

Partnership Newsletter

No. 8 Spring 2011



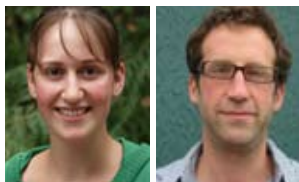
High Weald Hero Actions *Find Out About *Explore *Take Care of *Be Proud of *Enjoy

Hello! Welcome to another High Weald Hero Partnership newsletter. Once again, thank you for your enthusiasm and engagement with various High Weald Hero actions. The High Weald Hero network continues to grow - there are now over 60 primary schools who have started to Explore, Find Out About, Take Care Of, Be Proud Of and Enjoy the High Weald in exciting and innovative ways.

We would also like to welcome...

- Blackwell Primary School
- Blackthorns CP School
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Crowborough
- Parkside CP School and
- St Peter's Catholic Primary School, East Grinstead to the partnership.

For any ideas, advice or teaching resources on using your local area, do get in touch with either Laura or Saul (contact details at end of this newsletter.)



Free Talk Helps School Raise Funds

Over 100 people turned out to attend a free talk on the history of the High Weald at Stonegate school, East Sussex. The talk was organised to help raise money for Stonegate Primary School.

Matt Pitts, the Cultural Landscape Advisor from the High Weald AONB Unit gave a one hour illustrated talk entitled 'The Making of the High Weald'. The talk gave people an opportunity to find out more about the historical development of the High Weald landscape over the last 142 million years.



Are you looking to raise funds? Do you need an idea for the next PTA event? We are offering this FREE talk to any school within the High Weald AONB. A great opportunity to bring together parents, governors and the local community whilst selling refreshments/tickets - all proceeds to be kept by YOU!

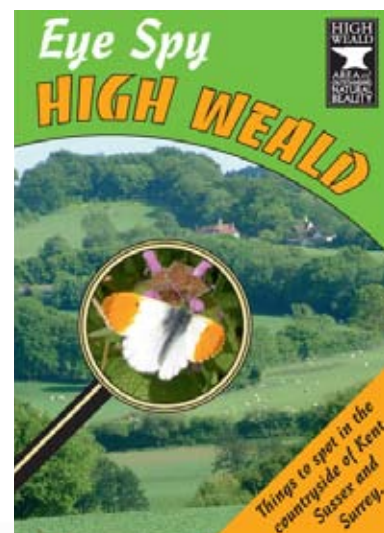
If you'd like to know more contact Matt directly on 01580 879500 or matt@highweald.info and get your event in the diary!

FREE Eye Spy High Weald Guides

We have just produced the very first 'Eye Spy' High Weald Guide - with lots of things to spot in and around the High Weald - if you look carefully enough!

From butterflies to llamas and Bluebells to timber-framed buildings, this is a handy guide to your local area as well as filling hours of fun as you explore your surroundings. Can you find all 99 things? How many points can you collect? What weird and wonderful finds will you track down?

The Eye Spy guides are FREE so do let Laura know how many copies you would like for your school community and you can get started on your Eye Spy adventures.



Community High Weald Heroes!

Pupils from Nutley primary school have been sharing their new Welly Walk with their community. Back in the Autumn, the children worked hard to plan and test the walk, collecting the information required for their Welly Walk leaflet. Now their walk has been published and the school are keen to get as many people on their Welly Walk as possible!



Children have delivered their Welly Walk to local businesses and shops. Other classes in the school are also planning on using it as part of future topics.

Does your school have a Welly Walk? See if there's a Welly Walk near you at: www.highweald.org/learn/education/welly-walks.html or contact Laura to create one for your school!



Wonderful Websites

Teachers often ask us for help in finding relevant online resources for various learning journeys, environment themes or outdoor escapades - so we thought we'd share some of our favourites with you!

Countryside Investigators

Go on an online journey through the countryside with the Countryside Investigators to farms, villages, woodlands and country estates. Meet the interesting people who work here. Watch the videos, play the games, or try a quiz.

Visit the teachers' area for lots of free activities, worksheets and advice about organising farm visits. www.countrysideinvestigators.org.uk



FACE - Farming And Countryside Education

A leading charity providing food, farming and countryside education to children. Aiming to help children to understand where their food comes from, how it is produced and how the countryside is maintained. Lots of interactive resources - including a farmer's podcast!



www.face-online.org.uk

Nature Detectives

Hundreds of free downloadable activity, play packs and spotter sheets for children, families and teachers. Perfect accompaniment to your outdoor learning adventures.

www.naturedetectives.org.uk

Visit Woods



Log on here to find your closest, accessible woodland to explore - includes sites owned by the Woodland Trust, the Forestry Commission, Wildlife Trusts and even privately owned woods that are open to the public.

www.visit-woods.org.uk

And of course... www.highweald.org!

A wealth of information about the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty plus access to your school map sets and Welly Walks. PLUS lots of education resources to support your work as High Weald Heroes, including outdoor activity cards, and woodland explorer packs.



Beautiful Butterflies

In connection with the Butterfly Conservation Trust, we have created a special High Weald Hero butterfly identification chart and survey sheet.

Each month - April to July, a guide of which butterflies to spot in the High Weald will be available, as well as a sheet on which to record any sightings. Children can look for, record and find out about butterflies in the High Weald - a great way to embrace the High Weald Hero Actions.



Why not sit in your school garden and see what butterflies visit? Or head to the local woods to track down some species there.

Survey results can be sent to Laura and will contribute to the work of the Butterfly Conservation Trust. The spotter sheets can be downloaded from our website - www.highweald.org. Alternatively, copies can be posted or emailed to you directly - just ask!

Find Out More

High Weald Heroes is a partnership of primary schools that have demonstrated their commitment to the local landscape by undertaking the High Weald Hero actions - Find Out About, Explore, Take Care of, Be Proud of and Enjoy.

Have you seen our website?

Numerous free resources are available online:

www.highweald.org/learn/education.html



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News needed - If you have any news or stories you would like to be included in the next newsletter or to appear on our website please let us know



Check out the learning zone - www.highweald.org