

# ECO SCHOOL



## News Release from The ECO Team May 2011

All of our efforts have paid off! Last week we submitted our application to become deemed an official Eco School. We have accumulated enough points thorough our school-wide efforts to qualify for a **SILVER** status. This ECO initiative will be ongoing and next year we will strive for **GOLD**!

Our **“Walk to School”** program comes into effect during the first week of May and we hope that our students will take part every day. Parents are welcomed to walk along and leave their vehicles safely in their driveways, at home, where they do not use any gas! We encourage parents to work together with us to model walking/exercising for and with our children.

Since January, the ECO Team has collected all of the **plastic bottles** that have been deposited in our recycle bins. We have been encouraging students to use their own re-usable bottles for beverages that they bring to school. We have begun construction of our **“plastic bottle monster”**, which can be seen lurking on the stage in the front foyer. It is our hope that we will never have enough bottles to finish the monster!

**We are asking students to enter the contest to name our monster.** The name should relate to the environment. Ballots for the “Name the Monster” contest are available in the office and the ballot box is at the feet of the incomplete monster (on the stage).

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### Name the Monster Contest

The monster’s name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Your grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

The **ECO Team** has conducted another garbage/recycle audit at the school and we are happy to report that we have reduced our output in both areas. Our “Litter-less Lunch Wednesdays” have been a great success and September will herald “Litter-less Lunch Weekdays”, so that we can improve on the results we have achieved this school year.

The following are the efforts we would like to see from each student at Stein:

1. Walk to school every day.
2. Bring a litter-less lunch every day.
3. Re-use paper from your “Re-Use It” bin.
4. Use your own re-usable water bottle every day.
5. Recycle properly and rinse all recyclables, e.g., milk cartons.



## ECO Newsbreak @ Stein

Parents and students are aware that Eco Initiatives are slowly being implemented at St. Edith Stein School, in an effort to qualify as an official **ECO SCHOOL**. The team, made up of teachers and students, has met several times and has come up with several ideas that will help Stein to become a “greener” school. This month, **we continue to encourage all students to participate in the “Litter-less Lunch Wednesdays” as well as “Walk to School Wednesdays”.**

The team has been monitoring our progress and we have made great improvements! We have decided that **forks and spoons will no longer be available at the office**. Students who bring lunches to school, which require utensils should pack them in their lunch-bags to avoid disappointment at noontime. **We recommend that students keep a set of reusable utensils in their lunch bags, which can be used, washed and reused.** We are also asking students to **avoid bringing plastic water bottles to school** in their lunches, in an effort to reduce the amount of plastic we are responsible for. Although we encourage recycling, we have learned that reusing and reducing are the more important R’s.

**The ECO TEAM** would like to thank all the parents and students who do their best to help our initiative. The students at Stein are the new generation who want to live in a clean and pristine world!

**St. Edith Stein School ECO Team**