

NOVEMBER 2020

HOW TO FIND YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

A really quick and simple way to think about our consumption and reflect on how we measure up and consider where we can make changes is on the brilliant WWF website

footprint.wwf.org.uk

SCHOOL STREETS

St Anselm's School

Parent volunteers are ensuring adherence to the signage on Louisville Road that prevents cars from driving past the school entrance at the start and end of the school day.

The purpose of removing vehicles from these streets is:

- To protect children from noxious car emissions
- To improve the safety of schoolchildren
- To make walking, cycling and scooting to school safer

COUNTDOWN TO COP 26

The rescheduled United Nations Climate Change Conference is scheduled to be held in Glasgow from 1 - 12 November 2021. This time next year the UK and Italy will be hosting the most significant climate event since the 2015 Paris Agreement when 195 countries agreed that they must:

- Reduce the amount of harmful gas production and increase renewable types of energy
- Keep global temperature increase "well below" 2C and try to limit it to 1.5C
- Review progress on the agreement every five years.
- Spend \$100 million annually in climate finance to help poorer countries (and commit to further finance in the future).

Find out more from **CAFOD** about tackling the climate crisis and ensuring climate action is at the heart of recovery from the pandemic on cafod.org.uk

CAFOD are holding a Faith into Action day of online discussion and workshops on **Saturday, 14 November**. The focus will be on the world we want to create after the pandemic - one where we respond to Pope Francis's call and ensure plans for recovering from the crisis tackle poverty, inequality and the climate change. Register for free at: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/Faith-into-action>

INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY ISSUES?

There are some fantastic books that inform, explain and inspire in very accessible ways. If you'd like to browse or borrow a book please get in touch* for a list of available titles. We'd like to add some films too!

If you haven't already, do consider watching David Attenborough in 'Extinction: The Facts' on BBC iPlayer and on Netflix in 'A Life on Our Planet'

***Contact: maryehar@aol.com for books/films to borrow**

NOVEMBER ON TOOTING COMMON

If your daily Lockdown exercise includes a walk on the Common look out for:

- A superabundance of acorns this year - it's a "mast year" and watch out for the jays who will be picking them up and burying them for later
- Fungi of all sorts are making an appearance and spiders webs will catch the dew and show their amazing structure
- The leaves will be flying off the trees of course but there's still time to enjoy the autumn displays. Making leaf mould is very easy - fill up sacks with wet leaves and leave to rot down; they will be ready to use as mulch in a year's time.
- Litter Pickers may be about - an encouraging word will surely be appreciated!

Building our parish response to the appeal of Pope Francis :

- Understand that all life is interdependent and of integral value, and develop a profound respect and sense of responsibility for all creation
- Acknowledge the immensity and urgency of the challenge we face to protect and heal our common home
- Recognise and undertake the radical changes in lifestyle that limit unrestrained consumption and exploitation of resources, being mindful that not doing so is at the expense of the most vulnerable.

We see that we will need to continue to:

- **Educate ourselves** to become better informed and open to challenging truths with a willingness to share this within and beyond the parish
- **Identify actions** that we can take, personally and as a community, to live sustainably, in ways that will protect and not pollute the world, and maintain and rebuild the essential bio-diversity on which all life depends.
- **Create opportunities** for ourselves to experience the awe and wonder of creation in our locality and in our common humanity where no one is an outsider.
- **Come together in prayer** to ask for the grace to take up the commitment to creation set before us by the Gospel of Jesus.