

WASHED ASHORE!
LITTERLESS CAMPAIGN 2020-2021
ST ALOYSIUS PRIMARY SCHOOL

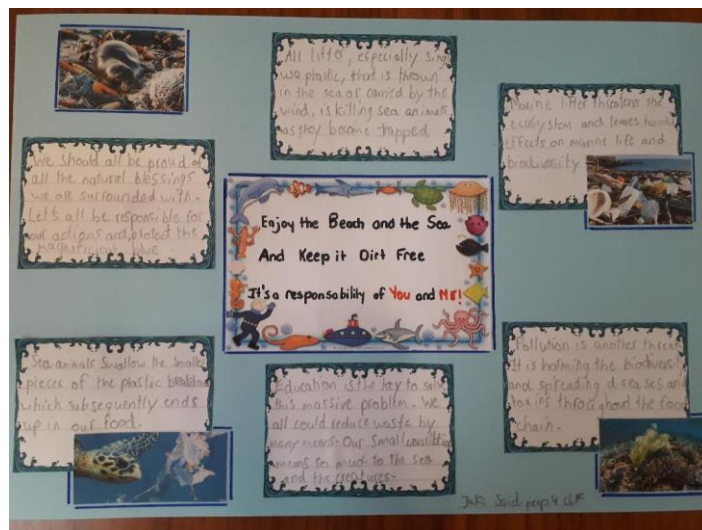
My name is Jake Said, I am 8 years old and I am in year 4 and I attend St. Aloysius Primary School. I form part of the Red Warriors team and this scholastic year we took part in the Litterless Campaign. In spite of the Covid situation, which is hindering us in some way or another, we still strive to keep this project ongoing. Meetings are held online and the project we are mainly focusing this year on is Marine Litter, how we can reduce littering and ways and means on how to stop litter ending up in the sea. The project's name is **Washed Ashore!**

Our first online activity of this scholastic year was a well presented presentation by Ms. Martina who explained in detail about marine littering and how rubbish can end up in the sea. It was very surprising how the sea gets polluted and how we need to take care of the environment as some minor actions of us humans can have an undesirable effect on the ecosystem.

In February, Red Warriors and Water Explorers organised a beach cleanup at il-Ballut ta' Marsaxlokk. This was my first experience and I really enjoyed it. Surely it won't be the last! Unfortunately my friends and I collected a great amount of rubbish from the beach which mainly consisted of cigarette buds, ropes, nets, plastic bags, plastic materials and jablo used by the fishermen. This amounted to 228kg of rubbish. Some of these items could have been thrown into the rubbish bins so as to avoid littering the beach. I urge people to be more responsible when enjoying themselves at the beach especially not leaving litter behind them as this can end up in the sea and harm the sea creatures.



As part of the Washed Ashore Campaign, Red Warriors and Water Explorers moved on to design a poster with a slogan so that we can make people aware of the harmful effects of litter that is present in the sea. My message was :



These slogans will be printed on cloth bags to get our message across to many other people. Education and Awareness is the key to reduce marine littering.

Being part of this whole project gave me another perspective and I am truly working hard so that litter is reduced. I learnt a lot of interesting facts about marine litter in which, if we all work hard and responsibly, marine litter can be reduced and even avoided! During the activities I felt shocked by the amount of tons of litter that ends up into the sea every year. Now I am becoming more aware of litter and, where possible, I am picking up small trash that could end up into the sea and I am also taking part in beach clean up events and awareness campaigns.