



NEWSLETTER - Friday 9th December 2022 by Mrs Burnett and the Eco Team

Over the last three weeks, we have been very busy at Berkeley Primary School having 208 solar panels fitted to the roofs of our Infant School buildings. During this time, our Eco-Ambassadors have been interviewing the workmen and here are some of their findings:

Once the electricity and the panels are connected and switched on, they will begin to work immediately.

The panels work in all weathers, but not at night time when it is very dark. Also, they have a life span of around 25 years.

Our solar panels work on different wattages. Some are 30kw and some are 50kw.

Birds sometimes drop stones on solar panels as they look like water from a distance. If one breaks, it cuts the circuit and they all stop working!

The solar panels have now all been fitted and are already generating renewable energy! They each capture the sun's energy and convert it into electricity that can be used around the school. Here comes the science: they work by absorbing sunlight with photovoltaic cells, generating direct current (DC) and then converting it to useable alternating current (AC) energy with the help of inverter technology. After Christmas, we will begin to take readings from the solar meter. We are all very excited to see how much electricity we are saving.

