



12<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for being very supportive with the difficult decisions we have had to take regarding the closure of school over the last few days. We have tried to make early decisions as I am aware that historically this has not always been the case. The very last thing we ever want to do is close school, however, after trying to negotiate the estate yesterday and watching several accidents it was clear, that the freezing conditions predicted would make it worse. In addition, despite the team of staff and governors clearing snow, it was not possible to ensure that all paths, fire doors and vehicle access for cars and emergency vehicles were clear. It then started freezing over the cleared, gritted areas as the temperatures started to drop late afternoon.

We have received a large number of emails of support and understanding from you and we are very grateful for those parents who have sent these in. We do appreciate that parents have to work and this will have caused inconvenience and we apologise for this. We are on site clearing and trying to get the site ready to reopen and hoping for a very sunny day with rain tonight, not snow!

Regarding tomorrow, we are expecting to open. In order to be fair to the estate and ease any issues that may arise with cars and remaining ice, we are having a staggered start to the day. The school registration period will be from 8.45am to 10.00am. There will be no lates given out tomorrow. This should allow parents and children longer to get to school, in order for you to be safe en route particularly if you are walking.

Going forward into the last few days, before we break up, we have had to look carefully at the diary to try to reorganise and fit in all of the Christmas events that we had planned for children and parents.

Fortunately, Christmas shows, parties, Christmas dinner and carols around the tree have not been affected and will run as planned.

However, the days off school have considerably affected the Infant nativity play. The children have not yet had a final practice altogether or completed a dress rehearsal and there are costumes and the stage still to be finished.

Some schools have cancelled their plays or rearranged them to after Christmas. We feel that this is a hugely important event that the children have worked hard with and should go ahead. The staff feel that we can be ready for the play on Thursday afternoon, but **we are unable to go ahead with the play tomorrow morning**. We understand that you may have made arrangements with relatives to come and watch the play and we apologise for the change in date. We have rescheduled it to Monday 18th December 9.30am.

So the Christmas play by Preschool, EYFS and KS1 will now be:

**Thursday 14th December 1.30 pm**  
**Monday 18th December 9.30am**

Any tickets issued for tomorrow, Wednesday 13th December, will be valid on Monday 18th December.

We are also endeavouring to put arrangements in place for the Christmas Fair to take place this Friday afternoon for the children and from 3.30 - 4.30pm for parents. All the information that we sent out in the



previous communications regarding Santa's grotto and children bringing money in a named purse or envelope still apply. Please come and support the hard work of the children and the Friends of Manor Way.

So the dates are:

Thursday 14th December	KS1 Nativity Play 1.30pm (as planned)
Thursday 14th December	Parent Forum meeting 3.30pm in the conservatory
Friday 15th December	Christmas fair 3.30pm - 4.30pm (new date)
Monday 18th December	KS1 Nativity Play 9.30am (new date)
Monday 18th December	Christmas dinner
Monday 18th December	Christmas show for whole school
Tuesday 19th December	Christmas parties and party clothes Sammy teapot
Tuesday 19th December	Sammy Teapot Christmas entertainer for EYFS and KS1
Wednesday 20th December	Christmas jumper and jeans day with festive headwear
Wednesday 20th December	Carols around the tree on the playground 2.30pm

Thank you for your continuing support during this unprecedented weather.

Regards

Lisa Buffery  
Headteacher