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**Inclusion Manager:** Claire Keady
**School Business Leader:** Georgia Caton

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Extreme Heat Arrangements and early school closure**

Last week, we wrote to families regarding the forecast of exceptionally high temperatures and outlined a number of measures being put in place to keep pupils, staff and visitors safe during this period of extreme heat. Today the Met office issued a Red Extreme Heat Warning that will be in place on Wednesday 24th June and Thursday 25th June. The Risk Assessment for this week has been updated accordingly.

**Early school closure on Wednesday and Thursday**

Red heat warnings are issued only in exceptional circumstances and are particularly important for children and vulnerable individuals.

. After carefully reviewing the DfE and NEU guidance we have decided that:

- School will open as normal at 8.45am on Wednesday 24th June and Thursday 25th June.
- **All pupils must be collected at 12:00pm on Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th June.**
- There will be no after-school clubs, enrichment activities or extended provision on either day.

If you would like the school to provide a packed lunch for your child to take home on Wednesday and Thursday, please email the school office and let us know by Tuesday 23rd June at 12pm and we will make sure your child has a packed lunch to take home.

**Changes to planned activities**

The following activities will no longer take place as planned:

- **Dahl Class's visit to the V&A Museum** has been postponed. We will work with the venue to arrange an alternative date where possible.
- **Our participation in the Hackney Music Festival performances scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday has been cancelled.** This decision follows rigorous risk assessments which considered the forecast temperatures, the length of the day and the requirement for pupils to travel by coach. We know that pupils have worked incredibly hard preparing for these performances and will be disappointed not to attend. We will explore opportunities for pupils to perform the songs they have been rehearsing for parents and carers at school at a later date.
- **Milligan Class's kayaking trip** will not take place.
- **The Nursery Picnic** has been postponed. Whilst we recognise that this will be disappointing for children and families, we believe this is the safest course of action given the predicted temperatures.

These changes are in addition to those communicated last week:

- Sports Days have been postponed.
- Year 3's visit to Kew Gardens has been postponed.
- Deacon Class's visit to the British Library has been postponed.

We appreciate that these changes may be disappointing for pupils and families. However, the safety and wellbeing of our children and staff must remain our highest priority.

**Keeping Children Safe in the Heat**

To help ensure that everyone remains safe and comfortable, we will have implemented a range of additional measures across the school, including:

- Encouraging pupils to drink water regularly throughout the day.
- Providing frequent opportunities for children to refill water bottles.
- Using shaded outdoor spaces and restricting access to the hottest parts of the playground.
- Adapting playtimes and lunchtimes to reduce time spent in direct sunlight.
- Suspending vigorous physical activity during break and lunchtime periods.
- PE lessons will not take place on the school premises, though sessions that happen at Britannia will still take place as the premises are air conditioned. On site PE lessons will focus on curriculum objectives that can be taught without strenuous physical activity.
- Making use of fans, shaded areas and cooler indoor spaces where appropriate.
- Monitoring pupils closely for signs of heat exhaustion or heat stroke and taking immediate action where necessary.
- Bringing pupils indoors during playtimes and lunchtimes if temperatures become unsafe.

Yours sincerely,

Penny Smith

P. S. Smith

Headteacher