

Timeline

March 2010

- 1st 177 batteries collected for recycling.
- 2nd Paul Wilkinson Transportation Policy Manager for Colchester Borough Council meets Keith in college to discuss details of their display during 'Green Week'
- 3rd Keith meets with Val Francis to discuss setting up a series of networking meetings for local schools and colleges to discuss best practice and share ideas. It is agreed that this is something we can definitely take forward and will meet later in the year to discuss further.
- 4th Keith attends the Cycle Colchester Partner School event at the Weston Homes Community Stadium, the idea of the event is to encourage schools to support cycling, to share ideas and how Cycle Colchester can support this.
- 8th – 12th **Green Week**
- Monday:** Cycle Colchester has a display and a turbo bike challenge with the fastest students winning Odeon vouchers. Transition Wivenhoe show a bicycle powered movie 'The Story of Stuff'
- Tuesday:** Anglian Water and representatives from Highwoods Country Park have displays on the concourse.
- Wednesday:** Energy Saving Trust has concourse display. The premiere of the Eco Summit movie is met with rapturous applause and Keith gives non college attendees a tour of the college green initiatives.
- Thursday:** LMB fashion is on the concourse showing staff and students how they can customise or make new items from old textiles. LMB recycle all textiles and items that can be re used are sent to developing countries. Keith discusses with their representative a possibility of a clothes recycling point in college.
- Friday:** Kelly Jacobs from The World Land Trust has a display on the concourse showing staff and students how their donations will help to protect areas of rainforest, this year we are supporting the Borneo Orang-utan appeal. An unplugged music session is also held with various acoustic performances culminating in a rendition of Green Days when September ends by staff Sue Court-Oak, Steve Flowerday and Keith Ellis accompanied by Geoff Floyd on acoustic guitar.
- 15th Further log piles are placed in the south site wildlife area.

- 17th The Environment Committee count up all donations and monies from the raffle and an incredible £351.08 is raised for the World Land Trust.
Ian Thompson, Vice Principal draws the raffle, prizes include zoo tickets, solar chargers, energy saving kits and various other environmentally friendly items.
- 18th Keith registers the college for the second workplace cycle challenge, as winners of our class last time hopefully we will be able to continue that success.
- 24th Dr Bike (kindly sponsored by Cycle Colchester) is at college for free cycle checkups for staff and students.
- 30th Transition Town meeting.
- 31st The Carbon Trust attends to complete the free carbon survey. The report detailing how we can reduce energy and carbon emissions can be expected in the next 3 – 4 weeks.

February 2010

- 1st **The Cycle to Work Scheme goes live:** Cyclescheme is the UK's number one provider of tax-free bikes for the Government's Cycle to Work initiative. Employees can make big savings on new bikes; employers get a healthier workforce and save money too!
130 batteries are collected for recycling.
- 8th **Keith attends the becoming an Eco-School training at the town hall** ran by Stella Blackledge, Training Manager for Keep Britain Tidy. The course will help Keith fully understand and recognise the aims of the Eco-Schools movement and the college Journey to Green Flag status.
- 10th The planning for 'Green Week' continues with a variety of guests booked to come into college over the course of the week, the college will again support The World Land Trust in particular with their Borneo Orang-utan appeal.
- 11th **Stella Blackledge (Keep Britain Tidy) having seen David's film of the Eco-Summit contacts Keith to see if any of our students would be willing to carry out some filming work for Keep Britain Tidy.** Stella, Keith and any interested students will meet in April/May to discuss this further.
The Bike User Group meets, primarily to announce the Cycle to Work Scheme.
- 15th Skyview carry out the annual calibration for the weather station, whilst here the prospect of a web cam is discussed, a location is agreed and a quote will follow.
- 16th Transition Towns meeting.
- 18th Having ruled out switching the confidential shredding to Shred It on cost reasons new cross cut shredders are installed in various locations around college. The new shredders shred to

DIN level 3 sufficiently confidential for college needs, the waste can then be recycled.

23rd **The Carbon Trust carry out a free carbon survey of college**, in total they will spend approximately 3 days with Keith to assess and discuss ways of reducing energy usage and carbon emissions.

26th Keith contacts Battery Back a free battery recycling service, subject to a few factors this service will hopefully be in place within 2 months.

January 2010

5th 256 batteries are collected; over 1,500 batteries have been collected during 2009 for recycling.

7th David Morris completes the film of the Eco Summit. The film can be viewed at <http://www.colchsfc.ac.uk/news/econews/>

11th Following discussions with the Healthy Task Force Group the refectory holds the first of 3 planned 'Meat Free Mondays'

12th Keith enrolls for training to become an Eco-Schools Assessor.

