



HOLYWELL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

SCHOOL ROAD, RUBERY, BIRMINGHAM B45 9EY

Worcestershire County Council

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Headteacher: Mrs F Millett B.Ed (Hons)

BB/TW

12th January

SNOW CLOSURE

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you to all those parents who have been very supportive to the school during the last week. We know it can not have been easy for many of you balancing child care and work. I would like to assure you that the decision to close on any day was not taken lightly.

It was necessary to close the school until this morning due to the conditions of the site, the roads around the school and the road conditions for many members of staff on their journeys to school.

Mr Dodds (Acting Caretaker) and Mrs Dodds have worked incredibly hard each day since the snow began to ensure the site is safe. On Sunday evening the site was as clear as it was today. It was so unfortunate that Rubery had such a downfall of snow during the early hours of Monday morning - I watched it fall with dismay!

Fortunately, we have found a contractor who has snow clearing machinery who worked for 3 hours yesterday afternoon with Mr Dodds to get the site back to the state it was in on Sunday - I think that tells us what a big site this is for one caretaker to clear.

Listening to the weather forecast we may be in for more snow tonight and tomorrow. I cannot see how our decisions about closing will change if this happens. Our newly found contractor is on hand to come in to clear the snow as soon as possible but, if there is a further heavy fall of snow it will not be possible to clear the site in time before school.



We will continue to keep you informed about snow closures via the website and radio stations. We will try hard to ensure you know our decision as soon as we can.

Rubery and surrounding area seems to have a strange micro climate all of its own. I've been teaching here for many years and if there is no snow in Northfield for example, I have learnt that doesn't guarantee there is no snow in Rubery. There are many things to consider with a school of 430 Primary Aged children who require a certain level of supervision, these are the top 4:

- can an adequate number of staff get to school
- can the children get to school safely
- can the staff park safely
- can adequate pathways be made in time around the school for safe walking

Perhaps in the future we could have a bank of parent volunteers that we could call on to help clear snow, if this situation occurs again. If you are willing, please fill in the slip below and send it into school. I will discuss this with the Governing Body at our next meeting.

I hope this has gone some way to helping you all understand why we have made the decisions we have.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs B Biggs
Deputy Headteacher

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SNOW CLEARING VOLUNTEER

NAME OF CHILD:

CLASS:

I WOULD BE WILLING TO COME TO SCHOOL TO HELP CLEAR SNOW.

I HAVE/HAVE NOT GOT A SNOW CLEARING SHOVEL THAT I CAN BRING.

Signed..... Date:.....