

Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010, 3.30 pm

Dear Parents,

We shall open tomorrow, Thursday, for a shorter day again from **10.30 am - 2.30 pm**.

This morning, some members of staff were unable to drive their cars out of their roads, one skidded on her way to school and went off the road and another member of staff was stranded in East Grinstead and had to walk 5 miles back home. Only one teacher was able to get to school: she walked in from Lingfield. I am sure that many of you had similar difficulties.

Tomorrow morning, widespread fog and ice are forecast for our area and, at the time of writing, some staff are still unable to get out of their roads. The late start and early finish will allow pupils and staff to travel when there is less traffic and when road conditions are likely to be better; it ensures that we can get sufficient staff to school to provide adequate levels of supervision for the children.

Please be aware of the following:

- Parents should make their own decision about whether it is safe to travel to school. Please access the latest advice from the police and local authority.
- It is not recommended to drive up either the Meades or Clinton Hill. Parking is difficult on the High Street.
- There are icy conditions on all the surrounding access roads and pavements.
- Paths on the school site have been cleared (once again, thank you to our wonderful parent volunteers) but great care should be exercised.
- If you consider that it is too risky to make the journey into school, your child's absence will be authorized. Please report their absence in the usual way via telephone. If your child cannot get to school, the teachers have put work for them on the learning platform.
- **Children are required to wear school uniform on and should come appropriately dressed with suitable outdoor clothing. Wellington boots/snow boots are essential as well as a change of footwear for wearing in school. A spare pair of trousers and socks could also be handy.**
- **We are planning to provide hot lunches for those children who normally take them.** However, just in case Amanda is unable to get to school, please provide your child with a sandwich and a piece of fruit.
- **Children should arrive between 10.30 and 10.45 am and come straight into school.** Both entrances will be open.
- Children should be collected promptly at 2.30 pm.

·If weather conditions change either later today or tomorrow we will post updates on the website at the earliest opportunity.

Thank you for bearing with us during this difficult time. A thaw is forecast for the weekend and I don't think that it can be here a moment too soon for any of us!

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jane Cowley

Headteacher