



Queen Eleanor's Church of England Junior School
*An Academy in the Good Shepherd Trust**
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Head teacher: Mrs Jo Davies

Thursday 22nd October 2020

Dear Families,

Outdoor Space Update

Welcome to the half term break! It has certainly felt like a long half term but we are delighted that we have managed to keep all year groups open and hope this will continue going forward. Thank you so much for all of your support both this half term and during the challenging time of school closure.

It is with regret that we have had to make the decision to stop using our school field for lunchtime. It is not a decision that we have taken lightly but with the deterioration of the condition of the field over the last couple of weeks, it is now necessary for us to make this disappointing decision. Initially, we asked families to provide different footwear and/or clothing but this was optional when our field was dry. Following that, as the weather changed, we asked that this was something that all families provided for the children. The change of shoes and clothing is no longer sufficient to alleviate the problems caused by the mud on the field. We consider now that the field is a potential hazard, as it is so slippery and the amount of mud that is being brought into school and covering the children is at an unacceptable level. We are extremely sorry that this decision has had to be made as we appreciate that so many of our children enjoy playing football and other games in this large space.

As we only have 90 children on the playground at one time, due to our COVID restrictions, there will still be plenty of room for the children to play happily and safely. We are slightly adjusting the timetable to ensure that our year group bubbles still do not mix. These changes to the timetable will not change the amount of free or learning time that the children currently have.

We will continue to monitor the situation and as the weather improves, we will make changes as and when we can. We hope that during the spring term we will be in a position to use the school field once again.

Thank you for your understanding. We hope you have a lovely half term break and look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 2nd November 2020.

Kind regards,

Mrs Davies and the QE Staff