Dear Parents and Carers

In 2022, nearly 250,000 people from schools, households and communities across the country made The Big Plastic Count the biggest ever investigation into UK household plastic waste. It showed that nearly 100 billion pieces of plastic are thrown away in the UK each year, with hardly any of it recycled. The rest is burned, sent abroad or ends up in landfill. We can’t recycle our way out of the plastic waste crisis, so The Big Plastic Count is back – and this time we’ve got an even bigger target in our sights – The Global Plastics Treaty.

Let’s get counting to make the Global Plastics Treaty as big and bold as it can be.

HOW TO TAKE PART

It’s easy! From Monday morning until Sunday evening, **count as you throw!**

Simply mark every piece of plastic package as you throw it away on the [**Let’s Count Tally Sheet**](https://thebigplasticcount.com/resources/schools/lets-count-tally-sheet).

TOP TIPS

1. Put the [**Let’s Count Tally Sheet**](https://thebigplasticcount.com/resources/schools/lets-count-tally-sheet) up on your fridge, or near your bin or recycling.
2. Tell everyone you live with that you’re going to be taking part and ask them to include their plastic waste in the count too.
3. Using the [**Let’s Count Tally Sheet**](https://thebigplasticcount.com/resources/schools/lets-count-tally-sheet), record the different types of household plastic packaging waste you use for one week. This includes plastic going in your bin and plastic you put out for recycling.
4. Use the [**Plastic ID Tool**](http://thebigplasticcount.com/help) to look up plastic items if you need to.
5. Remember to write down any piece of plastic packaging you use while out and about, then mark it on your tally sheet when you get back home.

WHAT NOT TO COUNT

* **Don’t** include: plasters, medication packaging, non-dairy milk/juice cartons, nappies, dog poo bags, plastic cutlery or period products.

Once your household has completed the survey, your child will:

Bring the [**Let’s Count Tally Sheet**](https://thebigplasticcount.com/resources/schools/lets-count-tally-sheet) in on **Monday 18th March** so they can record their results and submit them in class. 

Find out more about The Big Plastic Count here: [thebigplasticcount.com](http://thebigplasticcount.com/).

We’d like to say a huge thank you for taking part in this important investigation!