

Coats and Winter Clothes – please could all children bring appropriate winter clothes to school – a warm coat, gloves etc. There are a few children with lightweight summer anoraks etc. which aren't really 'cutting it' in the snow and ice, and some with no coat at all. Please ensure your child is suitably 'snuggled up' to face the cold. Thank you.

Naming Items – sticking with the clothes theme – please could you all ensure every item of clothing is named with *your child's* name (even if inherited from others!). This really helps us, particularly with younger children who seem to have a talent for mixing everything up!

Sweet Treats – Year 6 have been doing lots of practical maths with sweets recently; they have been 'bagging and tagging' pick and mix, and will be selling these at a great price at the carol services for school funds – 20p a bag or 6 for a pound!

Parking – a reminder that the car park is for staff only. In particular, it is imperative that the main blue gates to the Reception outdoor area are kept clear at all times for emergency access. Please do not allow your children to walk unaccompanied through the car park either at starts and ends of days.

Road Safety – it has been Road Safety Week on station this month, and we have been working with the team on base who were running this to ensure everyone contributes to making camp a safe place for all. Please give careful consideration to your part in this; whether that's teaching your children how to ride their bikes appropriately, driving slowly and carefully, walking on pavements or modelling road safety – we all have a part to play. Thank you.

Appropriate viewing – we've had a few incidents recently in which pupils have been accessing content and material which is entirely inappropriate for their age; this has included horror movies, computer games, and Youtube / online videos. Obviously this causes concern not only for the child who may be accessing these, but also for the other pupils with whom the child may discuss the content. Please supervise your children's use of devices, TV etc. to ensure that they are only accessing age appropriate content. To help with this, we have a parents' online safety event on *9th Feb at 2:15pm*, run by our local Police Community Support Officer; letters to follow in the new year. Thank you for your support.

Teachers' Emails – a quick reminder that all our teaching staff have a school email account which can be used if you wish to contact the class teacher, but are unable to speak to them before / after school. This may be particularly relevant to working parents whose children go to after school care. If you wish to email your class teacher, simply call the office who can provide their email address. Please note, these should only be used for 'low level' communications; if you have concerns / worries requiring lengthier discussion, please make an appointment to speak to the teacher.

Medication – please ensure all medication is brought to the school office and accompanied by the relevant forms. Sending drugs / medications in children's bags is unsafe and they cannot be administered without the appropriate processes being followed. Thank you.

Snow Closures – a reminder to parents that if weather conditions are severe, the school may be closed. Obviously, in our context, the majority of children may well be able to walk to school, but we have staff who travel in from all over the area – Darlington, Richmond, Catterick, the Yorkshire Dales, Thirsk etc. Unfortunately, if staff are unable to safely get to school, we are unable to remain open. Obviously, we seek to avoid this if at all possible, but it can happen. In such an instance, parents will be notified by text message, and BBC Radio York will broadcast the status of the closure.

And Finally...

A quick note re: the Station shut down. We are aware that the station shuts down on the last Tuesday of our term, whilst we continue to be in school until Friday (which the staff all say is very unfair!). *Please do not* remove your children early to travel etc., as we cannot authorise these absences I'm afraid. Instead, why not make the most of the 'free time' without your children to do that last bit of Christmas shopping, or enjoy a nice day out?! Here's to December...!

Best regards,



Rob Campbell
Headteacher