

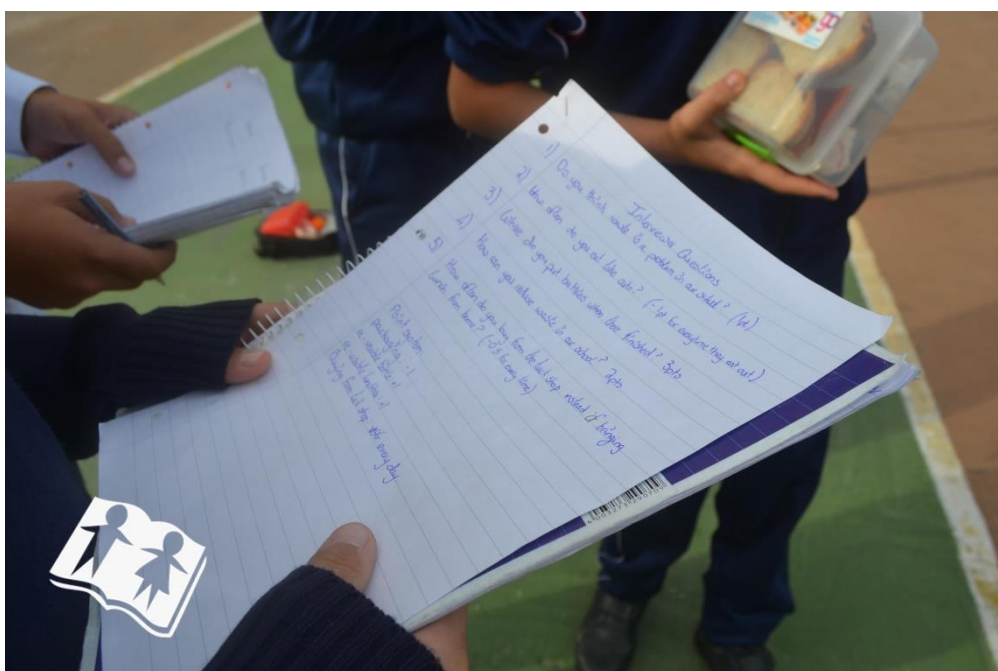
THE EUROPEAN WEEK FOR WASTE REDUCTION 2016

Video clip: <https://vimeo.com/195591422>

Annually the EU organises The European Week for Waste Reduction (EWWR). It is an initiative aiming to promote the implementation of awareness-raising actions about sustainable resource and waste management during a single week and it encourages everyone to get involved.

This year's initiative is to use less packaging. According to the Eurostat EU member states in 2012 alone produced a total of 78.9 million tonnes of packaging. That's an astounding 4.4 million buses!

Packaging comes in two forms: Primary packaging comes in direct contact with the product for example the plastic sealing your chicken. Secondary packaging is the layer of packaging that surrounds groups of pre-packaged products that are enclosed in the primary packaging for example cardboard around a group of toys.



Several activities were organised at our school in relation to the EWWR. Some of these were interviews with random students to see who has the least packaging in their lunches and how informed they are about the importance of reducing the amount of waste they produce. The students with least packaging won a refillable bottle that further supports the idea of reducing packaging waste. Another initiative was calculating the amount of paper

and plastic packaging waste that each class produces. To further encourage the importance of proper waste separation a class from each Form which sorts its waste best and reduces the amount of packaging produced will get a casual clothes school day as a prize. Another event organised by each class in Form 3 is a video that will help raise awareness of how one can reduce waste. The name for the video is "Packaging is a problem... Solve It!"

Packaging can be easily reduced by methods as simple as buying local products. Buying local produce is healthy, fresh and helps the small local companies do better rather than the large wide spread companies. Instead of buying pre-made lunches one can make a quick sandwich that takes literally 2 minutes to prepare. Also instead of using a plastic bottle a day one can simply buy a refillable bottle.



EWWR is an extremely important event that helps us reduce the amount of waste that we output every year and helps us realise the exponential amount of resources we waste every year. I would like to thank Ms Michelle Camilleri for giving me the opportunity to realise what an amount of waste is produced and what can we do to make the environment around us a better place!

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