

LocalLife



Scary: actor Nick Hall with pupils George Palmer and Abi Simon. Below, Cindy Nung with one of the crows. PHOTO: SIMON FINLAY

Children's ideas of how to go green take flight through play

Primary school pupils have been learning about how to be environmentally friendly and green through an interactive play.

Brundall Primary School in Braydeston Avenue is among 100 British schools to have already received £20,000 solar panels, which are half-funded by The Co-operative, with match-funding from the Government's Low Carbon Building Programme (LCBP).

On Thursday, the school also had a visit from Twisting Yarn Theatre with their interactive play, *The Crow Scarers*.

The play is aimed at primary school pupils and shows how the environment has been affected by the different ways a patch of land has been used throughout history.

Pupils provided the props for the performance by making their own crows from recycled materials.

The play, which has been commissioned by The Co-operative as part of its Green Energy for



Schools scheme, follows the story of two children who fall through an old mineshaft while looking at a scarecrow in a field and end up travelling back in time during an underground adventure where they encounter colourful

characters from the past. The accompanying workshop which children were invited to take part in, encouraged them to decide how the land should be used in the future.

The Co-operative's community

and campaigns manager, Melanie Phillips, said: "The aim of our Green Energy for Schools scheme is to help schools reduce their reliance on fossil fuels while educating the next generation about climate change.

"By following-up the installation of the solar panels with this lively and colourful theatre workshop, we can hopefully inspire the children to think about other ways they can help the environment."

Head Rick Stuart-Sheppard added: "We are grateful to The Co-operative for giving our pupils this opportunity to learn about the environment in a fun, creative way. Our solar panels provide us with a prominent reminder of the need to conserve energy and this theatre workshop builds on the work we are already doing to help tackle climate change."

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Spixworth

→ A quiz night is being held tonight at Spixworth Social Club, Crostwick Lane, from 9pm. Teams of four are welcome at £1 per person. Proceeds from the raffle will be donated to charity.

→ Mucky Pups Art and Craft term-time classes are held at Crostwick, on Tuesdays afternoons and Wednesdays mornings, and at Spixworth on Fridays mornings. Each week enjoy nine different art and craft activities. This week's theme is Christmas.

If you are interested in having some quality messy fun with your pre-school child, and where someone else will clean up, please contact Claire on 01603 710764 or email claire@mucky-pups.com for more information and to book your place.

You are welcome to go along for a trial session, cost £4.25, to see if Mucky Pups is for your youngster (from 18 months). Children love it!

→ A Group Healing session is being held on Wednesday, December 10, starting at 7pm. Cost £10, booking essential. Contact Julie Turner on 01603 710043.

→ On Friday, December 12, Spixworth Scouts are holding their annual Pensioners' Christmas Meal for residents of Spixworth.

The Scout Group really enjoys hosting this social event and their guests have a fabulous evening.

→ Getting organised for Christmas? Shopping online? You can help St Peter's Church, Spixworth, for free! Just log-on to www.buy.at/spixworth and then head off to all the major online retailers.

It costs you nothing and helps church funds loads!

Loddon

→ On Friday, December 12 from 6.30pm there will be a Christmas Open House in Holy Trinity Church, with various stalls and carols sung, and decorated Christmas trees on display.

→ On Saturday, December 13 from 10.30am to noon there will be a Christmas Coffee Morning at Davy Place Community Room.

→ On Monday, December 15 Father Christmas pays a special visit to Rosy Lees Tea Rooms from 3.30pm to 5.30pm. Free gifts for all the children.

→ On Wednesday, December 17 at 7.30pm at St John's Church, Loddon Singers will present their Annual Christmas Cracker Concert.

→ Waveney branch of the Foresters, which covers this area, held a dinner dance at the Ramada Hotel, Norwich on Friday, November 21, attended by over 60 members.

A cheque raised by the members through store collections and raffles, was presented to the East Anglian Children's Hospice at Quidenham.

Costessey

→ Women's Fellowship members all made a Christmas card at their November meeting in St Helen's Hall. They were under instruction from their chairman, Olive Websdale.

The fellowship will not meet in December.

The next meeting will be on January 27 at 2.30pm for the annual New Year party.

School governors recognised for their support for children

A little recognised group of volunteers were praised for their work with schools at a special meeting.

School governors met at a conference organised jointly by Norfolk Governor Services and the Norfolk Governors Network, on the topic of Governors Leading

from the Front. They were welcomed by Lisa Christensen, director of children's services at Norfolk County Council, who paid tribute to the voluntary work they did supporting the county's schoolchildren.

More than 80 governors took the opportunity to hear keynote

speakers of national standing and to share ideas and good practice.

Governing bodies work with schools and headteachers to provide strategic direction and the conference offered guidance on how to meet this.

A conference report is available on the Norfolk Governors'

Network website www.ngn.org.uk and the event will be held again with the same agenda in King's Lynn on February 6 next year for school governors from the west of the county.

If you would like more information about this event, call Governor Services on 01603 433276.