

## **Christ the King Second Graders' Website Helps School 'Go Green'**

May 9, 2008 -- Second graders at Christ the King School (CKS) in Buckhead have created a website with 70 ways for their families, students and teachers to 'Go Green.' Suggestions range from the obvious

(recycling drink cans and switching off lights when not in use) to the innovative and creative ("Buy bread that is wrapped in a single sleeve, not double wrapped"). Visitors to the site can learn that subscribing to instead of buying magazines at the newsstand saves resources since many magazines go unsold, and that having your vehicle washed at a commercial car wash instead of doing it yourself actually saves water.

Along the way, the 69 students investigated the way resources were used at their school and found there were changes which could make CKS "greener" as well. They are making sure plastic milk and water bottles are recycled in the lunchroom and have replaced toilet paper and towels with recycled products in the bathrooms. "This project has really caused

them to change their thought process," says second grade teacher Holly Dowden. "They have given a lot of thought to what garbage is exactly, and where it comes from." The students are very aware of using both sides of paper in the classroom also, and are quick to point out when they see paper being wasted, she notes.

Besides second grade teachers Dowden, Lori Fenzl and Kathleen Monaco, the second graders worked with computer teacher Andrew Barletta creating

the website. His idea to partner the younger students with CKS seventh graders allowed the Internet-savvy older students to help the younger ones research facts, provide links and pictures for each of their green tips. Based on the initial reaction and positive feedback from the entire CKS community, teachers are looking forward to continuing and building on the program next year. "We are planning to do more service projects based on ideas the kids have brought up in the classroom and hope to curb waste in other areas," says Fenzl.

The website can be accessed through the following link:

[http://www.christking.org/go\\_green\\_cks](http://www.christking.org/go_green_cks)

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