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Headteacher - Miss B Nugent

Mission Statement "We are special people on a journey, growing and learning together in search of excellence, as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus."

Dear Parents,

8th February 2023

As we come to the end of Children's Mental Health Week I would like to share some important Safeguarding information from the Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Forum meeting today.

Online safety - Please read the Online Safety notice we put on the website yesterday for Online Safety Day. It also contains a reminder of our Safeguarding responsibilities.

Some worrying facts - At our Safeguarding Conference today we were informed by the Internet Watch Foundation that self-generated sexual images of primary school children has increased by 1000% since lockdown. Please make sure that your children are not engaging with strangers while on their devices and that you can see their communications at all times. It is also important that you teach your children how to block and report any unsolicited contact online.

We were advised to remind you to;

- supervise children's online activity
- use an app to access their online activity
- control the time they spend online
- switch it off at agreed time

Please ask us for support with any aspect of technology safety for you and your children. There are useful links on our school website in the Online Safety section under the 'Parents' tab.

Safeguarding & Children's Mental Health Week February 6th / Place2Be - Parenting Smart Place2Be is a children's mental health charity that provides mental health support and advice for parents and carers of children aged 4-11. Please visit their website if you would like advice on any of the following and more:

- 'My child has meltdowns!'
- Safe social media for primary aged children
- Supporting healthy gaming habits for children

Attendance - We have always been proud of our attendance records thanks to parents' commitment to their children's attendance at school. Our average annual attendance has been 95%, we are at 90.7% at this half way point. There is a nationwide drive to improve attendance and the DFE now advise anything less than 90% as being 'persistently absent' from school.

76% of pupils have attendance of more than 90% well done to you. Only 9% of pupils across the school have had 100% attendance very well done to you.

While there has been a lot of illness and some serious family circumstances within our community I hope that you can return after the half term and aim for your children's attendance to reach closer to 100%.

Some worrying facts! - 90% attendance amounts to 3½ weeks absence from school, missing 90 lessons. 5 minutes late each day is equal to 3 days lost learning time, 10 minutes late each day equals 6½ days lost learning time and 15 minutes late each day equals 10 days lost learning time. Please consider the impact of absence and lateness on your child's learning.

Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,
Miss B Nugent