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Conduct during extreme weather conditions

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Dear parents,

During the Xavier storm last Thursday some parents were unable to collect their children from school on time due to the severe traffic conditions and mass cancellations by the Berlin transport authority. Moreover, children who usually go home alone with public transport were stuck at train stations and bus stops.

The school administrators were unable to initiate any measures on Thursday because the storm started after school had finished. Even at 3:45 pm the wind was still low and, unfortunately, neither the shut down of the transport system nor the disruptive effect of storm could be foreseen at that time. The school administrators are guided by the weather alerts of the German Weather Service as well as information provided by the education authority. We are also bound by the School Attendance Regulation: **Teaching during extreme weather conditions.**

We acted in accordance with this regulation. If extreme weather conditions arise during school hours it goes without saying that the children will not be sent home as normal. This is only done after speaking with the parents! And parents only have to send their children to school when it is safe to do so. In the case of severe weather alerts from the German Weather Service parents are permitted to **collect their children early from school**; if lessons are cut short for this reason it is regarded as excused absence.

In any event, childcare of pupils is guaranteed by the school during the stipulated times.

In emergency situations children can go to the Hort (after school care centre, upstairs in House 2) which is normally staffed until 6 pm. The Hort telephone number is 30 32 86 822. The teachers will make sure the children are aware of this. On the day of the storm the last educator remained at the Hort until 7:30 pm to wait for parents who were having difficulties collecting their children.

Yours faithfully,

Frank Effenberger