This month our focus is:

Water

What are the issues?

The effects of climate change, an increasing population, and lifestyle and behavioural changes have all increased strain on the water supply.

12 out of the 23 water companies operating in areas of England are rated as being under 'serious' stress.

The process of treating and pumping water is among the biggest consumers of energy nationally.

The products we buy also use water in their production - one cotton t-shirt uses about 2,700 litres and a pair of jeans about 10,000.

Less than 1% of the water on the planet is accessible fresh water for us to use.

What can I do?

Think about easy ways to cut down your water use at home such as taking shorter showers and turning off the taps.

Look for products that can help you use less water, from small solutions like cistern bags that reduce the water you use when you flush, to larger upgrades like dual-flush toilets.

If you have a dishwasher or washing machine, make sure it is full before running it for the most efficient use.

If you can, capture and reuse rainwater or 'greywater' - the water left over from showers, baths, or basins - for uses such as watering plants or flushing the toilet.

Consider buying more plant-based food and second-hand clothes to reduce water consumed by your purchases.

Where can I learn more?

These posters will be available at standrewsn19.org/ecochurch

https://www.waterwise.org.uk

https://www.reducereuserecycle.co.uk/greenfreebies/free_water_saving_devices.php

https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/environment-and-conservation/uks-looming-water-crisis

https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/households/conservingwater/watersavingtips/

https://www.thameswater.co.uk/help/water-saving/water-saving-tips

https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/why-we-should-all-be-saving-water

https://www.rhs.org.uk/garden-jobs/water-collecting-storing-and-using