



Windermere Primary School

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Newsletter 8



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new term. Following our very mild Christmas weather the thermometer has definitely dropped this week. Whilst we encourage the children to burn off some energy at lunchtime, there is a KS2 classroom available for children to go into if they get too cold and if we think that the KS1 children are getting too cold outside we bring them back indoors for some 'wet play'.

However it is really important that your child comes to school with a coat and gloves, not to mention a jumper or cardigan and long socks, tights or trousers. Some of the girls are wearing ankle socks still, which really isn't suitable in this very cold weather.

Don't forget that the children are allowed to wear dark coloured tracksuits for outdoor PE so that they keep warm. School tracksuits are available to order from the office.

Football

The football team have had a super start to the new term with a 5-2 win against St Peter's School. This victory is particularly sweet because at our last encounter they beat us 5-2.

Car Park

Please remember that the car park is only for staff unless you have made specific arrangements with the school. Recently a few parents have been encouraging their children to climb over the fence into the car park so that they are saved the trouble of walking around the school. As a result some other children have been copying this and climbing over the fence and then running across the car park. I cannot emphasize enough how dangerous this action is – staff and visitors leaving at the end of the day could easily reverse into a child crossing the car park. The children are well aware that they are not allowed into the car park, please do not encourage them to break the rules.



Good Food Club

You should have received a letter today explaining about the Good Food Club. Look out for it and help your child to complete the tasks in their first challenge.

Supporting Your Child with IT

Have you logged in to Wordsmith and checked out your child's latest Literacy book? There are lots of opportunities for you to support your child with the help of the school's various IT subscriptions, why not take time to have a look this weekend?

School Admissions

As existing parents, you will hopefully not be surprised to hear that an ever increasing number of parents are applying to Windermere for their children to start in Reception. The number of applications has tripled over the past four years. For me this is a recognition not only of the hard work and commitment of the staff, but also an acknowledgement of our delightful pupils, particularly our Year 6s, who were our guides for our open days.

Parents and Toddlers

On Wednesday mornings we welcome parents, their babies and toddlers, aka future Windermere pupils, to our parent and toddler group. Led by our Family Worker, Mrs Thorpe, the group play games and sing songs whilst parents have a chance to relax and share with others. Why not come along and meet some new friends?

Snow Problems

The flurry of snow last weekend may have been the only snow that we see this season, but if it is not, you can find out whether the snow will prevent the school opening in the following ways:

- Internet: www.hertsdirect.org will contain information about the closure status of all schools in Hertfordshire. This can also be accessed from the front page of the Windermere website.
- Text: We will send a text to all parents for whom we have up to date mobile phone numbers. If you have recently changed your telephone number, then you should check that the office has your current mobile number listed.
- Radio: Three Counties Radio will include information about school closures during their broadcasts.

We never close the school without a good reason, but if there should be a snowfall during term time it may be necessary to close the school if we are unable to provide a safe environment for the children. This includes not having sufficient staff on site to provide an adequate level of supervision.

If the weather changes dramatically during the course of the school day, we are sometimes obliged to close early to ensure that everyone – children and staff – can get home safely. If this looks possible, then please look out for notification of an early closure on your mobile phones.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. D. Raftery
Headteacher