

Monday 18<sup>th</sup>. November

Dear Parents,

## Snow/Bad Weather

The school's priority is always the pupils' safety. All decisions are taken around that concern. Unfortunately, we are expecting some very poor weather and are hoping that school will not be too disrupted by the snow. During the winter months, when bad weather can be expected, our first priority is to ensure that the school site is safe and surrounding roads are passable. The paths in school are gritted and cleared, and for safety reasons we do not allow any form of snowballing.

However, there may be extreme circumstances when it is necessary to close the school. I would only take that decision if the children's and staffs' safety are put at risk because:

- There are not enough staff in school because of unexpected snow/weather conditions
- The weather makes it too dangerous for staff and children to travel to school
- The grounds are too dangerous
- The heating/hot water is not working
- School dinners are not available

I will try to make a decision about school closure as soon as possible and will inform parents through parentmail (although in high levels of demand this can often be slower than we would normally expect), messages on the school website <u>www.buckstones.oldham.sch.uk</u>, with notices around school, Tapestry and the Local Authority who update their website. Please can you ensure we have up to date contact details and have signed up for parentmail to ensure you receive any news as soon as possible.

If conditions deteriorate during the day, or bad weather is forecast when the pupils would be going home, I may inform parents via parentmail, Tapestry and the school website that they can collect their child from school early.

Extracurricular activities may be cancelled when the weather is poor too. We will contact parents via parentmail.

Delamere Avenue, Shaw, Oldham OL2 8HN Tel 0161 770 5850 Fax 0161 770 5851 Before and After School Club 0161 770 5849 Headteacher: Miss S.E. Healey B.Ed. (Hons) M.Ed. OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH



During the winter period if it is safe to do so the children will spend some time outside playing in the snow. This means the children need wellingtons, boots or sturdy shoes plus a change of footwear and spare socks for inside. Also ensure your child is well wrapped up with thick coat, hat, gloves and scarves. It can get very cold on our playgrounds.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Healey

Miss Sarah Healey