 Westgarth Primary School 01642 485560

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**Friday 18th January 2019**

Dear Families,

**Parentmail**

A huge thank you to the 95% of families who have now signed up to Parentmail. Whilst we are already able to email 98% of families, signing up to a Parentmail account offers many other advantages, including completion of online forms, and online payments when we introduce this option after half term. 58% of families have also downloaded the Parentmail app, allowing easier access on the move! Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you need any assistance or have questions regarding Parentmail, and we will be more than happy to help.

**Adverse weather protocol**

In light of yesterday’s flurry of snow, here is a reminder of our adverse weather protocol. As you are aware, we will always make every attempt to keep school open in the event of poor weather, but our first concern is the safety of both children and staff. We would only ever close school or send children home if it was felt to be unsafe to remain open, due to staff ratios being inadequate, or if there was a problem keeping the building physically safe. Also, please be assured that children would **not** be sent home early from our school unless an adult from the contact list was informed and safe arrangements were ensured for children.

However, please note the procedure across Redcar and Cleveland for informing parents and the local community about school closures. In the case of severe weather, the council website would be regularly updated [www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/alerts](http://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/alerts). The website information would then be used to inform other means of communication: [www.facebook.com/rcbcalerts](http://www.facebook.com/rcbcalerts), Twitter @rcbcalerts Our own twitter account, Parentmail and the PFA Facebook page would be used to disseminate information, as well as the message line on the school’s answer machine.

The default setting is that school will be open as normal.

In the event of icy or snowy weather, children need to come to school in wellingtons or boots, as we will take the children outside to enjoy the snow if there is no compacted ice.

If ground conditions are slippery, Mr Woodhouse tries to ensure that a pathway is cleared and gritted on main routes in and out of school, but we do ask parents and children to be careful and allow a little extra time to arrive at school safely.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Woodhead

Headteacher