

Welcome to the Environmental Awareness and Climate Action Newsletter

What to expect from this issue:

Updates from our team
Eco-tips for February
Waste reduction resources



Green-Schools Global Book Club Launches

Schools throughout the county can now borrow the full Green-Schools Global Goals Book Club collection directly from their local library. This is a growing collection of children's books designed to help students explore global citizenship, sustainability, and the world around them through story. Each title is linked to one of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and supported by child-friendly worksheets and activities that build empathy, critical thinking, and real-world understanding. Each book includes a QR code linking to the Green-Schools website, where teachers and students will find carefully created resources and activities aligned with the Global Goals.

To find out how to borrow the books for your school, click [here](#).

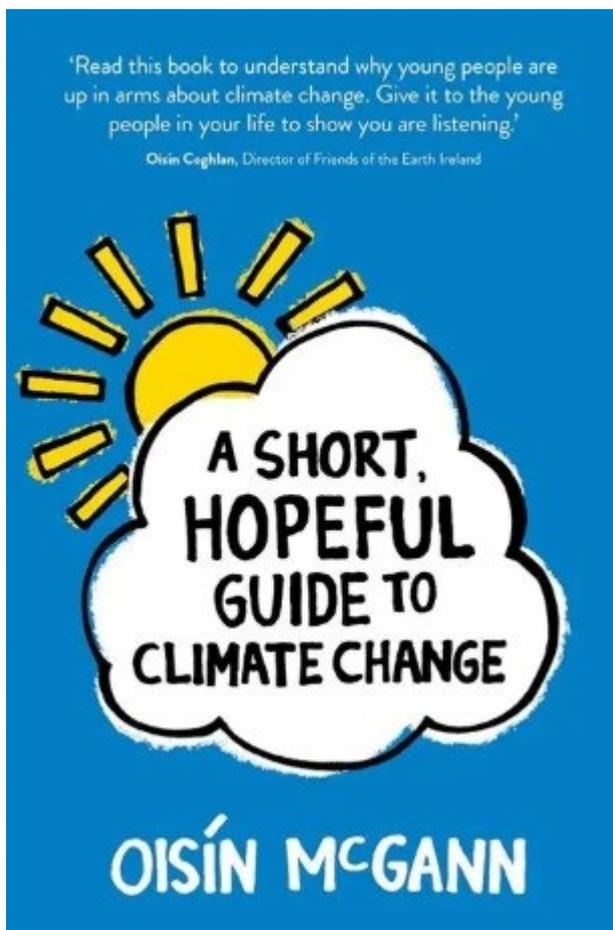
For more information on the Green-Schools Global Goals Book Club and to access resources, click [here](#).



Climate Action Team Book Recommendation

Fingal libraries have a huge suite of resources on Climate Action, hard copies, e-reader, audio, documentaries etc. Check what your local library has in stock.

For February the Climate Action Team are recommending *A Short Hopeful Guide to Climate Change* by Oisín McGann.



Minister O'Brien announces suite of new SEAI grant supports – bringing energy upgrades to more and more homeowners

The Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment has announced a package of new and enhanced grants for homeowners across the country who are looking to benefit from home energy upgrades. Designed to make homes warmer, more comfortable, and cheaper to heat, a new and enlarged package of grants will be administered by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) under the new National Residential Retrofit Plan. The new measures will see many more households benefit from homes that are warmer and cheaper to heat.

For more information on these grants, click [here](#).

Home Energy Saving Kits - borrow one from Fingal Libraries

This is a reminder to all who are looking to improve home energy efficiency this February. Home Energy Saving Kits are available to borrow across all libraries in Fingal. All items pictured above are included in the kit and can help indicate where you might be wasting energy at home.



Thermal leak detector

Finds escaping heat and draughts



Plug in energy monitor

Shows the energy use of appliances



Fridge freezer thermometer

Ensures the correct fridge/freezer temperature



Temperature and humidity meter

Measures the temperature and humidity level



Radiator key

Releases air trapped in radiators



Attention Community Groups

The annual Fingal Anti-Litter and Anti-Graffiti (ALAG) Grant will be inviting applications earlier than usual in 2026, with the call for submissions launching at the end of February.

The ALAG grant supports community led projects that help keep Fingal clean, vibrant, litter and graffiti free including local litter clean ups, painting of estate walls and community murals, creating biodiversity areas in spots prone to litter and dumping, and awareness campaigns for litter and cigarette butt disposal. The fund is part-sponsored by the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment and is open to community groups only.

Further details will be published in our next newsletter and on our [webpage](#) as well.



Eco-tips for February

Have a Sustainable Valentine's Day

Valentine's day doesn't need to harm the environment. Follow these tips to have an enjoyable, waste-free day if you are celebrating it with someone special.



