



Energy Sparks Case Study

Scoreboard Champions: whole school involvement

Harris Primary Academy Haling Park, a London primary with 370 pupils, joined Energy Sparks along with many Harris Federation schools in November 2022. A massive amount of pupil-led energy saving activity saw the school gain first place in our London scoreboard and 2nd place nationally. They also saw a reduction in their electricity bill of 8% over the the last year, saving £1200 and 1.2 tonnes of CO2.

“ The scoreboard was a fun element that added some friendly competition between local schools. The children really enjoyed seeing how their actions not only reduced our school’s energy consumption but also earned us points as we soared up the scoreboard. ”

- Rob Hyneman, Head of Academy



The first step for Haling Park was to create an Energy Saving Plan, which was developed with input from the Pupil Parliament and Eco Committee. Going green is a top priority for the school, and they were determined to gain an Eco Schools Green Flag for the second year running.

Pupil Power

From the start of their Energy Sparks journey, pupils have been involved in all aspects of energy efficiency. An advisory Eco Group supports the Pupil Parliament with environmental issues and leads action on energy issues in the school. Even the youngest children are involved: Reception pupils have been involved in checking for faulty freezer and fridge door seals and hunting for solar panels in the local area.

Energy pledges are on display in each classroom, and pupil Energy Monitors assigned to each class make sure that classes achieve these. Spot checks are regularly carried out at lunchtimes or after school. Pupils and staff have been involved in Energy Sparks audit and solar workshops and Energy Sparks work has fed into school collaborations with other organisations, such as Transport for London Stars and the local council.

The pupils have identified some key Energy Allies in the school, such as the Dinner Staff and the Premises Manager and they work closely with them to turn pupil recommendations into action, such as:

- changing heating start times
- changing heating temperatures
- creating a holiday switch off list
- running a natural light campaign
- and turning off freezers in the school holidays



“ Energy Sparks has opened all our eyes to how much energy we all use and the platform has allowed us to explore a really important conversation by having some fun along the way! ”

- Rob Hyneman, Head of Academy

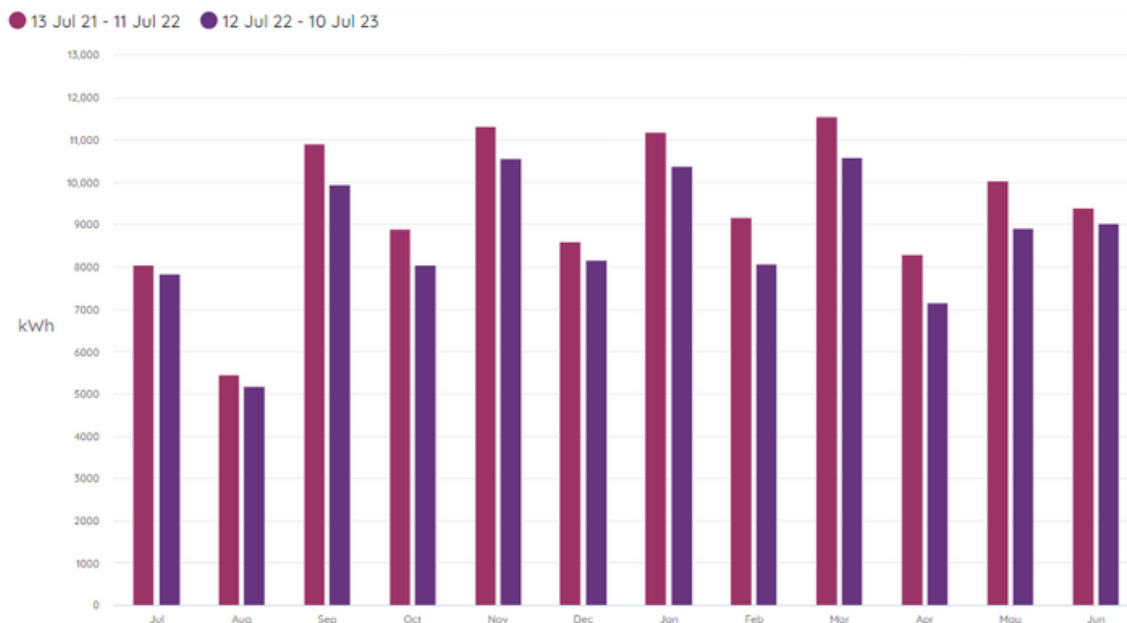
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Tackling all aspects of energy waste

