



FAMILY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2019

Highlights this month

Term began for staff the week prior to pupils and we enjoyed 2 training days together focussed on water activities. Even though pupils have only been back a few weeks we have already provided a drama and dance year 7 project and internal sports panathlons. Pupils have really embraced the opportunities of New Year resolutions presented in assemblies and are helping me to improve my signing around the school, my personal resolution shared with them. We use sign supported English at Granta, which is British Sign Language to accompany spoken language. There are a wealth of resources available on line: if your child enjoys and uses sign language please do take a look with them at the games you can play together. Try this for finger spelling practice!

<https://www.signlanguageforum.com/bsl/fingerspelling/fingerspelling-game/>

News from FOGS (Friends of Granta School)

A huge thank you from all the children for the wonderful panto opportunity and Christmas outings and treats that were provided by FOGS from the money raised by you, our parents, at the events planned by the committee and from kind benefactors. None of these experiences would be possible from central school funds. There is an opportunity to meet your tireless committee at their next meeting, here, at school on 6th February at 4pm.

Don't forget, FOGS will be running their popular school disco in February (date to be confirmed). Students must be accompanied by a trusted adult

A reminder about emergency closure procedures

Finally, as we expect the first sign of snow this week, it seems timely to ensure that all our new families are aware of our emergency closure procedures although I very much hope they won't be needed this year.

If you are a family from Suffolk or Essex then please tune/connect your radio/laptop/iPad and phone to the Cambridgeshire stations. We do not have the capacity or passwords to make announcements on your more local stations. Please listen to: BBC Radio Cambridgeshire/Heart Radio 103 and 102.7/Star 107 FM Radio.

Whilst we will make every effort to contact transport providers, you will appreciate that it takes a considerable amount of time to contact them all individually and so please use the radio and Cambridgeshire County Council website (www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk) as your main points of reference.

We will also put a message on our school website but we are very unlikely to be able to alter our telephone voice mail so please do NOT rely on the phone lines. If the site is so inaccessible as to not have pupils in, then staff will not be attending either.

School open but worried your child's route is unsafe?

We are a popular school and as such we have pupils coming in daily from a very wide range of destinations. We will only close the school if the site itself or the immediate vicinity (towards Haverhill or the city centre) is impassable or if we receive notice that too many staff are snowed in so that we cannot safely staff the school.

It may well be the case that school is open (with timetable changes) but your child's particular route has different conditions. In those circumstances you should liaise directly with your child's transport provider to make decisions about suitability of journeys or not and let us know if your child will be absent. Thank you.

Best wishes

Lucie