



1 March 2018

Dear Parents

A PLEA FOR HELP!

Firstly, thank you so much for your patience and understanding over the closure of our school this week. As I have said, these decisions are never taken lightly and my immediate thoughts are always for the health and safety of our families and staff, which I am sure you appreciate.

Mr Evans and I braved the weather this morning and managed to get into school to assess the site and the roads going in and out of Cliffe Woods.

The B2000 was 'interesting' and View Road and Merryboys were most definitely hazardous, so I feel the decision to close today was very much the right one.

On arriving to school, Mr Evan's car became stuck in the snow at the front gates of the school. When I got out of the car, it was obvious why - the snow was almost up to my knees! After defrosting the gate lock, thanks to Mrs Stephens and her kettle, we managed to get into school. Thankfully, the freezing temperatures had not affected the heating and it was positively 'toasty.'

On further inspection, the playgrounds were, as I am sure you can imagine, treacherous. Key Stage 2 playground was blowing a blizzard!

In this morning's message, I said that you would be notified about whether school would be open tomorrow by 8 pm this evening. Looking at the forecasts (currently!) the snow seems to be easing off, with the temperature still staying low, but rising ever so gradually over the next couple of days.

Although it seems that at the moment the snow situation is improving, this doesn't help with the state of the site.

Therefore, we have decided that we will remain closed tomorrow. However, I would like to reach out and ask for volunteers to come in tomorrow from 10 am to help us clear enough of the site to open safely on Monday.

We have a huge tea urn so there will be plenty of hot drinks – I also thought (at the sole responsibility of parents) those that are helping might want to bring their children to play on the field, which is completely untouched!

I foresee that operation 'Clear Cliffe Woods' would take no more than a couple of hours with enough people! I do completely understand if you cannot help, but for those of you who could it would be fantastic – a real sense of community pulling together!

If you are able to help please email admin@cliffewoods.medway.sch.uk to let us know, so we know how many people to expect and who is able to kindly lend us a hand.

If, for any reason, this plan changes we will notify you by Schoolcomms.

Many thanks in advance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Muggridge'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

Mr T Muggridge
Headteacher

PS Don't forget your snow shovels!

CLIFFE
WOODS
PRIMARY SCHOOL



VIEW ROAD, CLIFFE WOODS
ROCHESTER, KENT, ME3 8UJ
TEL: (01634) 220822
e-mail: admin@cliffewoods.medway.sch.uk
website: www.cliffewoods.medway.sch.uk