14th In view of the large amount of activities the Environment Committee would like to hold over green week and the volume of preparatory work required it is decided to postpone until early March. It is decided that David's film will be shown to an invited audience of governors, senior staff and eminent members of the Borough Council.

18th Meat free Monday.

19th Transition Town meeting.

25th Meat free Monday.

27th **Keith attends the Eco-Schools Assessor training at the Wells Field Study centre in Norfolk**, at the end of the day long course Keith is a fully qualified assessor able to advise and assess schools on their green flag application using the colleges efforts as an example and a yardstick.

28th **Keith contacts The Carbon Trust for a free carbon survey of college**. A Carbon Trust consultant will visit college to identify where and how to reduce energy consumption. A survey is 100% guaranteed to find quick and effective ways to cut costs. In fact, schools that have acted on survey recommendations are saving on average 20% off their energy bills, with little or no cost incurred. That leaves more money to be invested in other areas.

December 2009

1st 127 batteries are collected over November for recycling. The College Association approach Keith regarding the possibility of funding for environmental initiatives.

7th Keith signs up for becoming an Eco-School training, to be held in February 2010.

- 10th Adjustments are made to the college heating system to reflect financial and environmental concerns.
David Morris, an active member of the College Environmental Committee interviews Keith for the film he has made of the Eco-Schools Summit.
- 16th Val Francis and Sam Preston from CBC meet with the Environment Committee and Keith to discuss ways in which they can help with 'Green Week' which is planned for early next year.

November 2009

- 2nd 107 batteries are collected during October for recycling.
- 4th Shred-It install 2 units for a free 1 month trial of their shredding service.
Keith discusses with the Premises Department the possibility of further bins to reduce litter and smoking detritus in the smoking area, it is agreed this will be looked into.
- 5th **Keith attends the Eco-Schools Conference** at Glaziers Hall in London. The purpose of the conference is to explain how Eco-Schools work.
Briefly highlight the links between the Eco-Schools programme and:
National Indicators
Public Service Agreements
Government strategies
Focus on the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme.
Explore why and how local authorities can support schools in the programme.
- 11th Keith meets with Trevor Beckett to discuss the possibility of using recycled/recyclable crockery in the refectories. The products Keith has sourced include cups, plates and trays all of which are 100% compostable and made from renewable resources.
- 16th Keith begins to draft a presentation for the Governors on the College energy usage; this will take the form of where we are, where we want to be and how we are going to get there. As part of this Keith arranges with Chris Jermy Energy and Environmental Consultant for the NPS Group to supply him with details of all energy used enabling the set up of an energy monitoring system.
- 17th the Reprographics Department agree to trial a new general purpose paper which is PEFC certified. The PEFC Council (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes) is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organisation, founded in 1999 which promotes sustainably managed forests through independent third party certification. The PEFC provides an assurance mechanism to purchasers of wood and paper products that they are promoting the

sustainable management of forests. Further information can be found at www.pefc.co.uk

Having been unable to attend the first meeting of the Transition Colchester group Keith attends the second meeting of the steering group part of the UK Transition Towns network. The project is grassroots-led and aims to engage Communities in creating a positive vision of a low energy and a more resilient future, in response to the challenges and opportunities presented by climate change and global peak oil.

More information is available at www.transitiontowns.org

18th Broad beans and winter onions are planted in the college allotment.

The Healthy Task Force meet it is agreed during the January health week that one topic will be the environment, in particular litter also the refectory will trial a 'meat free' Monday.

24th-25th Staff and Students carry out woodland management at Friday Woods.

26th Keith meets with Trevor to finalise crockery figures and arranges for a quote and sample from the supplier.

October 2009

1st 155 batteries are collected for recycling.

Keith gives his first presentation to a group of language students.

5th As part of the Eco-Schools programme Keith joins the College Healthy Living Task Force.

7th The new paper recycling bins arrive and the task of replacing the old and damaged ones begin.

8th Keith meets with Val Francis for the penultimate Summit meeting.

A second presentation to language students takes place.

13th Keith meets with Dave Watts and Governor Gerry Callan to discuss the Carbon Reduction Commitment, 10:10 and ways of the College reducing its power use and carbon footprint.

14th The Environment Committee and Keith discuss their roles for next week's summit.

Keith signs up for Colchester Transition Town steering group.

15th Keith and Val discuss the final arrangements for the summit.

20th Val Francis comes to college for a final summit briefing with Keith and the students.

