



## Priory Junior School

Longsands Road, St Neots. Cambs PE19 1TF

Email: [office@priory.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@priory.cambs.sch.uk)

Tel: 01480 226730

Fax: 01480 226731

Headteacher: Tracy Keefe B.Ed (Hons) NPQH

Dear Parent/Carer

As we move into the winter months, we have been reviewing our lunchtime provision to make the best use of our outdoor environment, give children the opportunity to play between learning sessions whilst ensuring they are warm and dry. Over the past few weeks, we have observed just how much the children have enjoyed going outside, even in the rain that we have had recently. It does also have a significant impact on their ability to focus on their learning in the afternoon sessions. As such, we do try to get children outside to play everyday unless there is extreme weather. EG. Thunderstorms, torrential, extreme rain, extreme heat.

In the event of rain, the following measures will be in place to ensure children are dry and comfortable for their afternoon of learning:

- Pupils are encouraged to bring in appropriate wet and/or muddy outer wear. EG. Wellies, waterproof coats/trousers, mud suits. We are introducing communal welly storage and hanging areas for these items to dry. **Please ensure they are named.**
- Pupils can bring a full change of clothes into school to stay in their lockers. This does not have to be school uniform, but plain clothing would be preferred where possible. Pupils will be allowed to change in to these clothes if they are particularly wet and we will avoid PE kits as a change of clothes so that they are left dry, ready for PE lessons.
- Wet Weather Library – We have purchased some waterproof coats for children to borrow on a temporary basis if they have forgotten theirs. If your child has out-grown coats or wellies, please consider donating these to our Wet Weather Library so this resource can grow.



Extreme wet weather will be reviewed on daily basis. In some cases, we may run a rotation system where children have a short session inside and a short session outside. In some cases, it might be too heavy and all pupils will be inside. Due to distribution of staff and ratios, it is not possible to offer children the option.

We are regularly observing and reviewing our procedures as we embark on our first winter as an OPAL school. If you have any further questions, please do get in touch via the school office.

Finally, we are always looking for new and exciting resources to develop the play offer for our children. If you have any of the following items that are no longer wanted, we would love to have them!

- Different sized buckets and watering cans
- Large pots and pans
- Kitchen utensils – ladles, sieves, colanders, whisks, measuring jugs, manual scales etc
- Robust garden trowels and spades
- Buckets and spades
- Any sand play equipment

Yours sincerely

Mrs Welch  
Deputy Headteacher

