



# The Education Centre

A BETTER FUTURE TOGETHER



Hello and welcome to the Spring Term newsletter from the Waterbeach Waste Education Centre. The Education Centre was built as part of the partnership between AmeyCespa Ltd (previously called Donarbon) and Cambridgeshire County Council and gives pupils and staff a chance to see exactly what happens to the waste that we throw away. Visits to The Education Centre are free for all schools in Cambridgeshire and might include the following:

- **MBT** (Mechanical Biological Treatment) plant. See the state of the art waste management facility which opened in November 2009 and learn how it helps to reduce waste going to landfill.
- **Composting**. Find out what happens to your kitchen and garden waste and how it is turned into wonderful, free compost.
- **Landfill**. Take a short walk to see the landfill area (this is weather and site dependent and may not be available at all times)
- **Site tour**. Take a coach or minibus tour of the site to see the many different aspects of managing waste in Cambridgeshire. This will include visiting the composting area, landfill site, Anaerobic Digestion plant and construction and demolition recycling area.
- A range of **practical activities** to involve and engage children and students of all ages.

Visits are run by our small team of fully qualified and experienced teachers and our activities are designed to show how waste materials can be reused in different ways. The Education Centre and activities and visits provided have been awarded the Learning Outside the Classroom (LOTC) Quality Badge. For more information visit our website at

<http://www.ameycespa.com/east/school-visits-education-centre>

## **New outreach service**

The Waterbeach Waste Education Centre now has two outreach officers who can come out to schools and talk about recycling and waste and also what goes on at the Waterbeach site. This can be done either in assemblies, classes or an after school club. We can show children and staff (and if required parents) how to improve their recycling at school and at home and also give them the opportunity to take part in different practical activities, including making models from materials that would otherwise be wasted.

The two officers are Mike Freed and Nick King who are both qualified and experienced teachers and Nick has also worked for many years on the Cambridgeshire County Council's schools recycling bus. To arrange an outreach visit to your school please see the contact details below.

## **Family sessions at Half Term and Easter**

We know that many families would like to visit us and we are really pleased that we can now offer family activities in the February Half Term and Easter Holidays.

### **February Half Term**

Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> February. 10am – 12pm or 2pm – 4pm

Join us at our education centre. See the state of the art Mechanical Biological Treatment plant in action, take part in waste related, hands-on activities and find out about how to reduce, reuse and recycle your waste.

The sessions are free but booking is essential. To book a place email [education@ameycespa.com](mailto:education@ameycespa.com) or phone 01223 815490

Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please note that because of the nature of the site we are unable to allow children under 6 years old on site.

### **Easter Holidays**

We will be offering Family sessions in the Easter Holidays as well on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April and Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> April.

## **Funding for transport and the Big Challenge – WEEE Solutions.**

Although the Education Centre is a free service to Cambridgeshire schools we know that the costs of transport to the Waterbeach site can be quite high. We have teamed up with DHL Envirosolutions, the company that organises the collection and recycling of waste electrical equipment from the county's nine household recycling centres, to offer all primary and special schools in Cambridgeshire the chance to get funding to help with the cost of transport when visiting the Education Centre.

DHL Envirosolutions and the educational charity Waste Watch have developed an innovative and engaging new on-line teaching resource about the growing challenge of dealing with waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE).

From September 2011 until June 2012 your school will be able to follow the different sessions within this teaching pack and enter a competition to create a community awareness campaign about WEEE, with the chance of winning a digital recorder or a visualiser. Any primary or special school in Cambridgeshire that has submitted an entry to the competition will also automatically qualify for help with transport costs for one visit to the Education Centre. We can offer each school that submits a competition entry £150 towards the cost of transport. Please note that this offer is limited to one visit per school until the end of July 2012.

To find out more about the Big Challenge – WEEE Education Pack please visit [www.bigchallenge-weeesolution.co.uk](http://www.bigchallenge-weeesolution.co.uk) and register to begin using these great resources.

### **Free compost to schools**

AmeyCespa makes soil improver from the kitchen and garden waste collected from households and businesses in Cambridgeshire. This soil improver is available to the public to collect free of charge from our three sites at Waterbeach, Alconbury and March (please visit [www.ameycespa.com/east](http://www.ameycespa.com/east) for location details). However, we know that schools would often like large quantities and so we now offer one free delivery of a skip of our soil improver to all schools in Cambridgeshire. Please note that the offer is for one delivery per school each year. Please contact our Education Centre staff for more details (using the contact details below).

### **Contact details**

Email: [education@ameycespa.com](mailto:education@ameycespa.com)

Telephone: 01223 815490

Website: <http://www.ameycespa.com/east/education>



working in partnership