21st **Colchester Eco-Schools Summit.**

The event was held at the Western Homes Community Stadium The activity packed day visiting schools shared green ideas and took part in a variety of fun filled activities, presentations and workshops. The activities included:

Pressing apples and churning organic butter to find out about the dairy industry and how food choices affect carbon footprint.

Learning how wheat is turned into flour.

Finding out how to make ethical fashion by turning recycled textiles into garments.

Cooking Tabouli with home grown garlic.

A film 'The Story of Stuff' was shown using a bicycle powered projector.

The Carbon Trust was on hand to demonstrate what energy saving could be made in school and Essex County Council gave a presentation about Queen Boudica - Colchester's first eco-school which opened in 2009.

At lunchtime the children got a break but being green was still on their minds and they ate from a buffet provided by Food for Life using products from sustainable local producers.

Portfolio Holder for Performance and Partnerships Councillor Tina Dopson said:

"This is an outstanding educational event that young people from all round Colchester will learn from. Not only can schools pick up tips on how to become greener, but also how to save money and resources. We are proud to be working with the Food for Life Partnership, which is doing fantastic work in communities around the country. We are always keen for all ages to be involved in helping to make Colchester a more sustainable, greener borough."

22nd Governor Mary Frank visits College to discuss with Keith the latest green issues.

26th The Carbon Reduction Commitment Conference confirmation arrives.

EI Electrical supplies Keith with an energy monitor.

27th The first Transition Towns meeting takes place.

September 2009

1st Over the summer break 196 batteries are collected for recycling. Keith has a further planning meeting for the Eco-Schools Summit.

2nd Shred-It agree to a free 1 month trial of their shredding service enabling them to form an accurate quote.

7th Keith looks at the possibility of the college signing up for 10:10. 10:10 is an ambitious project to unite every sector of British society behind one simple idea: that by working together we can achieve a 10% cut in the UK's carbon emissions in 2010.

14th **College Principal agrees to sign up for 10:10**

16th The Environment Committee and several tutor groups have a litter pick on campus.

Keith is invited to attend the Carbon reduction Commitment Conference hosted by Eco-Schools in London during November.

17th The second edition of the Borough Council Eco-Schools newsletter is issued advertising the Eco-Schools Summit.

23rd Keith and Val Francis meet to continue the planning for the

Eco-Schools Summit.

25th A sample of a new recycled paper bin arrives, these bins are made from a minimum of 80% recycled materials.

The autumn issue of the Green Bulletin is issued.

28th Keith is approached by the Modern Languages department to present an environmental overview of the college to assist students in a French environmental presentation.

29th The new paper recycling bins arrive.

Keith receives a second request to present to students.

30th The Green Bulletin goes live on sharepoint.

Summer Break

New lighting is installed in the technology area. This new lighting works on a lux (amount of light) sensor; if the trial proves successful the possibility of renewing all college lighting will be considered.

So far this year almost half of the water used to flush toilets in mid site is recycled.

Keith begins the task of compiling an archive of environmental and sustainable information for the use of staff and students.

The college allotment is harvested providing a bumper harvest. In total 3 kilos of onions have been produced, these will be used for cell microscopy, 10 kilos of potatoes for osmosis and catalase enzyme experiments, 30 beetroot plants for permeability and membrane tests, a large amount of rhubarb for structure of xylem vessels and transport through plant and spinach which will be used for isolated chloroplasts. Once the plot is clear broad beans for sick plant experiments and winter onions will be planted.

The financial benefit to the college will only be small, however the real value is in the food miles. In the past we have had to buy all of these vegetables with no guarantee that they have been produced locally or even in the United Kingdom.

July 2009

1st 178 Batteries are collected during June.

The Environment Committee raise the possibility of an external classroom. Keith agrees to look into this.

2nd Keith meets with Val Francis to start planning for the Eco-Schools Summit.

7th A BUG meeting is held, matters discussed are the discount members receive from Thomas Cycle Stores, Cycle routes to the

- college, cyclist safety, the impact of the Tour Series in Colchester, cycle locks that had remained in the racks over half term had been removed and the fact we are not currently receiving the weekly e-magazine and quarterly printed magazine from the CTC, Keith agreed to take this up with the CTC.
- 8th The Environment Committee is invited to assist in the day's events at the Eco-Schools Summit.
- 10th **Green Britain Day**, as part of this historic day sponsored by EDF Energy, Eco-Schools, London 2012, the Eden Project and Global Action Plan Keith and the Environment Committee have a stand on the concourse encouraging staff and students to make a pledge to do something greener. In the end over 200 pledges are received.
- 15th 40 boxes of books no longer required by the Library are sent to Uganda.

