

Schools Engagement – Spring 2023

Jackson Civil Engineering are working on behalf of the Environment Agency to build a replacement flood defence at Matlock and reinstate flood protection from the River Derwent. Our project is being delivered in partnership with Derbyshire County Council and Derbyshire Dales District Council.

Being passionate about inspiring the next generation of young people, we're also taking the opportunity to engage with local schools so we can explain more about flood risk management and environmental issues.



On 24th March, we joined together with All Saint's Junior School to celebrate Trees are the Key awareness week at Cavendish Playing Fields. The children helped to plant 30 saplings, before moving on to plant 2 semi mature Wild Cherry trees, and 14 semi mature Field Maple trees. The children were amazingly resilient in the face of challenging weather conditions, but we would like to extend our apologies to anyone that had to wash their clothes!



The children also completed planting of a new wildflower area near the bottom carpark, and produced a number of pinecone feeders, some of which were hung from the trees in the area, some taken back to school, and some might even have made it home.

To help them understand the importance of their work, the children were led by our Environmental STEM Ambassador through a biodiversity audit, looking for biodiversity within the various environments in and around the Cavendish Playing Fields, and had a go at calculating the additional species that will benefit from the new planting.



We were very happy to be able to support Castle View Primary school with some new resources for the school. Over 50 books, split across all year groups and abilities, were donated in time for World Book Day. The books included a variety of STEM and environmental subjects, and we hope these will help inspire the scientists, engineers and leaders of the future!



Working in partnership with archaeologists from Arup, the design team for the project, we have been busy pulling together a children’s heritage trail. Inspired by the trails already produced by Matlock Civic Association, we have created a shorter trail designed for little legs.

With help from the children at Castle View Primary School, we were pleased to try out the walk for the first time on 19th April. Designed to be a little over a mile, the trail takes in points of historical interest including Matlock train station, Matlock Bridge, Hall Leys Park, Knowleston Place, the Derbyshire Dales District Council offices and the Methodist Church.

Using the valuable feedback from the school, we hope to have the final trail ready for release soon, which will be made available to all local schools and youth organisations. We are hoping this work will enrich the heritage education opportunities, helping both residents and visitors alike enjoy the town and its history.



Contact Us

If you have any questions or concerns about this project, please contact our Public Liaison Officer: Kathryn Battelle via email kbattelle@jackson-civils.co.uk or call 07970 159492.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list to receive future updates about this scheme, please contact us through the email address.

To find out more about this project, please visit the project information page at: <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/east-midlands/matlock/> or use this QR Code



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