Plan an
**ECO-FRIENDLY
VALENTINE'S DAY**

Gifts don't have to impact the environment.
Opt for:

- Fair trade chocolates
- Pre-loved jewellery,
- A potted plant rather than flowers that have been picked and wrapped in single use plastics.

Make your date zero-waste and carbon free:

- Go for a cycle or a walk together rather than driving
- Bring your keep cup with you on that café outing and bin or bring home your waste after
- Cook a home-made plant-based meal together

Free Recycled Paint: For Community Spaces and Schools

Recycled paint is available for use by community groups in community spaces and for schools. Typically, the available colours are magnolia and grey, but other colours may be available from time to time. Be sure to specify whether you need interior or exterior paint. This paint is sourced from the Fingal Recycling Centres and processed by the Rediscovery Centre in Ballymun as part of a waste prevention and circular economy initiative in partnership with the Rediscovery Centre.

To request paint, email dave@rediscoverycentre.ie with the following details

- What you plan to paint
- The area to be painted (in square metres)
- Preferred colours



Borrow a Free Clothes Swap Kit

Fingal County Council, in partnership with Change Clothes, offers **free** clothes swap kits to community groups, sports clubs and schools. To learn more, read kit borrowing instructions [here](#).

Circular Economy Hack: 'DIY Kitchen Roll Holder'

Click on the My Waste video tutorial [here](#) to find out how to make a Kitchen Roll Holder from recycled necklaces in just 30 seconds.



Zero Waste Resources



Before throwing something away this month, consider repairing it, upcycling it, or recycling it. Visit the [Repair Directory](#) to see if what you have can be fixed before it is thrown away. See [circular.ie](#) for a more comprehensive list of zero-waste tips and services.



Waste Reminders

Please be mindful of disposing of extra packaging and batteries correctly. Not sure what goes in what bin? Visit the My Waste [website](#).

Improve how you manage your workplace waste by using the bin guidance resources available [here](#).



Please recycle your bottles at your nearest bring banks. If you are at work, consider having a designated "landing area" for cans and bottles which can be used in the return deposit machines.



Seasonal Food Calendar

If meal planning is on your agenda each week, get to know what foods are in season - they are often more affordable and come with fewer "food miles".

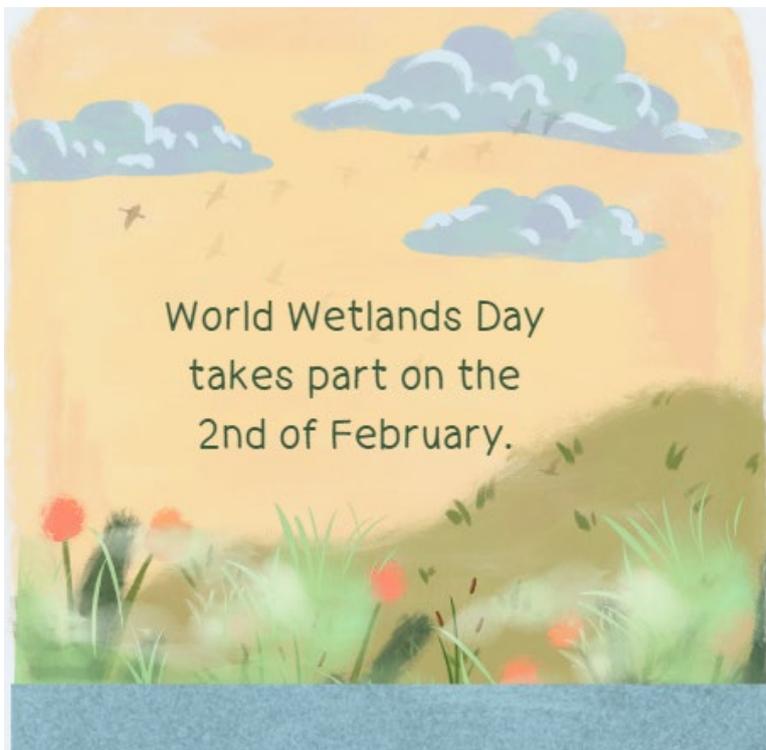
Plan your meals and try to shop seasonally and locally. Please see the Stop Food Waste [Seasonal Calendar](#) for guidance.


February
Seasonal Food Calendar

 Beetroot	 Brussels Sprouts	 Cabbage
 Carrots	 Cauliflower	 Celeriac
 Cooking Apples	 Eating Apples	 Kale
 Leeks	 Mushrooms	 Onions
 Parsnips	 Potatoes	 Purple Broccoli
 Spinach	 Turnips	



Environmental Dates



Learn what you can do to preserve your wetlands by visiting the [Beginner's Guide to Wetlands](#).

Click [here](#) to find all Environmental Awareness news and resources.

Get in touch with us:

environment.education@fingal.ie / climateaction@fingal.ie

