks to a clear vision and sustained effort.

The tree planting

primary and secondary schools.

The title of the conference reflected the efforts of the involved schools, the Green Foundation, and various local authorities, organisations, companies and the community.

On June 15, 2018 at the Nová Cvernovka cultural center in Bratislava the "We Made It Together" Roots & Shoots Students Conference took place. More than 100 pupils attended from 9

At the end of the Conference, the Green Foundation representatives, together with the pupils, planted a tree that became a part of the restoration of the alley of the cultural center.

Dr Jane is recognised at the Animal Hero Awards

The Animal Hero Awards 2018 was an awards evening like no other! Attended by some of the biggest names in showbiz and animal conservation, many of them brought their pet as their plus one!

Hosted by the engaging and enigmatic Amanda Holden, the event was full of excitement, celebration and inspiration.

The evening honours the achievements of the four-legged and furry as well as inspirational people who have gone above and beyond personal action on



Photo: The Mirror's Animal Hero Awards

Dr Jane on stage at the AHA

behalf of animal welfare.

Dr Jane moved the audience to tears when she accepted the Lifetime Achievement award!

Thank you Daily Mirror, RSPCA and Webbox for organising and sponsoring the night!



Global R&S family and Dulwich Prep London

Photo: Tedanho

Our exciting Global Windsor Castle Gathering 2018

During the summer holidays, the annual gathering of inspiring, young individuals from all over the world, took place at the beautiful and historic St George's House, Windsor Castle.

With representatives from 24 countries, days were spent getting to know one another, brainstorming and collaborating. Friendships and memories for life were quickly formed!

We were very lucky that Joshua Holden from Accrington St Christopher's Church of England High School represented the UK; and Dulwich Prep London came for a special day, delivering a very moving and uplifting presentation to their rapt audience.



Photo: Roots & Shoots UK

Dr Jane with the wonderful Roots & Shoots Dulwich Prep London members

Teacher and organiser, Claire Wilson, Dulwich Prep London said:

"Thank you so much Roots & Shoots and Dr Jane for the fantastic opportunity you gave our boys to present to you all at the Youth Summit in Windsor. The boys, parents and teachers had the most wonderful day and it gave us all a real affinity with being part of something bigger and a sense that what we think and do really does matter. The experience will stay with us all and I know it will be informative in shaping our future actions."

Joshua Holden: *"Where do I start? To this day I still cannot believe that I have spent a week in Windsor Castle, sharing thoughts and feelings about essential topics such as Palm Oil, Peace and the well being of our beloved chimpanzees, with such an amazing group of people. A group that included people from across the globe and from all different backgrounds. I am so lucky to have been given this amazing opportunity and I am reminded of this every day that I look back on the lifelong memories I have made whilst at Windsor Castle! My time in Windsor has inspired me to take action for what I believe is right and to get the message out about how we can change small parts of our lives to make a big difference."*

To read more about Joshua's and Dulwich Prep's experience at the Roots & Shoots Windsor gathering visit bit.ly/RSwindsor18

Compassion in World Farming International and Roots & Shoots form a new Partnership

Compassion in World Farming International (Compassion) is a registered charity, aiming to achieve humane and sustainable global food and farming policies and practices. Compassion campaigns and lobbies for an end to industrial farming methods and for a future farming system based on agro-ecological and compassionate methods. Compassion's HQ is in the UK and it has offices/representation in China, the US, South Africa and many EU countries. Compassion's educational goals are:

- to be a Centre of Excellence on the welfare of farm animals and on the impacts of farming methods on the environment, resource use and livelihoods
- to bring our message to young people globally, educating tomorrow's leaders and the next generation.



COMPASSION
in world farming 
ciwf.org

The new Partnership will involve mutual commitment from both institutions to promote co-operation and enhance each other's work in the areas of animal welfare, education, protection of biodiversity and environmentally sustainable food and farming systems.

"Compassion in World Farming is thrilled to partner with Roots & Shoots. We know that young people throughout the world care passionately for the planet, its people and the millions of creatures with whom we share this space. We look forward to working with you to raise awareness about the wellbeing of the animals we farm, often very intensively. I believe we can work together to find more compassionate ways to keep animals and to feed ourselves."

Joyce D'Silva D.Litt. (Hon),
Ambassador Emeritus

We are delighted to announce a new partnership between Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots and Montessori St Nicholas (MSN)



Montessori is the world's largest global education movement, inspired by Dr Maria Montessori in the early 1900s. It offers a unique child-centred approach to education, used and acclaimed throughout the world. Maria Montessori was one of the most important early years educators of the 20th century, the innovator of classroom practices and ideas which have had a profound influence on the education of young children.

Montessori St Nicholas (MSN) is the name of the largest UK Montessori representative. Most Montessori settings in the UK are privately owned and governed accordingly. MSN exists to encourage and promote education in every way. It facilitates the unification of the Montessori movement across the UK, providing relevant training, and funding research into the value and effectiveness of Montessori education, and making awards to support the development of Montessori education.

Dr Montessori also understood the importance of taking children outside into their natural environment. She

believed that bringing natural objects into the classroom has value, but taking children outside helps them form a meaningful relationship with those objects in their natural environment. When the child is outside, all of their senses are stimulated. Surrounded by the big outdoors, children can explore by touching, seeing, hearing, and when safe, even tasting. This awakens the senses and calls the child to explore, creating a sense of awe and wonder that will be important throughout its life.

Given such synergy between Dr Montessori's vision and Dr Jane Goodall's, a partnership between JGI and MSN was felt to be a perfect fit.

"I am very excited about our recent partnership with Montessori St Nicholas charity. Our philosophy fits beautifully into successful Montessori teaching practices, which celebrate the 'holistic' approach of young people as a whole being interconnected with our planet and the world around them. I look forward to spreading our message to the Montessori community to reach more youngsters in all walks of life through their dedicated network of students, teachers, and families." Dr Jane Goodall

"As CEO of Montessori St Nicholas and a former Trustee of the Jane Goodall Institute in the UK I am as enthusiastic as Dr Goodall about the potential of the new partnership we have formed. I am sure that the alignment in the philosophies of Dr Goodall and Maria Montessori, which the partnership will actively support, is going to spread the understanding and social impact of the child as an agent of change."

Leonor Stjepic