

ST.FRANCIS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

‘We care for each other and we always try to do our best’

28th February 2018

Dear parents/carers,

We urgently need your support and active participation in joining our campaign to get Horns Lane on the highway's gritting list. I have been advised that parents and our wider community, who wish to appeal the decision to leave Horns Lane off the gritting list, can email :

highways@lancashire.gov.uk

Closing school is only ever a last resort and is certainly not an action taken lightly. Horns Lane was so treacherous to drive down yesterday that I could not get into school any earlier to make the decision to close school. My own car was frequently stopping and skidding into the embankments, as were other members of staff. After many near misses reported and worsening conditions, I deemed the road unsafe and unfit for the bulk of traffic to travel on the road at school opening time. The decision was also made due to the many patches of black ice and number of cars struggling to get up the hills. You may be aware that I frequently consider the safety of our pupils, staff and families and grit the car parks and playgrounds to ensure school runs safely and efficiently. At all costs, our aim is to open school and provide the best education and service for you and your children.

We know that these weather conditions are due to continue and we take school closures very seriously. The safety of all is our priority. Governors and I cannot risk accidents occurring when the area is unsafe. There may be occasions when school is open but the weather conditions worsen and we will send a Groupcall message to inform you that children can be collected any time after lunch.

This will create a staggered process of collection and will eliminate the added danger of many cars at one time being on our car park and Horns Lane.

We understand that this can cause difficulties for working families and staff will remain in school until the end of the school day for arrangements to be made or until you can safely collect your child. Our aim is not to disrupt your day but to provide safety for you and your children. We will send a Groupcall text message to you all by 7.30am if any more closures are necessary.

We need the solution to this issue to be raised with the highways agency in order for this problem to be resolved in the future. If you can find time to email the above email address, we may finally be added to the gritting route and not encounter these very serious health and safety issues again.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself directly if you require any further clarification .

We thank you for your continued support.

Dates for your Diary

21st February:	Year 5 at Longridge High school for a taster day
22nd February:	World thinking day: Cubs, Beavers, Scouts , Rainbows ,Brownies and Guides can come into school wearing their uniforms
23rd February:	KS2 Gymnastics competition-Year 3 and 4 only
27th February:	Police and riot van visit to infants
28th February:	Year 5 at Cobble Hey all day
1st March:	World Book Day- Dress up as your favourite character Glee Club begins after school
2nd March:	Christine Dewhurst from CAFOD visit day-workshops for KS2 and working with CAFOD club at lunchtime
5th March:	Year 6 at Longridge High for Safety Town all day
11th March:	Mothering Sunday Family Mass
12th March:	Science week begins
13th March:	Photography club assembly for children (in preparation for photography club to begin on 17th April)
19th March:	Sports Relief Week
22nd March:	KS1 Palm Liturgy in Church at 2.30pm –families and friends all Welcome!

Families and friends are all invited to attend our very special class assemblies and Palm Liturgy. Class assemblies are as follows:

26th March:	9.00am: Pendle Class assembly	The Last Supper
27th March:	9.00am: Parlick Class assembly	The Garden of Gethsemane
28th March:	9.00am: Fairsnape Class assembly	The Stations of the Cross
29th March:	9.00am: Beacon Class assembly	The Resurrection of Christ

Holy Thursday-Break up at 1.30pm

Children return for Summer Term on Monday 16th April