



**PURSTON INFANT SCHOOL**  
Nunn's Lane, Featherstone  
Tel: 01977 704344  
[www.purstoninfants.co.uk](http://www.purstoninfants.co.uk)



Dear Parents/Carers,

### School Pets

This year in Science we are really wanting to make our curriculum more hands on so we have decided to introduce pets into school. Year 2 have been lucky enough to have fish as pets in their classroom this term and I know that Pearl and Sparkle are in good hands with the children.

However, we would now like to introduce a school pet to the rest of the children and this decision has been made following research and discussions with pet charities. We have decided to re-home a tortoise, this comes with the support of the other staff members and the approval from the Governing Body.

A full risk assessment has been completed which will be available on our website.

The tortoise is currently belongs to a member of staff in school and they have kindly donated all the equipment and have passed on all the relevant information.

Pets in schools come with many advantages:

- They teach children about responsibility – by children having to remember to feed and give water to them and also having to clean them out.
- They are known to lower anxiety and decrease agitation.
- They help you to feel calm.
- With the tortoise being kept in the shared area it will help children move around school calmly.

However, we know some children may be scared or worried about the thought of an animal in school so we will be ensuring each class has time to spend with them and learn about the needs of the tortoise. If you have any individual questions or queries, please do not hesitate to speak to Mrs Eades. Please complete and return the attached slip by **Friday, 10th December**.

It is planned that the tortoise will move into school January 2022.

Yours sincerely,

Letter of consent regarding School Tortoise.

Please complete and return by Friday 10th December

Name of child ----- Class

Please tick as appropriate:

I am happy for my child to be involved with all aspects of caring for the school tortoise, including feeding and cleaning

My child has an allergy which means they must not come into contact with the tortoise.

Signed .....Parent/Carer

Date .....



The Designated Senior lead for Safeguarding and Child Protection is the Headteacher, Phillip Barnett, supported by the Deputy Headteacher, Alison Gascoyne, and Family support worker Kerry Dyas.  
Social Care Direct 0345 8503 503 [social\\_care\\_direct@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:social_care_direct@wakefield.gov.uk)