

Our Ref: JN/AH/November Communication

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you and your families are keeping safe and well.

I am writing to share with you two pieces of information which are of most importance.

### 1. Dark nights and pupils making their way home

Now that the clocks have gone back and the nights are darker much earlier, it is not safe for your child to be waiting around.

Every evening, we go on duty to protect our pupils from engaging in silly behaviour, but also from potentially dangerous people who are within the community.

Unfortunately, the police do not have the capacity to protect our pupils, so this is something as a school we are picking up and we will report any concerns or abuse we face to the Police.

As you can appreciate, this is a very difficult job to do and it is made much more challenging when our own pupils do not go straight home. Instead, some pupils put themselves in harm's way by being silly and not looking after themselves or each other.

We have recently been made aware of incidents in the community where our pupils have been followed making their way home. We are lucky that our pupils have acted in the correct manner and approached other adults to help them. Please remind your child(ren) to go straight home after school and if they are concerned about the behaviour of others at any point, to get help as quickly as possible. This could be by speaking with a Police Officer, or speaking with another adult who has children and who can help.

We are insisting that any Dame Elizabeth Cadbury School pupil we find loitering in the community returns home immediately and we urge you to reinforce this message with your child:

#### **Do not wait around in the community - come straight home.**

Your child's safety is paramount. We are working with our local community and Police liaison team, but we also need your help.

### 2. Staff INSET Day: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Please note that school will be closed to all pupils (Years 7-13) on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021 for a staff training day. Reception will be open should you need to contact school at this time, however, no meetings will be available as staff will be taking part in training activities. We will look forward to welcoming pupils back into school on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021 for an 8.40am start.

I thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Ms J. Newsome  
Headteacher  
Dame Elizabeth Cadbury