June 2009

- 1st 213 batteries are collected during May for recycling.
- 13th Keith assists at the Festival of Cycling in Castle Park. Visitors were able to try out a whole range of different bikes, there were family-friendly led-rides and Dr Bike was on hand to carry out free bike MOTs. Other activities included, Pimp my Bike, Heart FM hosting a chill out area, the opportunity to make a Summer of Cycling pledge, a chance to find out all about other activities and pick up great giveaways.
- 18th The Tour Series pro Bike Race comes to Colchester. In cooperation with the Keep Britain Tidy Big Tidy Up campaign students from the Environment Committee and several tutor groups have a litter pick on campus.
- 24th - 25th Induction days. The Environment Committee and Keith man a stall encouraging new students to join the committee.

May 2009

- 1st April collection of batteries for recycling is 72
- 6th The Environment Committee place the first log pile in the north wildlife area.
The wildflower and grass seed mix is ordered.
Compaid collect more used printer cartridges
- 7th The local police visit the college offering free post coding for bicycles as a theft deterrent.
- 8th Keith provides Alan Swainston (Technology technician) with plans for bird, bat and insect boxes.
- 12th A Bio-Diversity update is released as shown below

With the help of the Environment Committee the first log pile is now in place (please see attached photograph). More logs are on their way, volunteers will be required!

Alan Swainston has kindly agreed to make us some bird/bat boxes from waste timber and some insect habitat frames that the Environment Committee will complete as a practical task, I have supplied Alan with plans as a guideline. (I am able to provide copies of these plans if anyone is interested).

A family of Long Tailed Tits nesting in the ceanothus has produced 5 fledgling chicks.

The bird box on the holly tree has a family of Great Tits with 4/5 young.

Other birds seen in the area: Blue Tits, Song Thrush, Blackbird, Jay, Magpie, Collared Dove, Wood Pigeon, Goldfinch, Crow, Robin and Chaffinch.

- 15th The allotment now has 3 thriving beds, 1 of potatoes, 1 of onion and garlic and 1 of beetroot and spinach.
- 17th Keith assists the Cycle Colchester team with a stall at the Race for Life in Castle Park.
- 21st The bird, bat and insect boxes are ready and await placement.
- 28th Keith meets with Shred-It a confidential shredding company to review the college confidential waste disposal.

April 2009

- 1st 39 Batteries are collected during March.
- 3rd Val Francis from Colchester Borough Council invites Keith to help with the organisation of this year's Eco-Schools Summit.
- 10th The first crops are planted in the college allotment.
- 20th **The spring edition of the Green Bulletin is issued**, this terms issue focuses on the College achievement of Eco-Schools Silver award and the Bio-Diversity Group.
- 23rd The College holds a cycle day. Richard Monk brings the Blender Vender a cycle powered fruit smoothie maker into college and Dr Bike (Matthew Lawford) carries out free cycle MOTs. Both events are met with enthusiasm by students.
- 27th The first edition of the Borough Council Eco-Schools newsletter is issued featuring an article on the college efforts on green day and subsequent purchase of some valuable rainforest.
- 30th Keith is invited to assist with the Tour Series pro Bike Race a dramatic, high profile, one-day cycling event laid on by the organisers of the Tour of Britain, Colchester is one of ten English towns and cities that has been selected to stage an event as part of the Tour Series, offering local people a unique opportunity to enjoy top level cycling on their doorstep. The day comprises of various events during the day and culminating with the race in the early evening.

Keith accompanies Val Francis to the Weston Homes Community Stadium the venue for this year's Eco-Schools Summit.

