



**HODGE HILL  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**



Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents

## Newsletter from WM Fire Service

Please see below – information you might find useful from the Fire Service

# Your monthly newsletter from West Midlands Fire Service

We hope you've had a safe and happy start to 2024!

For many of us, it's been a wet and windy start to the New Year, so please do read our advice below about the dangers of flood waters.

We're looking forward to the next 12 months – not least because we'll be celebrating fifty years since West Midlands Fire Service was formed.

More on that later in the year! For now, we hope you're able to stay safe, warm and healthy.

## Wet weather and flooding advice

Storm Henk gave many parts of the UK a bit of a battering, including the West Midlands.

You may have seen news stories about one incident, in Hall Green, where a man came to the rescue of a woman and child whose car got stuck in fast-flowing water.

It really does bring home the risks posed by flood water.

Our website contains a whole host of information about flooding, both in the home and on the road - <https://www.wmfs.net/safety/flooding/>



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If water looks too deep to drive through, it probably is. Our advice is not to take any unnecessary risks.

Please remember: we are not a vehicle recovery service. But, if you or someone else is stranded in flood water, never get out of your vehicle. Call 999 and ask for the fire service.

## Winter water safety

Of course, it's not just flood water that's dangerous.

'Open' water, like rivers, lakes and reservoirs, can look very picturesque and can make the ideal place for a winter walk.

But it's still cold out there, and you need to keep your wits about you when near any body of water.

Check our website for more information:

<https://www.wmfs.net/safety/winter-water-safety/>

## Register your Appliance Week

You might be reading this newsletter on a new phone or tablet you had for Christmas.

Or perhaps you were lucky enough to get a different electrical gift.

'Register your Appliance Week' starts on 22 January, but you don't need to wait until then to register yours!

You can do it year-round, it's free, and it means you'll be alerted to any safety issues or recalls.

Keep an eye on our social media pages later this month for more information, and check out how to register on our website:

<https://www.wmfs.net/safety/register-your-products/>



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## Safe and Well

Did you know we offer free ‘Safe and Well’ visits to some of the most vulnerable people in our communities?

And you can even carry out your very own ‘Safe and Well’ checks by visiting our website.

Do take a look, especially if you’re worried about safety in your own home or someone else’s.

The visits and online advice cover much more than fire safety. Our firefighters can help you to consider issues such as loneliness and mental health, mobility and smoking.

<https://www.wmfs.net/our-services/safe-and-well/>

## Stuck for a New Year resolution?

We have a solution!

Just think how much safer our homes would be if everyone reading this newsletter made a resolution to test their smoke alarms regularly.

Once a month is fine, but once a week would be even better!