

11.1.10

**Snow Closure**

Dear Parents,

We are very sorry that once again we have had to close the school. We have worked hard since last Thursday to clear the site and make it safe for all. We have had a tractor in to clear the staff car park and the turning circle, Mr and Mrs Dodds ( Mr Dodds caretaker) have spent hours clearing the site and myself and husband put almost 3 hours in helping on Saturday. On Sunday evening the site was ready except for the school drive which was still covered in snow and difficult to negotiate. We kept our fingers crossed that the promised snow would not come.

This morning it was with dismay I saw at 1.30am then again at 5.30am when I got up that indeed the snow had arrived! I tried to get to school at 6.30am but had to return home as my car would not cope with the snow. I checked with teachers from Worcester and Bromsgrove and they also had the same problems. Mr and Mrs Dodds started clearing at 6.15am but by 7.15am had only done a small proportion of what was needed.

The assessment of the roads around the school was also done and armed with all that information it was with great angst I decided to close the school. At 7.15am the radio stations and our website manager were informed that the school was closed. .

Please be assured that we wish to open as soon as we can. We are concerned that the children are missing school and that it is causing problems for you with work and child care.

Rest assured that we will open as soon as it is safe to do so. It is a bigger picture than just opening the doors as no doubt you all appreciate.

I have been able to contact a contractor with snow clearing machinery which will help us clear the site quickly. But...when to do it is the question? We could do it later today for a cost and then be in the same situation tomorrow with more snow expected. We are listening to weather reports constantly.

I know how annoying it is not to know what is going on so I hope this letter helps. I would like to reiterate once again we are not being complacent about this situation and we are trying our hardest to resolve a situation which is out of our control.

Once the school is open and up and running, we hope to put in place a list of parent volunteers to help us clear the site quickly should the same conditions occur in the future. I am worried that it will be detrimental to Mr Dodds' health if he has to do the whole site once again.!

Thank you in anticipation of your understanding.

Yours sincerely

Bronwen Biggs

Deputy Headteacher