



Delivered every Friday without fail!

Chad Vale Chronicle



Friday 25th January 2013

It's 'snow' fun for some but no fun for others!



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Website Visitor Count: 174,100
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A week last Thursday I was in the unenviable position of deciding whether or not to close the school the following day. Of course it is always a difficult decision to make when wondering whether to open or close a school in adverse weather conditions. The situation isn't helped when the local authority guidance is to keep schools open and yet a neighbouring authority has a blanket closure of all schools! I took the decision to keep the school open. It was the intention to keep the school open all day so that our parents some of whom are doctors; nurses; police officers; firemen and other members of the priority services could get to their essential jobs.

However, after a phone call from the local police station informing me that squad cars were being grounded or recalled across the city because of the weather and being advised by the officer that roads were becoming difficult and dangerous across the city, I made the decision to close the school immediately, with a very heavy heart. I recognised that if I left it any longer many parents may have struggled to collect their child (as was the case for many parents.)

Teaching staff stayed with the children until the last child was collected at around 3:00 p.m. staff then made their way home, many left their cars here in school. 2 members of staff arrived home at 8:00 pm that evening. Their dedication to the children is to be commended.

The decision made to close the school on Monday was made as early on Sunday as I dared so as to allow time for parents to plan childcare. I felt at the time that this was the right decision as did other head teachers across the city This decision was criticised heavily by the media and some local schools received a lot of flak from parents. I am very thankful and appreciative of the fact that this was not the case at Chad Vale. Without exception parents were very understanding of the situation even though for some it caused them enormous difficulties together with loss of pay. In many ways head teachers when making these decisions are between a rock and a hard place. I am enormously grateful to and fortunate that all the parents at Chad Vale recognised and were appreciative of the pressures I was under when making these decisions. Thank you.



CLUBS RE-START NEXT WEEK. NORMAL START TIME NEXT WEEK: 8:55 AM



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