



Crossways, Berkhamsted, Herts, HP4 3NH Tel: 01442 866249 Fax: 01442 874252

Head Teacher: Katharine Ellwood

Dear Parents

School Closure

Further to our letter sent on 12 December and to our recent text today, we are writing to inform you that school will be closed to pupils until the new year.

Electricians arrived on site at 2.45pm today. They have carried out a number of investigations and have determined that there is a major fault with cables running from the meter cupboard into the school. These cables will need replacing.

We had hoped that it might prove possible to secure a generator today, but in fact this will not be available until some time on Wednesday and will then need to be installed. As a result of this and on the advice of the electricians we have taken the very difficult decision to close the school.

Staff have been in school today hoping, like you, that school could re-open before the end of term so that we could all enjoy the Christmas celebrations. Although we have had no heating in school we have had one room with electricity and have continued to prepare for the childrens' return. We are extremely grateful to all staff for their support and in particular to John Rapson (our site manager) for his hard work, particularly over the weekend.

The carol service tomorrow for Years 4, 5 and 6 is now cancelled but we are hoping for this to be rescheduled for Wednesday 6 January 2016 (Twelfth Night) at 2pm. We will confirm this shortly.

We appreciate that the re-scheduled Year 5 Assembly was due to take place tomorrow – this will take place in the new year on a date to be confirmed.

Clearly we will not be having a Christmas meal this year – reimbursements will be made to any children who normally have packed lunches who had requested a meal.

Teachers will be in school on Thursday morning. If you would like to come to school via your child's classroom door with your child between **9am-10am on Thursday** to collect PE bags, Christmas cards etc, teachers would love to have the opportunity to wish your children a happy Christmas.

We are so sorry that we are in this position and the inconvenience that this may have caused you – you will appreciate that it is something which is completely outside our control. We do understand how difficult this situation is for many of you and we are grateful to you for your support and understanding.

May we take this opportunity of wishing you a merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Your sincerely,

Katharine Ellwood Headteacher

Elizabeth O'Reilly Chair of Governors