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LESSONS LEARNT AT SWINDON LANDFILL

Throwing rubbish into the bin without a second thought has become a thing of the past for school children of St Joseph's College in Swindon, following a specially arranged visit to the landfill site at Chapel Farm near Blunsdon in Wiltshire.

The tour of Hills Waste Solutions' site was part of year 11 GCSE geography studies into population growth and the impact on sustainability. Alan Stewart, head of geography at St Joseph's College said, "I have visited landfill sites before and it is interesting to see the affect it has on the school children. Afterwards they realise the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling their waste."

The children were also treated to a short bird display by the site's falconer, Cliff Lee, who explained how birds of prey are used on landfill sites to control pests including seagulls.

"The peregrine falcon was a great attraction for the kids," commented Stuart Knight, Hills' site manager, "The important thing is that they now understand what happens to waste at a landfill site and how it is managed responsibly to ensure the least impact on the environment. Hopefully they will also take the recycling message home to their friends and families."

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