

Alderman Pounder Infant School and Nursery

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Friday 25th November 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

Next week we are going to have a special focus on saving energy at school and at home. As part of this we will be getting the children to get into "**Switching on to switching off**". So we will be getting the children to help spot when electrical items can be turned off to save energy. For instance, they will be encouraged to remind their teachers to turn lights off when the whole class is leaving the room or to turn the stereo off when it is not being used. We will also be getting children to reflect on how they can "**say goodbye to standby**" at home - by making sure their electronic games are properly turned off when they are not using them. Hopefully you will find that they are keener to turn off their bedroom lights when they leave their rooms – and this should help you to **save money** on your electricity bills! We will emphasise to the children that they should not turn off electrical items without checking with an adult – we don't want your fridges being turned off or your computers half way through you doing some work! At home you might want to consider only charging your mobile when it needs it rather than leaving it on permanent charge which is bad for it.

As well as saving energy we will be reflecting on **saving heat** by shutting doors and windows and **saving water** by turning taps off when not in use. We will also be reflecting on how **recycling can actually save lots of energy**. Again we hope that you can help here by supporting our various recycling campaigns.



We hope that you have already started saving old textiles in your **bags2school bag**. These are due back **on Thursday 1st December** – so not long now! This campaign usually raises **£200-£300 for school funds**. It is also a great way of **recycling your old textiles**. It might also give a bit of room in the house for Santa to call! Just leave your bags out on the grass by the car park entrance, or if the weather is wet bring in to the office reception area in school. If you need more bags some are available from the office or simply use your own bin bags – they do not have to be official ones. The key is the **more recycled textiles** we get, the **more money we gain** and importantly the less textiles going to landfill – or taking up your wardrobe space!

Please also continue to support all our other campaigns. We recycle **Stamps** – used, unused, UK or foreign. Please cut or gently tear from the envelope and collect in another envelope until you feel you have enough to bring in. We send these off to support the **RNIB** campaign: **Unused glasses** - spectacles - (We collect for **Vision Aid Over seas** which can recycle or re-use the glasses in developing countries).

We also get paid to recycle a range of items through a company called **TerraCycle** - we recycle **mobile phones** but not chargers (please **remove your sim card** before recycling your phones!) **£20.00** raised so far **every type of pen including felt tips and highlighters** regardless of their brand or material (We have raised **£147.14** so far!). We can also recycle any **Tassimo product (£ 264.88 raised), Kenco Eco refill bags (£2.98 raised)** and our **home care brigade has raised £5.06** for cleaning product triggers and washing up bottle lids.



Last but not least we have raised **£134.84** by recycling **biscuit wrappers**- but we think that lots of you are still putting your wrappers in the bin! Stop and think how much we could raise if you just gave the empty wrappers (**any brand**) to school instead! It is especially important as there is a **TerraCycle competition** at the moment to recycle as many wrappers as possible by February 2017. If we win we will get a share in £500 in prizes! Now it is winter and we are entering the festive season you may find that you have more of these treats – so please **just pass the empty wrappers to your child's class teacher** – via the tray or place them in the eco box.

Your friends, relatives or work colleagues could collect any of these items too – the more recycling we get the merrier (and richer!) we will be!

All items for recycling can be placed in the **green eco box opposite the office**. Or larger drop offs can be left in the **TerraCycle wheelie bin** in the school grounds. (Please do not place rubbish or plastic or cans in here though as it is **not a normal recycling bin** – it is only for the items named above – thank you for keeping to this or it becomes horrible to empty and can contaminate genuine products that can be recycled through TerraCycle.

So next week listen out for your child talking about how we can save energy. Hopefully they will persuade you to **save energy and money** yourselves through switching on to switching off and saying goodbye to standby! (A final fact to leave you with - the average microwave uses more electricity powering the clock than heating food! If you do not need it – turn it off until you do!). For more fascinating facts like these please also read our big energy saver sheet. This should be attached to your email – or you may need to scroll further down your email to see it if you get your information through parent mail.

Here's to you gaining eco-friendly habits which help you save money and here's to you recycling more and helping us to gain money for school! Win, win all round!

Thank you!
The Eco Team