March 2009

- 2nd In view of the wide range of work Keith Ellis has become involved with his job title changes from Waste & Recycling Coordinator to Sustainability Coordinator.
113 batteries are collected for recycling during February.
- 3rd **The Environment Committee's Green Day is a huge success.**
Staff & students are encouraged to wear something green for a small donation to the charity World Land Trust, with the money raised the college becomes the proud owners of 2 acres of Ecuadorian rainforest and 2,000 square metres of Elephant Corridor in Kerala India.
- 4th Keith Ellis discusses the Bio-Diversity Group suggestions with the Premises Dept. All points are agreed, Keith will now source the products required.
- 5th Keith meets with Val Francis Strategic Waste Officer from Colchester Borough Council; Val is preparing a local schools newsletter and would like to use the College initiatives and achievement in gaining the Eco-Schools Silver Award to use in the newsletter. Keith agrees to provide Val with any information she requires. Val also gives 2 kitchen caddies to Keith. The 2 caddies along with 2 others are issued to both kitchens, biology and food technology, all organic waste from these caddies will be used in the college allotment compost bins.
Computer Aid International collects 2 full boxes of used printer cartridges and mobile phones.
- 10th Keith meets with Vice Principal Ian Thompson and Richard Monk (Colchester Cycling Champion) regarding events promoting a healthy lifestyle and sustainable transport for cycle to learn week.
- 18th Russell Leavett from the RSPB and a retired nature reserve warden visits College and discusses plans for the north side wildlife area with the Keith, the Bio-Diversity Group and the Environment Committee. Russell agreed with all the plans and offered some very useful advice as to how to improve the area for flora and fauna. Russell kindly gave up his own time for free and has agreed to return to College to review our progress.
- 30th **The College applies for the Queens Anniversary Prizes for higher and further education.**
Assistant Principal Frances Grew comments:
The College made a submission this year for the Queen's Award highlighting the ways in which the College has managed a fundamental change in the College culture and its approach to sustainability and to the environment within College and in the world wide community. The work has also resulted in students

adopting an environmentally aware and environmentally friendly philosophy and applying it to their lives whilst at College and beyond.

The change in culture is unique, in that the initiation of the change derived from both the student body and from Senior Management at approximately the same time. This synthesis of intent and determination became a powerful motivational force and has resulted in practical activities that have had a real impact on College life.

Academic, social and additional activities all combine to offer a range of ways that students and staff can engage with their surroundings and take responsibility for their environment. The work of the student environment committee has allowed “sustainability” to underpin a host of everyday activities. Recycling is the “norm” and intelligent waste management has had a massive and very visible impact upon the whole College.

The appointment of a Sustainability Co-ordinator and the opportunities presented by a proposed development to the College Campus have presented exciting ways for the College to reduce its carbon footprint and to educate students as to the value to the Global Community of action by individuals.

The value of the work cannot be overstated with benefits to all who participate and to local, national and international communities.

February 2009

- 2nd January battery collection is 100.
- 9th **The Bio-Diversity Advisory Group Meet for the first time.**
The following points were agreed upon and Keith Ellis would put these to the Premises Dept.
The area to be monitored over the next year to establish extent of existing plant life enabling a planting strategy to be formed for spring 2010. Nick Stanaway has agreed to do this.
The two areas closest to the front wall where the grass has died to be reseeded with grass/wildflower mix.
Installation of animal habitats, e.g. bird and bat boxes, insect houses and log piles to be placed close to the back wall.
Minimum yearly maintenance taking flora and fauna into account as well as health & safety and visual appeal.
- 10th **The inaugural meeting for the BUG (Bike User Group) takes place.** Colchester cycling champion Richard Monk attends to explain benefits of joining the group and answer any questions.
- 12th **The college achieves the Eco-Schools silver award.**

- 24th Keith Ellis meets with Peter Lynn from Essex University BUG which has been operational for nearly 2 years to offer advice and share ideas about setting up a group.
- 26th The weather station goes live on the staff intranet. Further details can be seen at <http://skylink-pro.com/schools/colchsfc/index.php>
- 27th **A new initiative for the recycling of mobile phones and printer cartridges is set up via Computer Aid International.** Boxes are placed in the staff room, the concourse and mid site. Computer Aid International is a UK registered charity and one of the country's leading recycling companies to recycle empty printer cartridges and unwanted mobile phones and are fully WEEE compliant. Recycling used printer cartridges and mobile phones, helps protect the environment at the same time as raising funds for Computer Aid - which provides professionally refurbished IT equipment to schools, universities, hospitals and not for profit organisations in developing countries. Further details can be found at <http://www.computeraid.org/rit>

January 2009

- 5th Over December 141 Batteries are collected for recycling. An initial flyer is distributed to all staff to gauge interest for the Bike User Group.
- 20th Participation in the Cycle to Work Scheme is put to college Principal Ian MacNaughton.
- 21st the Environment Committee begin work on projects for science week (02.03 – 13.03.2009).
- 23rd the weather station is installed by Skyview Weather Systems.
- 27th The wildlife area to the south of campus undergoes extensive but necessary husbandry. The extent of the work causes concern among members of staff so a Bio-Diversity Advisory Group is formed to offer guidance and advice on the future management of the wildlife area.

