



Young Reporters  
for the environment



Dear Eco-Schools Coordinator and Eco-Committee,

Thank-you for your interest in the Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE) competition 2017/18.

We are delighted this year to have received funding from Wrigley through the Litter Less Campaign and from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) to support the activities for YRE.

Activities for you to complete are:

- Organise a **Community Action Day** around the theme of litter or waste (ideally this will support your investigation) – you will receive **£185 funding** from Wrigley Litter Less to support this! This could be a whole school day of action or you could even reach out beyond the school gates to involve other community groups, parents, local businesses etc. *Please note there is only community day funding available for the first 20 schools who sign up to YRE – all the other elements below are unlimited. You are also not eligible for YRE community day funding if you are already receiving funding through Wrigley Litter Less in 2017/18.*
- Eco-Schools will be organising and inviting you to **YRE workshops** in January and early February looking at the issues of Food Waste and providing information and advice on how to create a great written, photographic or video entry for YRE.
- From December to March Eco-Schools will be encouraging you to take part in the **Food Waste Challenge** by posting your messages and pictures to Social Media highlighting the issue of food waste **#wastehero – win £200!** There will be prizes for the best social media post in each council area for winning schools. *Instructions in toolkit.*
- Create and submit your YRE written, photographic or video entries and submit them to the national jury by **20<sup>th</sup> February 2018**. *Instructions in toolkit.*
- You will be invited to the Eco-Schools Teachers Conference on the **2<sup>nd</sup> March** when the winners of the national YRE competition will be announced.

Prizes will be presented to the winning schools for all three areas of YRE entries - written, photographic and video.

**1<sup>st</sup> place - £250**

**2<sup>nd</sup> place - £150**

**3<sup>rd</sup> place - £75**



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Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE) is a network of passionate young people educating for sustainable development by producing, engaging, creative, environmental journalism. Coordinated by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), YRE is in more than 30 countries worldwide and growing!

You will be asked to **investigate** an issue (litter or waste), **propose solutions**, **report** your findings in an article and **inform** others by sharing this through as many media outlets as you can.

Young people aged 11-21 may enter the competition in 3 article categories:

1. Written
2. Photographic
3. Video

Included in your toolkit is a summary of the instructions and rules for YRE entries, along with an entry form which *must* be completed for each YRE entry submitted. Please visit our [website](#) to access the very informative **International YRE Handbook for Schools**. YRE international also have facebook - @yre.global and twitter - @YREInt.

Closing date for articles to the national jury is **20<sup>th</sup> February 2018**. The winning articles from each category nationally will be forwarded by Eco-Schools to the International Jury for consideration in March.

Your toolkit also contains information on the Food Waste Challenge social media competition **#wastehero** have fun and/or create a more serious post on the issue of food waste— you could win £200 for your school!

We hope you will enjoy taking part.

Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Best Regards,

Ruth Van Ry  
Environmental Education Manager  
Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful