



PARENTS NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2016

Welcome to Agasthya

Badger class have welcomed Agasthya into KS2. We look forward to getting to know you Agasthya.

Emergency closure routines

At this point in every school year I send a reminder about our emergency closure arrangements. Most years we manage to avoid closure but the variety of localities our pupils come from means that some transport routes become unmanageable. Your transport providers will decide if specific routes are too hazardous. The decision about school closure is based on local school conditions and especially safety prior to and on site. They may be different to your local conditions but please be assured that we make every effort to keep our school up and running.

In the case of complete or partial closure announcements are made on local radio – BBC Radio Cambridgeshire (details can also be found on their website) Heart Radio and Star FM; details are also available through the County Council website (www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

Although not a requirement we endeavour to notify all transport providers. For pupils who are transported by their parent to school the form tutor will be asked to call as soon as we know the situation.

A closure notice will also be posted on the school website (www.granta.cambs.sch.uk)

If the school is open when there is snow in the area we keep a close eye on the forecast and make an assessment as to the safety for transporting pupils home. If it is determined that the school needs to close early we will contact the transport and also all families to ensure that there is a person available to meet their child on arrival. The County Council website does update the school status during the day with information about early closures etc. The local radio stations also try to announce any changes when they get them so please keep listening.

Harvest Festival

Thank you very much for all your gifts and donations to Jimmy's Shelter. They will all be put to very good use.

Pokemon Go

Attached is some guidance on this game craze which you might find useful.

Teacher changes

Separate letters have gone out to those classes affected but I wanted to take this opportunity to say a public goodbye to Katie Black, who has just completed her first year in teaching, and who has decided to spend time abroad from January.

Katie works part time and Sandra, primary department teacher, has decided to take that opportunity to move from primary to work part time with older students. So we are not saying goodbye to Sandra but wish her well with this new challenge. The primary children will still see her on some days of the week and in the meantime we are recruiting a replacement teacher for her primary class.

iPads

We now have a good number of iPads available in school for pupils to use in lessons and also for some pupils to use as communication tools. We need to move over to a central service for updating and maintaining these now that the number has grown so considerably. To enable that, all iPads will be away from school in the New Year. I apologise for inconvenience to pupils during this time.

Emails from the office

From Monday 12 December we will be using a central emailing service that does not require yearly confirmation from parents. You will receive a letter from school next week regarding this. I hope that you will find it helpful and if you have any queries or questions, or you would like to receive emails and find you are not doing so, please contact Ann Badcock on office@granta.cambs.sch.uk or by calling school on 01223 896890

Best wishes
Lucie