December 2008

- 1st 117 batteries are collected for November. Skyview Weather Systems carry out a final survey for the weather station; installation will take place in January.
- 12th **In continued support for sustainable transport the College agree to the funding of a BUG (Bike User Group).** The BUG will be affiliated to the CTC which has a number of very

significant benefits for members of staff who decide to join including: Third party insurance, cycling discounts, free legal advice and much more.

15th **The Christmas edition of the Green Bulletin is issued.**

17th The compost bins for the allotment area arrive.

November 2008

3rd 68 batteries are collected during October for recycling.

The allotment will comprise of 3 raised beds 3m x 1m. A greenhouse and shed will also be placed in the area.

5th **The Autumn edition of the Green bulletin is issued.**

The final proofs for the use of recycled paper go to senior management for final approval.

6th The first batch of fluorescent tubes are collected for recycling under the WEEE directive.

10th Following discussions at the Eco-Schools Summit Skyview Weather Systems visit the college to explore the possibility of a weather station which will provide valuable environmental data as well as being a useful educational tool.

11th **The shed, greenhouse and raised beds are installed at the allotment site.**

The College senior management have decided that subject to financial and practical viability the College will use recycled paper from now on. The new general stationary will now be able to carry the Forest Stewardship Council logo. The FSC is an independent, non-governmental, not for profit organization established to promote the responsible management of the world's forests. Products carrying the FSC label are independently certified to assure consumers that they come from forests that are managed to meet the social, economic and ecological needs of present and future generations.

As it has proved very difficult to locate a financial and practical source of recycled paper to use in photocopiers and printers, it has been decided to reduce the weight of our general use paper stock from 80gm to 75gm. By reducing paper weight means we are using less, wasting less and saving weight on deliveries, therefore doing just that little bit more to reduce our carbon footprint.

20th Keith Ellis attends the Colchester 2020 community breakfast.

24th-28th Staff and students from the college plant 1,000 trees in Highwood's country park to create a new wooded area joining the country park to the new community stadium.

25th Andrew Budd from the Colchester 2020 travel plan club meets with Steve Barnes and Keith Ellis with a view to the college becoming members of the club.

26th Two free compost bins are ordered from WRAP for the allotment area.

October 2008

- 5th Two weeks into the cycle challenge and the College leads the 150-349 staff bracket with 55 staff registered and 1175 miles cycled.
119 batteries are collected during September for recycling.
- 7th Jayne McNaughton (biology technician) approaches Keith Ellis regarding an allotment for their department to provide a teaching aid as well as a supply of vegetables for experiments.
- 11th **The Eco-Schools Summit.** The event is a great success with many exhibitors and influential speakers. Over 50 local schools attend. The College Environmental Committee has a stand offering advice on how to set up your own Environment committee and projects working towards the Eco-Schools award.
- 12th The Colchester Cycle Challenge ends.
- 15th The interim results for the Colchester Cycle Challenge are published, the college wins its size bracket with over 17% of staff having ridden a bike in the last 3 weeks and over 2,500 miles cycled, which equates to saving approximately 1,000 kgs of Co2 from entering the atmosphere.
The regeneration of the south side wildlife area and the allotment are given the go ahead. The allotment will be located with the new greenhouse in the south east corner of the campus.
- 17th The final results for the cycle Challenge are in confirming the college victory.
The compactor arrives ready for final installation during the half term break.
- 20th Keith Ellis meets with Tina Parker (Senior HR & Admin Manager) presenting a case for the college to switch to using recycled paper.
- 22nd The College Senior Management team agree to switch to using recycled paper wherever possible, subject to cost and viability. Keith Ellis will investigate these factors.

September 2008

- 2nd **The new Eco-Code goes live on the College web site.** A copy of which can be seen by clicking on the following link
http://www.colchsfc.ac.uk/econews/documents/college_eco_code.pdf
- 15th The New Eco-Code is distributed to all tutor groups.
- 17th Jayne McNaughton, Frankie Murphy, John Tweed and Keith Ellis meet to discuss the regeneration of the wildlife area to the

- south boundary of the college and to review progress on the wildlife pond and wetland area to the north boundary.
- 22nd The College registers for the Colchester Workplace Cycle Challenge an event organised by the local branch of the CTC the idea of which is to increase bicycle usage in Colchester and to help improve the environment, by reducing car use.
- 29th The first collection of waste electrical equipment is removed from the College for recycling.

Summer Break

The compost bins are installed.
 The new cigarette bins are installed.
 Unfortunately due to the high volume of works required over the summer period regrettably the installation of the waste compactor has to be postponed. This is now scheduled for the half term break 27th – 31st October
An additional wildlife area which will include a pond and wetland area is started just beyond the IT building.
 At the end of the summer break an amazing total of 223 spent batteries are collected, so far 780 batteries will not now become landfill.

