

**Werrington Primary School**  
**Newsletter February 2009**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I wish to start by thanking you all for your co-operation regarding yesterday and children going home early.

The decision to take such action was considered carefully and made at a time when extreme weather advisories had been issued. The message coming from local agencies supported the view that between 1pm and 5pm significant snow/wintry weather would affect Peterborough. Given everything we knew regarding the Eastern region and nationally, severe weather was being experienced and the potential impact on us was real. Providing the opportunity for pupils to be collected earlier than the normal time was deemed to be appropriate and measured given everything we knew at that time.

We do appreciate that this situation can cause all sorts of issues for families. Particular issues do arise and we constantly review procedures in the light of significant events.

There are a number of issues that have come to light and aspects that school will attempt to resolve, there are also general points that I wish to clarify.

1. In previous communications we have referred to Hereward FM as a source of school closure/announcements. This radio station is now known as **Heart FM** broadcasting on 102.7FM.
2. The school website is a reliable source of information however you will need to consider regular monitoring or refreshing the web page to be able to see any changes that have been made.
3. We do appreciate the need to make announcements in a timely fashion and where at all possible this will be done.
4. The school office will not be able to ring parents directly given the numbers of calls required in addition to it being impossible to know which parents did or didn't know from other information sources.
5. Please do make contact with us if you are unable to access radio or internet particularly if weather conditions are forecast to be or appear to be poor. This is perhaps most relevant to families where children get themselves to school.
6. Please do sign up for our email correspondence, the most useful email to identify will be one that can be accessed from your work place or mobile/PDA/phone, so you have the greatest chance of receiving the communication. Web Mail based email can be established free of charge with internet service providers, Yahoo, Google at Hotmail are just some of the options.
7. Communication between School's Out and the school will ensure that pupils under their care are provided for and appropriate communication with parents takes place.

The decision to not open or close the school early is based upon many factors which are unique to the particular set of circumstances we face. **It is vital that assumptions are not made regarding how school will respond to future situations.** If in doubt check reliable sources of information or make contact with the school office.

### **Fund Raising**

Some of our Year 6 pupils have organised a cake sale for Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February to raise funds for the Special Baby Care Unit at Peterborough District Hospital. They will be baking in preparation for this event and would appreciate additional cakes to sell. If you are able to help please do send in your cakes (Fairy cakes would be very appropriate but any donations will be gratefully received) on the day in clearly marked storage containers. The cake sale will be at the end of the day outside - weather permitting, which we hope will enable parents and children to buy from the cake stall.

Thank you for your assistance and continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Ben Wilding  
Headteacher