



Dear Parents,

After what has been a very dry and pleasant autumn (the children have almost always been able to play outdoors) winter is upon us and once again we are faced with **two problems**:

- As long as it is dry we aim to spend as much time as possible outdoors during the **breaks**, regardless of the temperature. Unfortunately though many children do not seem to be dressed appropriately. Please help us ensure that our pupils do not get cold before and after school or during break time by making sure they have the **right clothes** with them (warm coats, hats, gloves etc).
- This is also a time of year when the number of **infectious colds**, coughs and other illnesses around rises significantly. Once again I have to stress that sick children who show signs of illness before school in the morning, should stay at home. Our school nurse will not be able to help in such cases; a child who is ill belongs **at home** and possibly in bed. Further more with almost 600 children in a relatively small space, the ping-pong effect with germs being passed back and forth is pre-programmed, to which our teachers are also not immune.

The autumn weather (cold in the morning and warm later in the day) has also lead to an increase in the amount of clothes being left behind at school. Although the mountain of **lost property** has been reduced significantly, I would like to remind parents that with the help of our security team all items of clothing are on display in the entrance to the primary building **every Friday**. If you are missing something please take the opportunity to have a look on a Friday afternoon. Apart from clothes that have been left in the corridors this is the only place where items are stored.

The new **school bus** has been bringing children to school in the morning for 2 months now. The initiative has got off to a good start and parents and staff are showing their understanding that the bus and other organised forms of school transport must have priority in the car park.

On the subject of **parking** I would like to make a suggestion; that cars transporting only **older secondary school students** avoid entering the car park at gate A and instead say goodbye to their children (*with a short kiss & fly*) at entrance B. In such a way more space can be left particularly for those parents who need to accompany their children to the pre-primary.

Our **library** has developed into a very important pedagogical feature of the primary school that goes way beyond the provision of lending books. As you are aware the parents' contribution has been increased to an annual €10,- and I would like to thank parents for their cooperation in this matter. This is not about passing on financial responsibility. In fact the school continues to allocate significant sums in the budget to the library. Instead we seek to further improve the quality, quantity and fair distribution of library activities (including readings, workshops etc) that are so valuable to our pupils.

The **Parents Association** continues to finance the **primary school librarian** for which we are extremely grateful. Although the school management is actively seeking a different solution, you will no doubt understand that these are difficult times!

Thank you to those who have given their feedback on the new website. We are grateful for all comments and suggestions.

Best regards

Heinz Fischböck