

7 February 2012

Dear Parents

February snow is once again causing consternation, and while we all enjoyed the snowball fights, snowman building and sledging on Sunday, weekdays are another story altogether. As I write, the temperature is already below freezing and is predicted to fall to minus 8°C. This means that the slushy snow has turned to treacherous ice and is making driving and walking potentially dangerous. In order to make 'the best of a bad situation', the following arrangements have been put in place:

- As much as possible, all Kingshott roads and walkways will be gritted;
- Prep-Prep children are to be dropped off as usual, with parents using the cottage and nursery car parks;
- No parent is to use the staff car park, either to park or drop off their child (use drop off zone only);
- Years 3 to 8 children may be dropped off using either the main entrance or the 'new' road;
- Years 3 to 8 children may be dropped off from 8.00am, and they are to go straight to the Gym. Staff will supervise them until 8.30am;
- Mrs Gilmour or I will be at the 'new' road entrance from 8.00am where you may drop off your child. They will then walk up to school. A 'Stop and Drop' will be in operation so please be aware of other vehicles;
- Years 3 to 8 children are not to go onto the hard court area outside the Ashbrook, because it is frozen - this has been cordoned off with hazard tape and is out of bounds;
- Children will not be permitted to play on any hard areas until the ice has melted;
- Children may arrive up to 9.00am and will not be registered as late.
- All after school collection should be done through the main entrance ('new' road will be closed).

I have been surprised by the number of children arriving at school ill-prepared for the weather. I offer the following 'commonsense' suggestions:

- Children should wear rubber soled boots to and from school, and during breaks. School shoes must still be brought to school to be worn indoors;
- Children must wear their regulation Kingshott coats and beanies (there is no excuse for children arriving at school wearing 'home coats, jackets or beanies');
- Children should wear gloves, a jumper or cardigan and bring a spare pair of socks in case they get wet.

I would like to thank parents who have been tolerant and who understand that sometimes things are beyond the school's control. We are doing the best we can, and I am most grateful to the Site Services Team who worked especially hard early yesterday morning to clear the roads.

Please exercise extreme caution whether driving a car or walking around school. Encourage your child to be sensible and not do anything that may, potentially, harm them or others.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Iain Gilmour
Headmaster