

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents,

As some of you will be aware, there has been a recent bullying incident in Year 5, and I am writing to share my concerns with you. I want to reassure you that we take a zero tolerance on bullying and wish to be transparent that this has happened and the subsequent actions we have taken as a school.

- All children involved have been sensitively spoken to and parents have been informed.
- The co-chairs of governors of the school have been informed.
- Additional support will be provided for all Year 5 pupils through carefully planned anti bullying lessons.
- The school's Learning Mentors will be supporting the children directly involved.
- We are working to rebuild relationships within the class and ensure everybody feels confident to have a voice and speak out.

To allow scars to heal we need to work together to educate all members of the class. I serve as the headteacher of your child's school, but the most important job description I have is as a parent. As parents, we are the first educators of our children. There are lessons to be learnt to ensure wounds can be healed and there is awareness of what we understand bullying to be.

At the heart of this recent incident is somebody who has had their bright light temporarily blown out. To ensure the flames of bullying are not allowed to reignite, please can I ask you all to talk to your children about bullying. Please do take a moment to read the link <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/> for further parental support. As a school, we are not shying away from this topic. As a Catholic headteacher, the most important role I have is as a teacher. We will be facing recent events head on through a series of additional lessons that I will be delivering myself over the next few weeks.

Children can sometimes be cruel, but their innocence needs to be educated to ensure this doesn't happen again. As parents I know you will be concerned but please have professional trust in the actions that the school will be taking. My door is always open and if you wish to contact me you can do so via my direct email head@stjosephshh.org.uk

You will all be familiar with me referring to our school as the St Joseph's family. As a family, we often hurt the ones we love the most. So please can we all unite and take some valuable lessons away from what has happened to ensure we are providing the 'fire blanket' needed for our children that this never happens in the future.

Please do get in touch if you need to.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Walker
Headteacher

