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Dear Parent / Carer

This year we are delighted to announce that our school is taking part in BBC's Terrific Scientific Project. This is an exciting science project aimed at junior school children, encouraging them to take part in a series of accessible mass-participation investigations at schools across the UK.

Investigation : FEET – How flexible are my feet?

The investigation is planned for October 2017 and based around the topic of Evolution and Inheritance. The children will be conducting a scientific investigation to investigate whether their geographical location and the type of surfaces they walk on (manmade vs. natural) affects their feet flexibility. It's thought that in the last 200 years our feet have started to adapt to changes in lifestyle and some small studies suggest that foot flexibility varies significantly between rural and urban areas. Children will take part in the first study of this scale to find out whether the hypothesis is true!

The BBC has partnered with the University of Kent on this investigation. The university will collect the data the children produce and use it in their current research in this area.

The BBC are also inviting schools to add data to the Terrific Scientific website, where you can explore results from all over the UK on an interactive map.

The investigation

Children will be using two rulers, paper, a pencil and a calculator to take some measurements from one of their classmate's feet and work out their foot flexibility.

This investigation is in line with the curriculum and is designed to develop scientific skills and a more detailed outline can be found on the Terrific Scientific website <http://www.bbc.co.uk/TerrificScientific>.

This activity has been thoroughly risk assessed by BBC Health & Safety and will be supervised by classroom teachers at all times.

Personal Information

This investigation will be collecting some personal information from the children; they will be asked to provide a range of measurements of their feet to calculate their foot flexibility. We will also ask children which type of ground they usually walk on. The children will record this information on a survey website provided by the university. The information added to the survey will be anonymous and neither the university nor the BBC will have access to names or any other identifiable information.

The BBC will only receive information on the classes' median foot flexibility and the sort of ground the majority of pupils mostly play on outside of school – natural or manmade. No personal information will be viewable by anyone visiting the BBC Terrific Scientific website. All data will be stored securely in the UK.

Parental responsibility and consent

Due to the design of this experiment it is only possible to opt-out before the investigation starts. If you choose to opt-out, your child will still be able to take part in the activities in the classroom but will not be able to access the

web survey and no personal information or data from your child will be collected by either the universities or the BBC.

If you **do not** want your child's data to be collected as part of this investigation, please fill out and return the opt-out form at the bottom of this letter and return it to the school office.

If you are happy for your child to fully take part in this exciting research, you need not reply.

We encourage you and your child to explore the Terrific Scientific website <http://www.bbc.co.uk/terrificscientific> where you will find extension activities for this investigation. We hope that you and your child have an enjoyable experience and are inspired to learn more about science together. We wish your child many hours of challenging fun learning about science with BBC Terrific Scientific.

If you would like more information please contact me via the school office.

Yours sincerely

Ms. Henderson
Science Leader

Please tick the box below and return the slip here **if you wish to withdraw consent** for your child to be involved in the Science project.

*I **do not** give my consent for my child's data to be collected as part of this investigation. I acknowledge that the 'Terrific Scientific' FEET investigation has been fully explained to me.*

Name of child _____ Class _____

Parent/carer name _____ Signature: _____

You do not need to return this form if you are happy for your child to be involved.