July 2008

- 1st 166 batteries are collected during June for recycling.
As part of the 2008-2009 Strategic Priorities the College intends to continue the focus on sustainability, further developing the College's involvement in local, regional, national and international agendas.
- 3rd Keith Ellis meets with Valerie Francis Sarah McIntosh to further discuss plans for the Eco-Schools Summit.
- 11th The summer Green Bulletin quiz closes, the lucky winner is Lisa Mayne from Departmental Administration Lisa wins tickets for her and her family for The Centre for Alternative Technology in beautiful Snowdonia.
- 15th the Environment Committee and Keith Ellis present the new Eco-Code to College Principal Ian McNaughton. It is agreed that the college will adopt the code.
- 16th In an effort to maintain the tidiness of the smoking area special cigarette bins are ordered, hopefully encouraging people to stop using the floor as an ashtray.
- 17th 2 van loads of redundant library books are recycled by being sent to Uganda for less fortunate students.

June 2008

- 2nd The battery collection for May is a massive improvement on April as 167 batteries are prevented from going to landfill.
- 4th Jolene Rogers Street Care Development Officer for Colchester Borough Council meets Keith to discuss visiting the college during anti litter week; one of the main concerns is the amount of cigarette butts in the smoking area.
- 9th **No litter week** commences with the slogans litter is lazy and drop the habit. Posters are displayed around the college using actual photographs of litter on the college campus. The College submits plans to Colchester Borough Council for an extension to the west side of the existing south site building using the latest environmentally friendly technology. College Principal Ian McNaughton commented “we’re looking at some environmental features beyond double glazing”. One of the features in consideration is deep source heat pumps.
- 12th Matt Pirie (chair of The Environment Committee) and Keith Ellis meet with the College Council who agree to back the anti litter campaign and to work towards a reduction of litter on the campus.
- 13th No litter week concludes with a display on the concourse and Jolene Rogers attends the college with a display and giveaways in the smoking area explaining to students that however you look at cigarette butts are litter.
- 24th George from the Environment Committee comes up with a stunning new design for the Eco Code; the committee agree on six salient points covering rubbish, water, printing, power, travel and reduce, reuse and recycle.
- 30th **The summer edition of the Green Bulletin is issued.**

May 2008

- 1st The total number of batteries collected for recycling during April is a disappointing 42.
- 2nd Jolene Rogers, Street Care Development Officer for Colchester Borough Council agrees to visit the College on Friday 13th June for a display in the smoking area coinciding with CBC stub it campaign.
- 6th Jo Browne, Sha Smith, Keith Ellis and the Environment Committee agree on the final text for the eco code.
- 7th Rob Purkiss from CSH advises he has a mini compactor available for mid-site.
College Governor Mary Frank agrees to assist with the Eco Schools project. A requirement for further awards is that a governor is part of the action team.
- 12th Rob Purkiss from CSH meets with Keith Ellis at the College to discuss locations for the mini compactor. A suitable location is established.

- 13th Dave Watts and Keith Ellis have a long meeting to discuss the environmental review required for the College to attain the Eco-Schools silver award. Keith now has to meet with various members of the college staff to gather further information. It is agreed that the review should be used as a guide as we move towards a further eco friendly college.
- 15th The final draft of the eco-code is ready for approval by the College Principal Ian MacNaughton and The College Council.
- 23rd Keith Ellis meets with Valerie Francis from Colchester Borough Council and Sarah McIntosh from St Marys School with a view to organising an Eco-Schools summit for local Schools. It is agreed to proceed with the event which will be held on 11th October at St Marys School. The summit will comprise of speakers from ENCAMS, public organisations and third sector experts in sustainable schools presenting on a range of topics linked to the government's sustainable schools agenda. The format will also include exhibitors from suppliers of products offering solutions to climate change and sustainable development and 'Ask the Experts' surgery sessions for schools focusing on their challenges, and associated activities.

