



17th November 2017

Severe Weather Planning

Please keep this letter safe for future reference

Dear Parent/Carer,

As the weather gets colder it is time to consider what would happen if we needed to close. I would like to point out that the decision to close is not an easy one. As the professional weather forecasters have such difficulty anticipating our weather, understandably, so do I. However, it will always be my intention to keep the school open unless it is absolutely essential to close due to health and safety concerns. These concerns may include whether:

- Children and staff can safely come to school and return safely home again
(This means trying to predict weather patterns from 7.45am through to 6.15pm)
- Emergency services can safely get access to the school at all times
- Food, heating and water are available at all times
- There is an appropriate ratio of staff to children during school hours

If the weather turns out to be severe and the decision is made to close the school, I will notify you as soon as possible through the following means:

- A message will come through Parentmail.
- Muriel Green website
- If there is severe weather and many schools close, the Parentmail system may be overloaded. Therefore in addition to Parentmail you can also receive notifications from Hertfordshire County Council. In order to receive these email/text notifications if the school is closed, you should register on the Everbridge Schools Closure Notification System by clicking on this link
<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/emergency-schoolclosures/emergency-school-closures.aspx> It takes just a few minutes to register.
- News bulletins will be announced on the following radio stations:
Heart 96.6 Hertfordshire
- Occasionally both Parentmail and Everbridge systems may be overloaded, so word of mouth is an excellent failsafe option. If you know that the school is open/closed, please pass it on to other families if you can.

I would once again say that this is a very unlikely event but it is always best to be prepared.

In the meanwhile, enjoy the snow as and when it comes!

Yours sincerely,

Gemma Williamson

Gemma Williamson
Headteacher

