

Looking after local wildlife

Our estate is surrounded by great nature sites like the river, Walthamstow Wetlands and The Paddock on Ferry Lane. And we have a lot of wildlife right here on the estate. That's why the school has this lovely mural.



FERRY LANE
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

Thanks to Tottenham
Grammar School
Foundation & Haringey
Council for their support
towards the Community
Green Day on 1 July.



We are lucky to have **hedgehogs** on the estate – one of the few places in Haringey that still has them. They need bushes, brambles and long grass for cover and feeding – especially in hot weather when the open ground is hard and dry and food is hard to find. They are one of the reasons the land along the railway line in the middle of the estate has been declared important for nature conservation.

Blackcaps breed on the estate – they have a lovely song in the spring. They also need trees and bushes for nesting and feeding.



Great Spotted Woodpeckers are on the estate all year and you can often hear them drumming, from January to May, as they try to attract a mate. They sometimes visit bird feeders.

Kingfishers live along the river channels and reservoirs. You might see them near The Ferry Boat pub or – especially in autumn – along the main river channel by the estate.



Vipers bugloss



Kingfisher

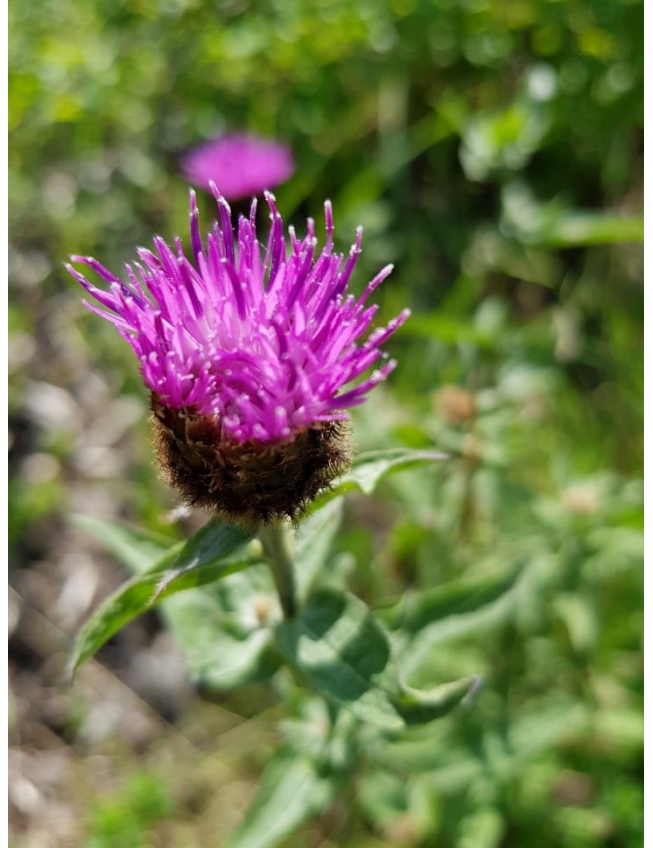
We have a lot of wild flowers too. The embankment on Jarrow Road was planted with trees, shrubs and flowers after the railway works. Flowers like viper's bugloss, yellow hawkweed and purple knapweed.



A hawkweed

The rich vegetation along Jarrow Road is home to many grasshoppers – and things that like to eat grasshoppers like the colourful Wasp Spider.

Knapweed



What can you do to help?

1. Find out more about local wildlife. There are regular events at The Paddock on Ferry Lane with experts to help you identify wildlife, and activities to help nature. And there are free guided walks on Walthamstow Wetlands every week. See <https://www.tcv.org.uk/london/haringey/> and www.wildlondon.org.uk/walthamstow-wetlands-nature-reserve
2. Trees give us shade in heat waves, and provide homes for bats and birds. Help us water the trees in hot and dry weather. E-mail ferry.lane.flag@gmail.com or text 07946 535656 if you can help.
3. If you have a garden or balcony, put out water for birds and animals when it's hot.
4. Plant flowers that are good for bees and butterflies.
5. Join us in litter-picking to keep our green spaces clean and safe for wildlife.
6. Maybe adopt a planter and plant it up with flowers good for bees?

Climate breakdown? Polluted Rivers? Toxic Air? Plastic? Disappearing wildlife?

There are so many problems that we can feel helpless. But there are lots of things we can all do – and doing them will help us feel better about the bigger problems. Especially when we do things together.

Change the system!

The most important thing we can each do is to help make governments and businesses do better. Joining an organisation like Friends of the Earth or Greenpeace will give you opportunities to take useful action. Friends of the Earth has a local group in Tottenham and they are keen to get more helpers. foetottenhamwg@gmail.com

Eat greener

Our consumption of meat and dairy products is one of the main causes of climate damage. Rainforests are cut down to grow animal food. Eating more plant-based food is greener, healthier and maybe cheaper.

Re-use, recycle!

We throw away too much stuff. This is partly because things are made to throw away. But we can help by making things last as long as possible, finding a use for them when we have finished, or recycling properly. FREEGLE (www.ilovefreegle.org/) is a web-based club that helps people give away things they don't need to people who do need them, and so saves waste and money.

Reduce energy use

We have all been trying to cut energy use to save money. The council is investing in insulating its own homes. But if you are not in a council home, are there things you can do? Insulate the loft and cavity walls? Stop draughts in winter? Make sure things are turned off when not in use? See <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home/>

Travel greener and healthier

Cars and other diesel and petrol vehicles add to the toxic pollution on our streets. Main roads round Tottenham Hale are very polluted. Walking and cycling are healthier – they help you achieve the minimum 20 minutes physical activity every day that we need to stay healthy.

If you really need a car, can you use it less, walk and cycle more? And next time, get a cleaner car that creates less CO₂ and air pollution? Could you manage with an electric bike instead of a car? If you can afford holidays, can you go somewhere by train not plane? Flying is the most climate-damaging form of travel.

Save water and help save rivers

London is short of water, and hot dry summers are making things worse. Some rivers are drying up, killing off fish and other wildlife. Cutting down on water consumption – by having shorter showers, having low-flow taps and toilets - helps.

<https://friendsoftheearth.uk/sustainable-living/13-best-ways-save-water>