

CAMPAIGNING FOR OUR RIGHTS (ARTICLE 12)
GLADE PRIMARY HOSTS AIR ACTION ASSEMBLY



Glade Primary School has been involved in an innovative quality project called Redbridge Air Action. A final Joint Schools Celebration Assembly was held at the school on Thursday 6th June.

Redbridge Air Action launched in 2016, using student-led research and campaign activities to: reduce child exposure to poor air quality; increase walking, cycling and the use of public transport in the borough; and to reduce the number of car trips to and from schools.

Air pollution harms not only the environment but also people's health and wellbeing; it can cause serious health problems and reduce quality of life. Poor air quality impacts most on vulnerable people such as the elderly, young children and those with heart and lung problems, causing respiratory disorders and aggravating asthma (Articles 6, 24, 27,29).

Raising awareness of air pollution can help protect those most vulnerable to the associated health impacts and help us all adapt our behaviour by making lifestyle changes to reduce exposure.

Over the three-year period of the project, eighteen schools took part and this assembly encompassed all the work that took place across the borough. Our Article 12 group and Class 5J joined children from four other schools who participated this year (2018-19), to showcase how they worked to investigate local air pollution levels around their schools and communicated their findings to the rest of the school communities. There were speeches from the Mayor of Redbridge, Zulfiquar Hussain, Themis Skouros (Environmental Health Department) and the MP of Ilford North, Wes Streeting. Our children were commended on their outstanding presentation; they were very articulate and confident- a real credit to our school.



Our fabulous choir presented a beautiful (brand-new) school song, 'Breathe', which is all about the importance of breathing in clean air. This wonderful piece of music has been created by Mrs Robinson and Mr Jason Rose.

Mrs Helen Young, who compered the event, read out a pleasing response (from a representative of Mr Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London) to the letters our children had written about the Air Action Project. She said that we should also expect to hear a personal response from the Mayor himself. Watch this space!

Children also took part in a TREASURE-HUNT QUIZ at Hurstleigh Gardens Open in the morning, and because of their excellent awareness about air pollution and pollutants, two groups from our school came joint first place!

