



POTTEN END C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Church Road, Potten End, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, HP4 2QY

Head Teacher
Mrs Denise Kennedy

Telephone 01442 865022
e-mail: admin@pottenend.herts.sch.uk
www.pottenend.herts.sch.uk

24 April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We are about to launch an exciting new project to make our lunchtimes even better. We are going to continue to develop our outdoor environment over the next year. We are excited to share with you that we are about to start a programme to improve opportunities for physical activity, socialisation, co-operation, coordination, resilience, creativity, imagination and enjoyment through improved play. We are always looking for ways to improve further and we believe developing playtimes is an area where we can make a big impact. As we begin to improve play opportunities, you may find we are asking you for resources and may be making changes about how the children use the school grounds. They may use more of the grounds, for more of the year. The children may get a bit messier (so may need wellies - even in KS2!), be exposed to more challenges and have greater freedoms to play where, with whom and how they like. This includes the integration of Reception class with the rest of the school, the lower part of the EYFS play area will be available to all and the Reception children will be able to choose where they want to play. The experiences the school is fostering are essential for children's physical and mental well-being and health, and in line with all current good practice advice on health, safety, well-being and development.

As you know over the Easter break, the school has had a new wooden fitness trail installed and as part of the implementation of new areas in the playground we have made the decision that there is to be no football games on the coloured play area. Instead this space can be used by the children for basketball and other activities.

From Monday 29 April, the children will be able to use the Wonder Wood area at lunchtime to play and make dens etc and we are looking to purchase and install an outside kitchen at the top of the main playground. Whereas in the past, the children have had nominated days to play table tennis, basketball etc we are looking to make this available to all at all times promoting opportunities for children of different year groups to play together.

In order to keep all children safe and able to participate in the play areas, I will be talking to the children about rules for using these areas and staff will be located in each area to support play.

You may remember receiving a letter asking you for old pots, pans, wellies, etc which we are now ready to collect. Please could any items be left outside year 6's door so that the Young Leaders can sort and store them for the children to use.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let me know (an email through admin@pottenend.herts.sch.uk FAO: K Sharpling, or if you see me on the playground).

Regards

Karen Sharpling

KS2 Phase Leader / PE Lead

