Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our commitment to improving our environment and reducing the impact of climate change, _____ School has decided to work towards the Climate Friendly Schools Award.

The IPCC (International Panel on Climate Change) released a report in February 2022[1] that stated that: *"The impacts of climate change are increasing in frequency and intensity around the world, particularly life-threatening heatwaves, floods, storms and droughts"*, and that, *"the impacts of climate change are widespread and varied, affecting up to 3.6 billion people today who are considered to be living in climate hotspots across the globe. That's nearly half the world's population."*

Science tells us that the massive increase in human produced Carbon Dioxide (CO_2) in our atmosphere, over the last 200 years, has caused a fast increase in global temperature via the greenhouse effect.

The effects of this warming include polar ice melting, sea level rise, extreme weather events and changes in local climates. We are already seeing the effects of climate change in the UK, with an increase in extreme weather events (for example Storm Arwen).

As a school, we want to help to make a difference and work towards reducing global warming and hence climate change.

Climate Friendly Schools is an initiative that will help us assess what we already do well and additional actions that we can take to reduce our impact on our climate. We will start by forming a new Climate Action Team comprising pupils, teachers, governors, parents/carers and community members who will complete the Climate Friendly School's online audit to create a bespoke action plan for change.

To achieve Climate Friendly Schools Status, every year we must take at least 10 of the actions that have been identified in our Climate Friendly School action plan. We will be looking for support from our parents/carers and community to achieve this.

We are very excited about the opportunity to take some real action to make our world a better place to live and we believe that our children/young people will gain great advantages in learning about our planet and how to care for it, via climate friendly changes to our curriculum.

If you are interested in being part of the Climate Action Team, you have any ideas or resources that you can offer to help our school become more climate friendly or you have any questions about Climate Friendly Schools please contact _____ or visit www.climatefriendlyschools.org.uk

We know that the children/young people are keen to help our school take climate action and we hope they will tell you all about the climate friendly initiatives that we will be introducing. Maybe you can take some inspiration and employ them for yourself, helping you to reduce your bills and become more climate friendly.

Yours sincerely,