

Outdoor Play and Learning at Edmondsley Primary 4th November 2015

As you are aware, Edmondsley Primary and Nursery School is set within extensive grounds. Over a series of years, staff have successfully bid for lottery funding to create different areas for your children to explore. This year, Play Leaders have been appointed to further improve the play experiences your child has during lunch and play times. Each year, your child spends around 37,000 hours in the school grounds. We want to make this time as enjoyable and memorable as possible. Whilst children have access to footballs, tennis rackets, net balls etc, we hope to improve social skills by increasing the quality of the play experiences.

We strongly feel 'playtime' should be time for children to play. We would appreciate your involvement to achieve this together.

Over the coming months, the Play Leaders will ask for a variety of objects to be brought to school. These will vary from plastic milk bottles to tubes. We aim to keep our school ethos alive by recycling and reusing as much as possible. LARGE containers to collect these items will be located near the parent/carer yard exit/entrance. If you have any LARGE containers, please see either Mrs Baker or Mrs Rees. Containers such as the following would be ideal.



(Our fingers are crossed for these!)



Children love to play with the natural materials available around our school grounds. For example, children play 'shops' often, buying and selling sticks, stones and leaves. Or use the natural materials to make patterns. Currently these play opportunities are taken away from children when the grass is wet as we do not allow children on the grass or around the trees as their shoes become muddy. Understandably, we know that most parents do not wish their children to return home each night with muddy shoes. **To remove this barrier to play**, welly stores will be constructed and children will be encouraged to bring their wellies to school. We will let you know when the welly stores have been constructed. Do you or a friend have access to wooden boxes which could be stacked to make welly and shoe stores or an old book case which is no longer needed? If so, please contact either Mrs Baker or Mrs Rees.



We look forward to working with you to further improve playtimes and lunchtimes for your children.

From the Play Leaders.