



# Midsomer Norton Primary School

*'Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership'*

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## Small Steps make Big Changes

Dear Parents/Carers,

Green team set a target to reduce the number of single-use plastic bottles used by children and adults in our school. When the children visited the classrooms recently, they discovered only eight single-use plastic bottles. Only 8 bottles out of a possible total of 315 in our school. What a fantastic achievement!

Green team have visited the lunch hall to see what children have in their lunchboxes and the amount of plastic packaging is astounding. We also found some lunchboxes where children are really thinking about the amount of packaging they use. Our next target is called 'The Lunchbox Challenge' and we want to reduce the amount of packaging we are seeing in lunchboxes. Please use this link to watch a short film which we showed in assembly today: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p06bt596>

We want to reduce the amount of plastic packaging in our lunchboxes. We think this will be cheaper for you and also healthier when making packed lunches. If you can make even one change to reduce plastic packaging, we would really appreciate it. We will be hosting a competition to spot children who are making a conscientious effort to reduce the amount of packaging they are using. Our Green Team will be popping in to see how everyone is doing and taking note of children who are really making a big effort. We will all be doing our bit to look after our planet and hopefully save a little money too!

Here are some tips that and ideas to try at home:

- Use tinfoil instead of cling film. Tinfoil is recyclable but cling film is not.
- Little reusable plastic tubs are great for loose snacks and fruit. These can be washed after use.
- Instead of buying expensive individually packaged cheese, cut up a block of cheese or use a cookie cutter to make interesting shapes.
- A reusable drink bottle instead of cartons of juice.
- A biscuit from a large packet instead of individually wrapped biscuit bars.
- Real fruit or dried fruit instead of individually wrapped fruit winders.
- A lunchbox with sections where you can separate loose items.
- Yogurt from a large pot poured into a reusable plastic tub.

If you or your child has got a great idea to reduce packaging in lunchboxes, we'd love to hear it. Jot it down on paper and bring it along to Earth class for us to look at in our Green Team meetings.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Forster, Mrs Cox & Green Team

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