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Headteacher: Mrs V Woods

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has certainly got colder and more wintery this week!

It may sound obvious but can I please just remind you to make sure the children have warm outdoor clothing, and accessories are labelled with their names. We will always try to go outside and need to wrap up warm. If it is bitterly cold we will limit the time outside, as we did on Wednesday lunchtime due to the icy wind. If the weather does deteriorate and we have snow, the decision as to whether school can stay open will be taken by myself and the Chair of Governors, based on an appropriate risk assessment to pupils and staff. We will use the local BBC and commercial radio stations to advertise any closure and also post it on the Oxfordshire County Council and school websites.

We have been working very hard as a whole school to develop some new, clear, consistent rules that everyone knows and understands. These have been written with the children, teachers and support staff and will be the consistent expectation of behaviour in the classroom, on the playground, in the hall and on trips outside school. They are positive attribute rules rather than negative 'don't' ones. We all firmly believe children respond best to positive praise and encouragement. When they have made a poor behaviour choice they need to learn from it so that they can make a more appropriate choice next time.

We will continue to develop a deep knowledge and understanding of these rules. I am now working with all the staff in school to ensure that we have a robust system of consequences to back up these rules. This includes appropriate communication and support systems to help pupils manage their poor choices and to ensure everyone is happy, healthy and safe in school.

The newly expanded School Council ratified these rules at their meeting on Monday and decided that they will be known as '**The Rocking Rules!**' and here they are..

- ✓ We always talk and listen to each other politely.
- ✓ We know what we need to help us learn and where to find it.
- ✓ Think before you act! We work and play safely.
- ✓ We are here to learn, we value learning, and we challenge ourselves to learn more.
- ✓ We all value other people, places and things.

Please talk through them with your children and if you need any clarification of their meaning do come and speak to us in school.

### Competition Time!

We would like to have these rules all around our school in bright, clear posters. So I am announcing a competition to design a poster with the theme 'Rocking Rules!' clearly displaying the rules. There will be one winner from each class, judged by School Council, and those posters will be reproduced and used around school. The closing date for entries is Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February and the winners will be judged on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> by School Council. Posters should be on A4 paper, landscape or portrait and the final design should be able to be photocopied in colour. Bring your entries to your class teacher with your name and class very clearly on the back. I'm looking forward to seeing your ideas!

The Yenworthy trip takes place next week (a separate letter will be sent out with the children going on the trip with final details). In my absence Ms Seccull will be the senior member of staff in school. Please do arrange to speak to her in the usual way if you have any concerns during next week.

Finally a reminder to buy your Panto tickets and to wish you a very happy and restful ½ term holiday. School ends 3.15pm on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February and reopens on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February at 8.50am.

Yours sincerely

Victoria Woods  
Headteacher