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# Pupils have designs on eco prize

PUPILS from a Ross-shire primary school have proved that they are switched on to switching off.

The three youngsters from Coulhill Primary School in Alness are the winners of an energy efficiency poster design competition organised by the West Alness SAVE Project (WASP).

Brid McKibben, WASP's energy advisor, gave talks on energy efficiency to the whole school and more than 100 pupils responded with artwork showing what steps could be taken to save energy.

Ms McKibben said: "I was really impressed with the amount and standard of posters we got back."

Nadean Taylor was overall winner, Lois Burgess the senior winner and Aimee Matheson the junior winner. All three had picked up on the need to switch electrical appliances off standby, use energy saving lightbulbs and switch anything off that is not in use. They won vouchers to spend on Scottish-run environmental website [www.ecogadgets.com](http://www.ecogadgets.com).

Coulhill school has already shown its green credentials by forming an active eco group.

Ms McKibben said: "It's very important for children to understand the need to reduce energy. They will be the generation that will benefit in the future. Quite often when I visit houses, it's the kids that are telling the adults to switch things off."



Coulhill Primary School's winning pupils (from left) Nadean Taylor, Aimee Matheson and Lois Burgess with Brid McKibben, WASP energy advisor.

Picture: Derek Gordon

WASP is a year-long project working with residents in West Alness to reduce their energy usage and save money on fuel bills. Scottish Hydro Electric funds the project and will give £10,000 to the community if the target of five per cent reduction of

energy usage in 200 houses is met.

More information about the results so far can be obtained from the initiative's website at [www.westalnesssave.org.uk](http://www.westalnesssave.org.uk) which will be live from mid-May.

Anyone who would like to receive a

visit from Ms McKibben for energy saving advice can contact her on 07920 437 526 or by email to [brid@westalnesssave.org.uk](mailto:brid@westalnesssave.org.uk). Anyone who arranges a visit before July 1 will be entered into a free draw to win a 15-inch LCD TV.