

## Otter Valley Federation support planting trees.



Woolly hats are well and truly dusted off. Shops are bustling with shoppers ready to get a bargain in the sales. For many collection centres, it is of course Christmas card recycling season! The children from Tipton St John C of E Primary School and Feniton C of E Primary School have been busy working in partnership with the Woodland Trust and Marks & Spencer (M&S).

The foggy, icy morning of 26<sup>th</sup> January saw 6 children, an eco-representative from each year in Tipton, visit M&S in Exeter. Here, they took their collection to the bins inside the shop. For every 1,000 cards dropped into M&S stores for recycling throughout January 2017, a new tree will be funded by M&S and planted by the Woodland Trust in the UK.

The children from Tipton said: "It was Amazing. Last year M&S sponsored over 12,000 trees," showing their interest in and their determination to save the planet, even at this young age. Philippa Madden, Finance and Operations Manager at M&S Exeter, said: "This year at M&S we've been working hard to encourage our local customers to get involved and Spark Something Good - from fundraising, to volunteering, to recycling. Through our partnership with the Woodland Trust the small action of dropping your Christmas cards into store can help make a big difference in planting trees across the UK."



The children were delighted with the hospitality of a drink and a biscuit, together with a large box of gifts to take back to school.

Both schools in the Federation are working towards a *Green Tree Award* and will gain one point from the Woodland Trust. At Feniton, we have two environmental groups, the *Eco Warriors* and the *Marine Champions*, who lead the pupils in helping to save our environment by encouraging our community to 'reduce, reuse and recycle'.

"We want to help protect all the animals, their habitats and the trees and plants around us. By helping the Woodland Trust plant new trees, we are helping create new habitats for animals and improve the air quality." *Eco Warriors, Feniton.*

Reported by Mrs Ladbrook, science subject leader.