

## Hand Sanitiser

Following up from our letter on Wednesday about minimising the things that are going to and from school, we are aware that many children have been bringing their own hand-sanitisers into school and whilst we are aware that you, as parents, are only trying to assist in ensuring your children's hand hygiene, there are many issues with this.

**The children do not need to bring their own in to school, indeed it is extremely important that they do not (unless there are medical circumstances explained to us by parents and a form completed).** There is the risk of sharing them, losing them, touching of the bottles by others, anxiety by some children that they don't have them etc. But the main and serious reason is that we must know what is in them and how to care for children if an accident should occur.

All substances in school are subject to COSHH (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health) regulations. We must know which chemicals are in them, how someone should be treated if they swallow them, get them on their skin, get them in their eyes etc. Many hand sanitisers contain alcohol and if you look on the back on many of them you will see the following hazard signs.



These show that there is danger to health if misused and also that some are actually flammable. In addition to this, we would need Safety Data Sheets for all the different types that are in school which could result in a delay in treating children if necessary.

Be assured that we have hand sanitiser in every room that is frequently topped up. Children wash their hands on arrival at school and then at ALL change-over points throughout the day they are watched either washing hands or sanitising them, as well as at the end of the day as they leave for home. If your child cannot use our hand sanitiser for any reason then they are able instead to wash them with soap and water. If this is a problem then please get in touch.

Mr Gibson, Mrs Kelsey, Mr Rickaby