



PARENTS NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2017

As we begin the half term lead up to Christmas we have lots of dates for your diaries. I look forward to seeing you in school soon:

Saturday 2 December	Christmas Fayre 1:30 – 4:00
Tuesday 12 December	Primary Performance 2:00
Thursday 14 December	Secondary Performance 10:00

For pupils only:

Thursday 14 December	6 th Form Christmas Lunch
Friday 15 December	Christmas Lunch

Wheelchair clinic consultation

Please can I encourage all families who have contact with the wheelchair service to take this opportunity to help build improvements for the future? If your child is a wheelchair user you should already have received a fuller leaflet but just in case you haven't done so there is a Wheelchair User Forum being held at Papworth Village Hall on Friday 24 November 11am – 1pm. For information please call Graham on 0300 111 2301 or email Graham@cambridgeshirealliance.org.uk

Expectant mums at school

We are once again delighted that a few staff are expecting babies and so please do let us know if your child has had contact with any infectious illnesses so that we can take sensible internal precautions. This will not affect your child's return to school once the period of infectious incubation has passed.

Parent Governor elections

We would welcome an additional parent governor onto our highly effective and committed governing body. We can offer training, a warm welcome and the opportunity to help make the decisions that guide our school. In return we need a termly commitment to at least one evening meeting. We will soon be sending fuller letters out and I hope that you will consider joining our team.

Advance notice

We are hoping to run a parent evening group to learn British Sign Language again in the New Year. I will send more information on the next newsletter.

Camsight questionnaire

Camsight is an organisation which supports children and young people in Cambridgeshire who are visually impaired. They have asked me the following:

To gain a greater understanding of the needs of children and young people with low vision and blindness we are asking schools to distribute our survey to students or parents/guardians. I have attached a link below to the online version of our survey to this email. We would really appreciate if there is a way this could be sent out via a mailing list for those with low vision and blindness or their parents to complete:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/N7RBGC2>

Emergency closure procedures

And finally, as the nights draw in and the weather begins to make the news, the following is a reminder of our emergency closure procedures:

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.

Best wishes
Lucie