*Potential school closure*



[Insert date]

Dear Parent/Carer,

**POTENTIAL CODE RED DAY SCHOOL CLOSURE**

I am writing to advise you that our school Ararat North Primary School may be closed on [insert date/s] due to a potential Code Red fire danger rating forecast for our area.

The decision to close will be confirmed by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day prior to the closure. Once we have received confirmation of the closure we will contact you directly [via SMS message/phone tree]; before the end of the school day to confirm this. You are urged to check the Department of Education and Training website for updates, school closures will be posted to the Department’s website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

 [Please note that all of our school bus routes will also be closed; services will resume when the school reopens.]

I realise that the potential closure of our school may result in you having to make alternative arrangements for your child, but the safety of our students and staff remains our top priority. Given the predicted weather conditions, we urge that your child is not left at home unattended or in the care of older children.

If you know of other parents who, for any reason, may not be aware of the school’s potential closure, please contact them to help ensure they are aware that the school may be closed on [insert date].

You should also explain to your child and family members that our school may be closed. For safety reasons, no staff will be on-site if the school is closed.

Multiple sources that offer information on emergencies are listed below:

* VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
* VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
* Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
* Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
* Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
* ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Principal