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Tuesday 30th April 2019

Dear Parents

This year, to celebrate the 93rd birthday of Sir David Attenborough, we are joining lots of other schools to take part in the '8th May Plastic-Free Day'. Many of you will have seen coverage over the last couple of years of the dreadful levels of plastic pollution in our oceans, which is harming wildlife and even getting into our own food chain.

In the UK alone, we use an estimated **35 million** single-use plastic bottles, **7 million** disposable coffee cups with their plastic lids and lining, **8.5 million** plastic straws and around **16 million** packets of crisps **EVERY DAY!** Only 9% of the plastic waste that we humans have created has been recycled, and around 8 million tonnes of it enters the oceans every year, from littering, dumping and mishandling, and can hang around for hundreds of years.

To help our children understand the impact of plastic on the environment, we are going to have a day of refusing single-use plastic. We will be learning about the issues surrounding plastic pollution and ocean health and how we can make a difference in our day to day lives by making more sustainable choices.

We are asking that, where possible, children who have a packed lunch at school come in with no single-use plastic packaging in their lunch box – so no disposable bottles, crisp packets etc. Sandwiches and other lunch box contents could be wrapped in tin foil or come in a container (plastic such as Tupperware is reusable and is acceptable!), and please make sure your child has a reusable water bottle with them.

We hope that taking part in this day will help our children to learn about how we can reduce the amount of plastic pollution endangering our wildlife and environment, and to be extra vigilant about littering and choosing to avoid single-use plastic wherever possible. It is a day of making changes to our habits that hopefully will lead to more days of being aware of how simple switches to more environmentally friendly options can make a difference.

Thank you for your support!

Yours sincerely

Miss White and Mrs Chorley
On behalf of the School Council

