

SCHOOL NEWS

Safer Internet Day | Local Roadworks | Parents' Evening

Winter Weather

We have certainly been challenged by the weather this week! As all our staff were able to get into to school on Wednesday, no more snow was forecast and our site was safe to access, we were able to open for our pupils. There are eight schools in the SK8 cluster and whilst four closed, the other four remained open. Contrary to popular belief - we weren't the only school to open in Stockport. About half of Stockport schools closed in the end.

It is important to remember that a decision to stay open or closed is individual to each school and is informed predominantly by unique circumstances rather than location. Our snow policy is attached to this newsletter and is available on the school website for further information.

http://www.etchells.stockport.sch.uk/serve_file/278066

If you are unable to get to school because of poor weather conditions, we still require you to phone in to report the absence. Our safeguarding procedures remain the same and our first job of every day is to ensure we know the whereabouts of ALL our pupils, whether they are at school or home.

What fun we had.....!

We took full advantage of the snowy conditions and ensured everyone had the opportunity to get outside and enjoy a bit of the white stuff. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and certainly benefitted from the fresh air and snow play. After an hour or so, it was back inside to warm up and business as usual, cracking on with the curriculum. It was a day the children will remember for a long time! My thanks to the staff who endured long queues of traffic and tricky conditions to get to school; it was a fabulous team effort.





Next week we will be marking the National Safer Internet Day. Whilst 'staying safe online' is a key and regular aspect of our Computing curriculum, we like to engage with this event and take some time to consider the theme and how it relates to us. The internet is an aspect of modern day life that our children need to learn how to use safely and be able to confidently report its misuse. Please ask your children next week about their work for this day, what they have learnt and how they can apply it to their own lives.

Road Safety



Last week our children were involved in a number of road safety activities which got them out and about and thinking about our roads. The Year 2 children learnt how to cross a variety of roads and became aware of various hazards that

could be a danger, including parked and reversing cars. They also saw the signs, road markings and speed bumps placed around the school entrance to make them safe. Please remember these measures only work if parents adhere to the rules and keep the safety of the children in mind when parking. All of Year 6 learnt about how stopping distances are made up of thinking distance and breaking distance and then went out onto the roads to collect data for the average speed on Finney Lane using the speed guns. Ten Year 6 children also went out in the mornings and at the end of the day with a PCSO to collect data about where parents park on East Avenue.



Roadworks

Next week roadworks are commencing on Hambleton Road and Merwood Avenue. Weather permitting, they will take place on Monday between 8am and 5pm. Traffic will be restricted in this area. Please ensure you park your car away from these roads and allow additional time for your journey to school.

Engines Running

I would like to remind parents that engines should not be left running whilst dropping or picking children up. The fumes from exhausts are extremely harmful for our pupils and unpleasant for local residents. Local Authorities are now able to fine drivers for leaving engines idling. Please read the following article for more information. www.rac.co.uk/drive/advice/emissions/idling/

Just a reminder that the first of our Parents Evenings is being held next Thursday. Booking for appointments closes on Monday at 3.30pm and will not be available after this time.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows
and the Etchells staff

