



Welcome to a special issue of our schools newsletter dedicated to the **e-Bug Hand Hygiene Challenge**. We have some exciting news about the challenge that we think you might be interested in.

If you think microbes – think e-Bug.

e-Bug

www.e-bug.eu

Special Issue

The e-Bug Hand Hygiene Challenge

What is the challenge?

e-Bug and the Health Protection Agency have teamed up with School Councils UK to set a school hand hygiene challenge and we need your help! On **Global Handwashing Day (15th October) 2012**, primary AND secondary schools all across the UK will be taking part in a simultaneous fun hand washing lesson to demonstrate the importance of good hand hygiene - and have a lot of fun doing it!

Why have a school national hand hygiene day?

Within schools, respiratory and gastrointestinal infections are a major cause of childhood illness however it has been proven that washing hands with soap can reduce the risk of diarrhoea by 42%–47% and that hand washing is important in the prevention of acute respiratory infections.

Research has also shown that these illnesses are often passed on to parents and school staff leading to increased absenteeism rates. School hygiene campaigns, like this one, have been shown to reduce rates of infection in schoolchildren, staff and their families – so what have you got to lose? Sign up and take part.

The EXCITING bit

Guinness World Records have recognised the hand hygiene challenge as a legitimate Record Breaking attempt! Yes that's right, by taking part in the hand hygiene challenge, not only will you be teaching your students one of the most basic lessons they can be taught to prevent the spread of infection but your school would also be participating in a Record Breaking Attempt.

If you've ever wanted to break a Guinness World Record, here's your chance!



How do I take part?

Visit the teacher pages of the e-Bug website at **www.e-bug.eu** to register your interest. We'll contact you with the lesson plan and lots more information.

This will be an official Guinness World Record Challenge and as such will be subject to their rules and regulations. If you would like to take part as a record breaking school then please read the accompanying documentation carefully.



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For all enquiries please email us at **e-Bug@hpa.org.uk** and title your mail **Hand Hygiene Challenge**

