

Environment being under the control of fourth formers

By attending for this activity, the Minister of the environment together with Nature Trust Malta compared their ideas with fourth formers

Emphasizing on the environment's awareness is said to be depicted in a stronger way by student's initiatives. In this case, we fourth formers headed for one of the Nature 2000 sites which is found in Pembroke, by first starting with a clean-up.

Beyond this idea, that of cleaning up and separating waste, we had to speculate on the results and make a study on garbage pollution. As said, after we split up into four groups, we started off with cleaning up waste until we drew up a conclusion, stating that a high percentage of waste (waste collected, weighed 144.7Kg) were glass deposits as well as plastic. Worse, since plastic is not biodegradable, it can remain permanent on land as it won't decompose. Moreover, it will be carried out at sea, therefore leaving an impact on marine environment. As for the broken, unrecyclable glass, its harmful chemicals can spread in the soil and be absorbed by the flora, also affecting the fauna as plants serve as shelter to them.

As discussed with other students and the organiser, the main causes of the increasing garbage pollution are the irresponsibility of picnickers who are unaware of destroying the environment, together with its consequences, and the lack of management of waste instead of making use of landfills. The latter can be easily dealt with, by generating electricity from excess waste, by being green. As we came to realise, people are not really practising the three Rs; reuse which is all about being creative, reduce, about not wasting money on useless products, and recycle, the process of turning old products into new ones. Ignoring these guidelines, leaves people unaware of the environment's importance. To prohibit all these from continuing to happen, adverts and letters on newspapers must increase in number and anyone caught harming the environment should be fined.

Now, that we students finished analysing on the observations, it was someone else's turn who is part of the Nature Trust Malta organisation, to make a small talk about its role and answer the interview held by some students. This non-profit organisation takes action on the condition of the environment in Malta and also saves its flora and fauna. Present during this conversation, were the Minister of the environment, José Herrera, and Miss Eco Malta. Some of the few questions asked to the representative of Nature Trust Malta, the Minister and Miss Eco Malta were; if they had considered any suggestions proposed by the European Union and in what ways has this influenced the environment, and if it is possible that cameras in garigues will be put up as a mean to alarm people not to place the environment at risk.

In order to be able to focus people's attention on the environment, organising similar projects can be helpful. However, it is up to people's attitude to support this.