

Headline:

The dark nights have closed in on us and adverse weather may be just around the corner. With this in mind, I thought it wise to remind you of our Extreme Weather Policy.

In the event of extreme winter weather, we will do everything we possibly can to remain open. Communication is key in such circumstances. Should we experience any extreme winter weather, we will communicate our plans with you via text, the school website homepage and our twitter feed. If the school cannot open, this will also be communicated on local radio stations. In such circumstances, please do not ring the school telephone as these lines must be kept clear for school leaders to communicate with staff and other agencies.

Should it snow, it may be sensible and practical for us to focus our attention on clearing one of the three entrances onto the school site. Again, if this is the case, we will communicate it with you. Our policy states that *'if the school is open and there is heavy snow, staff will focus their attention on clearing the entrance to the school via Byron Road'*.

If there is snow, pupils will only be allowed out to play during the school day if they have a warm coat and a change of socks, shoes and trousers. If there is snow, school leaders will decide whether it is safe or not for children to play outside.

If we have to close the school, we would do so because of one of the following reasons:

- Inadequate heating
- No meals available
- No water available
- Insufficient supervision
- Whether there is likely to be a change to circumstances that will impact on the above

If the school has to close early, under no circumstances will children be allowed to leave without an adult. Only parents or a person named as an emergency contact will be allowed to collect a child.

According to forecasts, the relatively warm

October has historically signalled a cold winter, although this has been less of a trend in the past 20 years.

Mr Carthy

News

After registering in the summer term for the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Award, Byron began the journey to completing the first of the three stages of the award. The Recognition of Commitment stage requires the whole school community to be informed and provide evidence that we are committed to working towards the goal together. Becoming a Rights Respecting School is about young people and the school community working together to learn about children's rights, putting them into practice every day. 'Unicef works with schools in the UK to create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children are respected, their talents are nurtured and they are able to thrive. The Rights Respecting Schools Award embeds these values in daily school life and gives children the best chance to lead happy, healthy lives and to be responsible, active citizens.'

We are pleased to announce the news we received this week –

Congratulations! I am pleased to award Byron Primary School with a Recognition of Commitment.

Staff and children are very proud of what we have achieved so far and we are now working towards the Level 1 stage. We will keep you informed of the work we are doing regularly but you can also find more information about the award on the UNICEF RRSA website. Keep an eye on the school website too as it will soon be updated to include the official logo and information.

Christmas Fayre – Thursday 7th December

Urgent help needed with refreshments at the school fayre. Please contact the office if you are able to help. Thank You.

Coming Soon

KS1 Production to Parents
Tuesday 5th December, 9.30am and 2.30pm

Christmas Fayre
Thursday 7th December

Foundation Stage Nativity to Parents
Tuesday 12th December, 9.30am and 2.45pm

Wednesday 13th December Christmas Dinner
and Class Parties

Christmas Jumper Tag Day for MENCAP
Friday 15th December

Church Service at St Augustine's
Tuesday 19th December 9.30am

Term Dates 2017/18

Term 2
Tuesday 31st October 2017
until
Tuesday 19th December 2017

Term 3
Monday 8th January 2018
until
Friday 9th February 2018

Term 4
Monday 19th February 2018
until
Thursday 29th March 2018

Term 5
Monday 16th April 2018
until
Friday 25th May 2018

Term 6
Tuesday 5th June 2018
until
Wednesday 25th July 2018

Term Dates 2018/2019

Term 1
Tuesday 4th September 2018
until
Friday 19th October 2018

Uniform

A navy blue jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan.
Navy, black or grey trousers, tailored shorts, skirt or dress/navy and white checked dress. A white or blue polo shirt, shirt or blouse. Flat plain black shoes or trainers (no heels or open toes).
www.tesco.com/ues



The Westbrook Trust
Achieve together

Class Museums

On Thursday 14th December from 14:50 to 15:20 the parents of the children in Years 3 and 4 are being invited to visit the "Class Museums" to look at the work that the children have done on "Awesome Egyptians".

Lost Property

Has your child lost a pair of spectacles? We now have a growing collection of reading glasses in the office – please check that your child has not misplaced their glasses. You would be welcome to come along to the School Office and check.

Reminders

Breakfast and After School Club

If you are interested in sending your child to the club, please ask for details at the school office.

Breakfast Club starts at 07:40 and is £3.50 including breakfast. After School Club starts at 15.30. Children may be booked in for either one or two hours after school at a cost of £3.50 per hour – this includes a drink, a 'packet' snack and fruit.

Health & Wellbeing

Remember – these are the healthy snacks we recommend for junior breaktime snacks. (Years R, 1 and 2 receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable every school day through the School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme).

- Fruit
- Snacking vegetables such as carrots
- Cracker based snacks such as
- Mini Cheddars or Dunkers
- Rice Cakes
- Fruit bars (no nuts)
- Cereal bars (no nuts)
- Yoghurts
- A small sandwich (separate to any packed lunch items)
- Any other packet snack with a saturated fat content no higher than 10%

Headlice

Please check your child's hair regularly. This is a problem in all schools and we need your help to reduce the re-occurrences.

Sickness and diarrhoea - Tips on dealing with Norovirus

- Drink plenty of fluids to avoid dehydration, and even more than you usually do to replace fluids. Try something like **Dioralyte** to rehydrate.
- If you are finding it difficult to drink fluids because you feel so sick, try just taking small frequent sips

of either water, squash or a fruit juice.

- Take paracetamol for fever and aching.
- Stay at home until 48 hours after the symptoms have passed as you will still be infectious.
- It's important not to prepare food or have direct contact with others for 48 hours, if possible.
- Wash your hands frequently, don't share towels and disinfect any surfaces you touch as the virus can lurk on these for several days.
- Seek medical advice if babies, small children or the elderly are affected as they may need help being rehydrated.
- Seek medical advice if you already have a serious illness, or if symptoms last more than three days.
- Take a probiotic supplement as this offers some protection against diarrhoea infections.

In The Community

Rochester Christmas Market – 1st December, 12 noon-8pm; 2nd-3rd December, 10am-7pm; 8th December, 12noon-8pm; 8th December, 12noon-8pm; 9th-10th December, 10am-6pm. Browse stalls for gifts, sample delights of the Bavarian food village and listen to the bandstand performers. Visit the funfair – rides on Fridays are only £1 per person.

Dickensian Christmas Festival – Rochester Castle Gardens and Rochester High Street – Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd December, 10am-5pm.

A Victorian themed celebration – costumed characters, parades, carols, stalls, reindeer and lots of festive shopping and guaranteed snow!!

St Augustine's Christmas Services

Parish Eucharist with Nativity – 10am, Sunday 17th December and then at 6.30pm Nine Lessons and Carols Service. Family Carols by candlelight – Sunday 24th December, 6pm and then at 11.30pm, Midnight Mass. Family Eucharist – Monday 25th December, 10am.

Pat on the Back

The class with the best attendance for week beginning 20th November was once again 3K with a 99.3%. Very well done. 3/4T had one late pupil last week and 98.3% of children arrived on time.

Inclusions this week

- Prayer Space in School Letter
- Foundation Stage Christmas Production Tickets

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, achieving equal opportunities and combating discrimination

Head Teacher: Mr Carthy

Deputy Heads: Mrs Langthorne (4-7 year olds) and Mr Chantler (7-11 year olds)

Family Liaison Officer: Mrs Vella

Inclusion Manager: Mrs Hill

This school operates a very clear whistleblowing policy for staff