April 2008

- 10th Keith Ellis with the Environment Committee begins the development of an eco code for the college.
- 17th **The distribution of the paper recycling boxes is completed.**
- 22nd Rob Purkiss from Colchester Skip Hire meets at the College with Dave Watts, Keith Maxwell-Whale and Keith Ellis to discuss location for the proposed waste compactor. A location is agreed, Keith Maxwell- Whale will liaise with the relevant contractors for suitable fencing and a three phase electricity supply. These works will be carried out over the summer break. This will reduce the College waste collections from three a week to once a fortnight sizeably reducing our carbon footprint. Whilst on site Rob Purkiss discussed the possibility of a mini compactor for mid site, it was agreed that this certainly should be looked into and Rob will get back to Keith with further information.
- 25th Valerie Francis, Strategic Waste Officer contacts Keith Ellis looking to set up a working group with members of the Sixth Form College Environment Committee, Youth Council and other interested parties to work on an Eco schools event in October 2008 aimed at local schools/colleges. The aim is for the event to target the wider community and promote all the good work that is currently being done as well as giving momentum to the Eco schools programme within the area. Ideally there will be workshops, speakers, exhibitors and displays from schools.

As an element of a proposed capital funding application to the LSC, the college begins an investigation into alternative, sustainable energy sources.

March 2008

- 3rd To encourage battery recycling a competition is launched for staff to guess the amount of batteries collected during the month of March. The lucky winner will receive a Debenhams gift voucher.
- 4th Trevor Beckett (Senior Catering Operations Manager) and refectory staff agree to separate food and recyclable waste. Paper recycling boxes arrive and are begun to be distributed to workrooms and study areas.
- 6th Keith Ellis attends the showing of the Al Gore film 'An Inconvenient Truth' with the Colchester 2020 initiative.
- 13th Keith Ellis, Jo Browne and students from the Environment Committee attend the Colchester 2020 assembly concerned primarily with carbon reduction. The event is attended by around 200 guests including the Mayor, the Environment Agency and representatives from Carbon Trust, local government, the Army, and other important sectors of the community. The students give a presentation about local and global environmental issues. The talk is a great success and met with much enthusiasm. As a result, the students are asked to lead several initiatives for the town which include helping local schools establish environmental committees and design environmental projects, to help plan an eco-town in conjunction with Fenn Wright estate agents and to design art work with environmental themes for the town. *Colchester 2020 is a community strategy aimed at addressing various community issues in Colchester. Further details can be found at www.colchester2020.com.*
- 25th Keith Ellis and the Environment Committee agree to start working towards achieving the Eco-Schools Silver Award.
- 27th **The first college Green Bulletin is issued.**
- 31st The battery competition closes, a massive 182 batteries have been collected for recycling, the lucky winner is Claire Johnston from Biology.

February 2008

- 7th Keith Ellis meets with Colchester Skip Hire (CSH) to discuss College Waste & Recycling. Matters discussed include hazardous waste (Inc electrical, battery and fluorescent tubes), paper and compaction. CSH explained their plans for a new, larger plant at their existing location which will improve

- recycling of waste by up to a further 25% the new plant should be operational in 18 months to two years.
- 18th Keith Ellis meets with David Watts and Keith Maxwell-Whale to discuss matters arising from CSH meeting. It is agreed that we start collecting electrical goods, fluorescent tubes and batteries for correct recycling. It is also agreed to switch to CSH for paper recycling as this is a greener and financially superior service. The Compactor is also greener and financially better for the college so it was agreed that this would be discussed further with the Principal Ian MacNaughton.
- 20th **College is awarded Eco-Schools Bronze award.** Eco-Schools is an international award programme linked to the government aspiration that every school will be a sustainable school by 2020. The Programme is focused around nine key environment topics: water, biodiversity, energy, global perspectives, healthy living, litter, school grounds, transport and waste. To qualify for the Bronze Award, students from the Environment Committee working with staff members had to complete an environmental review and come up with an action plan that will deal with issues such as conserving energy and recycling as well as raising awareness among the student population of local, national and global issues linked to the nine topic areas.
- 21st Arrangement is made with CSH for them to collect electrical goods and batteries. Staff are advised that they are to contact Keith Ellis who will arrange to collect and store any items in preparation for collection by CSH.
- 22nd Boxes arrive for storage of waste fluorescent tubes.
- 25th Paper recycling boxes are ordered.
It is agreed that the college will proceed with the Waste Compactor; installation will take place over the summer break 2008.

January 2008

- 2nd **Keith Ellis appointed Waste & Recycling Coordinator.**
- 11th External bins labelled for cardboard, paper & general waste
- 14th Most Workrooms and Offices are supplied with Green Rubbish sacks for paper disposal.
- 15th Cleaning staff agrees to split/empty rubbish sacks enabling 65% of college waste to be recycled by refuse collector. (All full rubbish sacks go straight to landfill; emptied sacks are sorted mechanically and manually for recycling.)
- 30th **No litter day.**
- 31st Environment Committee display on concourse, display includes statue made from plastic bottles and pile of rubbish collected on no litter day showing amount of litter created on concourse alone in just one day.