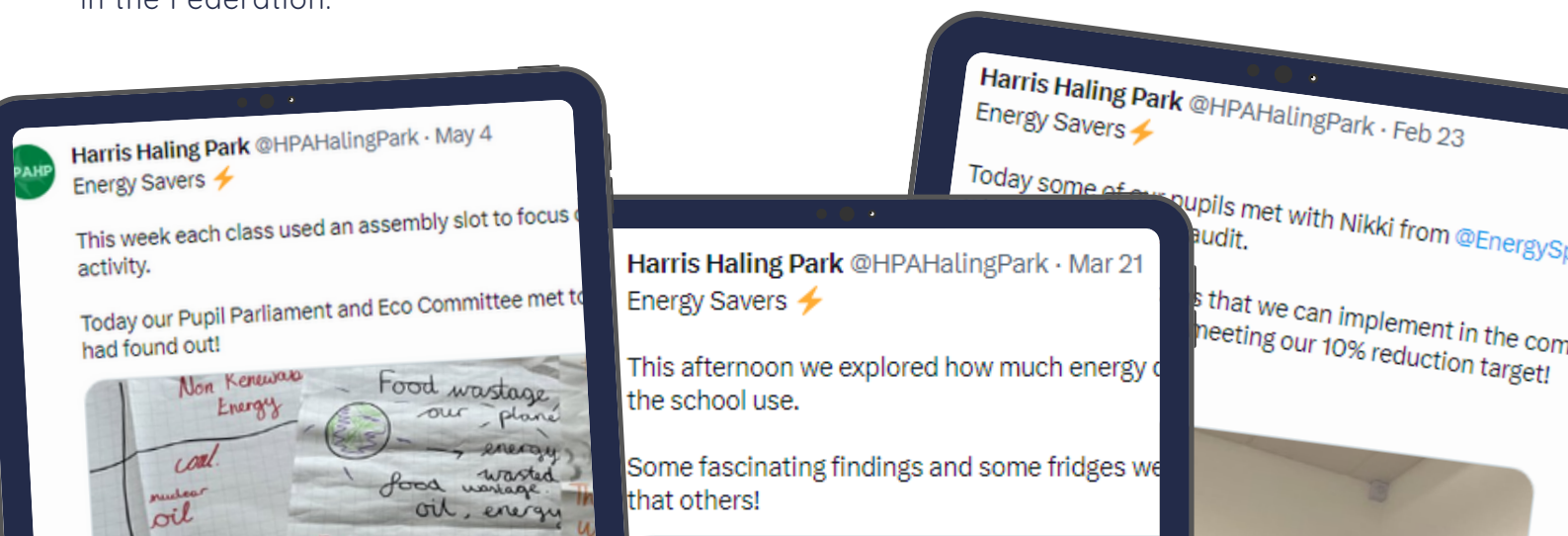
The pupils are really engaged in pushing meaningful change at the school. Pupils have led environmental campaigns in the school, such as campaigns to use natural light, making sure that outer doors are closed in the winter and whole school switch off campaigns.

The Switch Off campaigns in particular have been really effective in cutting energy consumption throughout the year. The graph below compares the month by month reduction in electricity use.



“Energy Sparks has given us a framework for our energy saving campaigns across the year.”
- Rob Hyneman, Head of Academy

Energy Sparks educational resources have been used across the school, helping pupils develop a better understanding of energy use, renewables and the school’s carbon footprint through assemblies, campaigns and lessons. The Haling Park Eco Committee also often share their work in regular newsletters and on social media, helping to inspire parents, community and other schools in the Federation.



Find out more about how you can reduce your school’s energy bills and carbon footprint by visiting <https://energysparks.uk> or emailing hello@energysparks.uk.



Energy Sparks
Helping schools fight climate change