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**COLD WEATHER**

We are fortunate to have a team of very dedicated staff who do their utmost to come into school whatever the weather. At Marlfields we try very hard to not inconvenience parents by closing the school due to bad weather as was proven yesterday (Thursday 1st March). By remaining open working parents weren’t given the headache of having to find last minute childcare, or having to take unpaid leave.

Today our Chair of Governor’s came into school having seen that we (the school) have been harshly criticised on social media for not informing parents earlier that the school was open; were we to have not opened we would have posted an announcement on all of the local radio stations and sent out text messages to all parents - after all we don’t let you know on an ordinary school day that we are open! Below is an excerpt from previous Newsletters.

**Should the decision to close early or to not open because of heavy snow, where possible we will text everyone, and will also place an announcement on the following local radio stations:-**

 **Signal Radio, BBC Radio Stoke or Silk FM**

 ***96.4FM 94.6FM 106.9FM***

We are a public service and it is our duty to endeavour to keep the school running no matter what the weather! We should not be harshly judged for trying to maintain ‘normality’ for our children. As you can see from the photographs children and staff all had a great deal of fun playing out in the snow.

On the subject of this extreme weather please remember each day to send your child into school with a **warm winter coat**, hat, scarf, gloves and sensible shoes. Some children have come into school over the past few days wearing just their tracksuit tops!

 It would be a good idea for the children to have their P.E. kit in school with them every day so that if they get wet they will have something to change into.

Please ensure that you inform the Office of any changes to your telephone numbers so that if we need to text you in the event of an early closure we can ensure that you get the message.

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 ***WORLD BOOK DAY***

Many thanks to all the children who came into school on World Book Day yesterday dressed as their favourite book character. It was lovely to see so much effort, despite the horrendous weather that we had.

As the weather was so awful we decided not to take the children down to WH Smith to redeem their book voucher, instead we sent out some intrepid staff and a couple of volunteers to raid the book shelves to bring back over 100 books! Special thanks to Mrs Bradley and Miss Dokter for volunteering to help out, your help was invaluable.

**WATOTO CHILDREN’S CHOIR**

Last week we were lucky to be entertained by the Watoto Choir from Africa. They are an inspiring children’s choir who perform around the world with their enthusiastic singing. Everyone who came to see them left with smiles on their faces.

**CLASS PHOTOS**

We would like to let you all know that Academy Photography will be in on Tuesday 13th March. Please ensure that your child is wearing their full uniform on that day.

**ADDITIONAL INSET DAY**

Please be aware that we will be having an additional INSET Day on **Wednesday 25th April.** Apologies in advance for any inconvenience that this may cause. This is part of our Primary Writing Project and we are inviting you to a meeting sometime in the future so you can hear what we have actioned to date and ask any questions you may have.

**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2017 - 2018**

 **Last Day In School School Opens**

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| **Easter** | **29.03.18** | **16.04.18** |
| **Half Term** | **25.05.18** | **04.06.18** |
| **Summer Holidays** | **20.07.18****23.07.18****24.07.18****25.07.18****INSET DAYS** |  |