



# Farnham Primary School

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8th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that everyone had a lovely break over the Christmas holiday and a happy New Year. It has been a very difficult start to the new term with the terrible weather, so I wanted to get in touch with parents to update about plans for the rest of the week.

I am aware that closing school poses all kinds of different issues for families. I want you all to know that it is not a decision I take lightly and there are many different factors that are taken into account when coming to such a decision. Namely, how quickly we can make the site safe, how safe the surrounding roads, side streets and paths are and the number of staff able to make it into school as they come from far and wide. Thank you all for your support and cooperation over the past few days.

Our site team has done an amazing job of trying to clear the playgrounds and car park in school but the biggest issue is the forecasted overnight freezing temperatures. The ongoing low temperatures mean that the school site and surrounding areas will freeze again overnight and unfortunately, even if or when the roads are gritted, the grit cannot cope with such freezing temperatures and it is having little or no impact on the ice.

While the main roads are generally clear, the pathways and side streets are full of ice and there is very little space along Farnham Road and Stratford Road for traffic to pass. The roads around school are currently a one track system where cars cannot pass each other with built up snow banks along the roadside. There are still many abandoned cars along Farnham Road and Spencer Road that are preventing the gritters from accessing the full width of the road. Due to the icy pathways, pedestrians are walking on the road which then poses a danger when cars approach.



I briefed teachers yesterday and they have been sending messages to families using the Marvellous Me app for children to access learning activities at home. I know that families are in very different circumstances, but it would be of benefit to your children if they could access this work from home and be encouraged to complete it.

**School will be closed tomorrow, Thursday 9th January 2025 and I will continue to update you all using the Marvellous Me app.**

I thank you so much, as always, for your support and understanding. It is always greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'SK' followed by a long horizontal line.

Mrs S Keenan  
Acting Headteacher