

29th November 2010

Dear Parents/Carers,

INCLEMENT WEATHER

As the cold weather is now upon us and weather forecasts predicting snow as a real possibility, we would like to make everyone aware of the following information.

School Closures

Every effort is always made to keep school open, however there are occasions, e.g. when the journey to school is dangerous due to weather conditions such as heavy snow and staff cannot get here, when closure is the safest option.

Dorset County Council now has a central system for co-ordinating school closures and notifying the media. This should make it easier for local media to maintain an accurate list of school closures which will also be displayed on the Dorset For You website.

If it is possible, i.e. staff able to get to school to access the system, then a text alert will be sent as soon as possible informing you of any school closure.

Information can also be found by:-

- Listening to local updates on Heart FM (formerly 2CR 103.2)
- Visiting HeartFM website www.heartdorset.co.uk
- Visiting <http://mapping.dorsetforyou.com/closedservices>

Please make use of these sources of information and do not telephone school unless absolutely necessary. This can prevent essential outgoing calls being made.

If you hear that school is closed, please pass this information on to people you know to help cut down on the number of phone calls to school.

Should school have to be closed during a school day, information will be sent by text alert and then placed on websites as above. Again we make every effort to remain open and will always ensure children who cannot be collected remain safe.

Please remember to keep your mobile phone switched on to ensure that you are able to receive any such updates,

Should weather deteriorate during the day and you consider your journey would become more dangerous if left to the end of the school day then please do come and collect your child early, you do not need to telephone first.

Arrival at School

Our caretaker, Mr Tuley prepares a gritted pathway for use when arriving at school in icy conditions.

Please ensure that children walk safely with you along this route and do not allow them to play on icy surfaces in the playground. In such conditions children should be taken to classroom/cloakroom doors where staff will be waiting to receive them.

Wellingtons and Warm Clothes

Whenever possible children play outside at morning break and at lunchtimes. Please ensure that they have sufficient warm clothes to wear for these times.

In snowy/icy conditions it may not be safe to use the playground. We suggest that children have a pair of Wellingtons (in named bag) at school for these times to enable them to play on the field. Children without Wellingtons may not be able to play outside in these conditions.

Thank you for your support in these matters.

Yours sincerely,

Maryanne Pike
Headteacher