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15th May 2017

Dear Parents,

Parking and Traffic Management

As you are all aware, I have written to you often about this subject but several incidents last week bring home the reality of the situation and show us all why we need to show care and consideration outside of the school and in the local area.

On Thursday night, Mr. Hole, our caretaker, was involved in a road traffic accident not far from the school that appears to have been caused by another vehicle coming out of a junction either too fast or without noticing Mr. Hole's vehicle. As a result he was shunted into a wall and had to be cut free by the fire brigade. He sustained a broken collar bone and other injuries but is now at home and recovering. Although this was not outside of the school, it happened in a place where children often walk and many were close enough to witness the accident. Clearly the situation could have been far worse if it had happened at 3.30pm instead of later.

As a result of his illness and my absence on Friday, the green cones were not put out and immediately parents parked on the zig-zag lines. Can I remind you that as well as being dangerous, this is illegal! When this was pointed out to one driver by another parent, it was met with contempt. The lines are there to prevent accidents.

A final incident occurred last week when a driver reversed outside of the school and did not notice a parent behind the car until she banged on the back of the car for the driver to stop— fortunately her children were behind her. Again, when this parent spoke to the driver she was spoken to in a less than apologetic way.

I fear that one day soon, I will be writing to you about a child being seriously injured. Please could all parents observe the road markings, not use the driveway as a turning circle, drive very slowly around the school and be very mindful that young children do not possess the road skills or the reaction times of adults. I have again contacted the police about the matter and the Highways department of the council. In addition, Cllr. James and myself have sought solutions from the council and will continue to do so.

I have made arrangements to ensure that the cones are placed outside each day in Mr. Hole's absence and ask that all parents and relatives driving near to the school show care and consideration towards other road users, particularly small children.

Mr. Hole has asked me to extend his thanks to the numerous parents, pupils and residents who showed care and concern for him last week and we wish him a speedy recovery and return to work.

Yours sincerely,

S. Roberts

Simon Roberts
Head teacher