



Ottery Primary School Newsletter



2nd December 2019

Clean hands

There has been a lot of communication coming into school concerning handwashing. Since we bought in the hand sanitisers, some of the children have been making use of them instead of washing their hands. We have addressed this issue in school and reminded the children that the hand sanitisers are there to enhance their hand cleanliness in addition to washing them with soap and water.

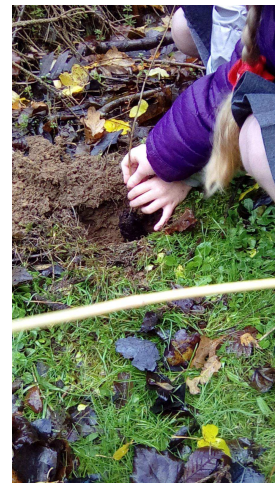
The hand sanitisers themselves have deliberately been placed around entrances to the school and the main hall and not in the toilets for this very reason. Children are encouraged to wash their hands with soap and water after using the toilets and on their way into lunch from the playground. The sanitisers then offer a further opportunity to maintain cleanliness in addition to this.

We, along with yourselves, will continue to remind the children of this best practice regularly.

Tree planting week

As part of **The Big Climate Fightback** which is a campaign to get one million people to join the fight against climate change by pledging to plant a tree by Saturday 30 November 2019 the school took part in **Tree Planting Week**. We received a range of trees from the woodland trust and pledged to plant 30 trees during the week.

Children from across the school have taken part in this important initiative and have had lots of fun learning about different trees, how to plant them and how to care for them.



Dolce School dinners

If your child happens to be off school for any reason and you have ordered a school meal for them, could we ask that you log onto the system and cancel the order? We are noticing an increase in the numbers of children who are showing up on the system at lunchtime as needing a meal but have actually not come into school. The school meals ordering system is separate from the main school office systems and, while the office staff try to check each day to reconcile meal orders with attendance, it is not always possible to account for every child. Your help with this would be greatly appreciated.

Playground equipment and ball games reminder

It has been a while since we sent out a reminder about the use of playground equipment before and after school but could we ask for your support in ensuring that the children are not making use of it at these times. This includes the playing of ball games on the KS2 playground. We are more than happy for the children to use the equipment during break-times and lunchtimes when it can be adequately supervised but, before and after school there are additional factors which make it much more difficult for this to happen. Although a duty teacher is out in the mornings and staff are available after school, the presence of parents who may wish to pass on a message or indeed the number of toddlers and pushchairs at these times mean that the potential for accidents is increased. Wet and windy conditions could also lead to avoidable accidents on and around the equipment.

Could we also ask that you do not allow your children to bring in their own basketballs or other balls to play with in school. This can lead to arguments in school over who owns the ball and who is or isn't allowed to play. It also poses a potential danger both before and after school due to the presence of toddlers and pushchairs in the playground.

The school provides basketballs and other balls for the children to use at breaktimes and lunchtimes and we will continue to do this. Many thanks.

Many thanks for your support with this

Dates for the diary

Wednesday 4 th December	School Christmas Lunch**
<i>** Don't forget to provide a packed lunch if you have not pre-ordered a school lunch</i>	
Tuesday 10 th December – 10am	EYFS Christmas Performance
Tuesday 10 th December – 6pm	Y1/2 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 11 th December – 10am	EYFS Christmas Performance
Wednesday 11 th December – 2pm	Y1/2 Christmas Performance
Thursday 12 th December – 2pm	Y1/2 Christmas Performance
Friday 13 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 18 th December – 7pm	Y5/6 Christmas Performance (church)
Thursday 19 th December - pm	KS1 Christmas Party
Friday 20 th December	Last day of Autumn Term
Tuesday 7 th January 2020	First day of Spring Term
w/c 20 th April 2020	Year 5 Warren Barn Residential
17 th -19 th June 2020	Year 6 PGL Residential