



St John's Highbury Vale C of E Primary School

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Head of School: Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

Wednesday 6th July 2022

Dear Parents & Carers,

A few weeks ago, a number of concerns and worries were brought to my attention about some actions and behaviours, which were happening in Year 5. These concerns were brought to me not only by the children, but also by a number of parents.

I have spent the last two weeks trying to get to the bottom of this. I am sorry it has taken so long, but unfortunately there have been a number of children absent due to illness, and this has slowed the investigation down.

In speaking with the children in the class, both as a whole group and in smaller groups, the underlying feeling shared by the majority is that children in the class are regularly using unkind words to each other, putting each other down, humiliating and sometimes intimidating each other. The children have agreed this must stop as it is making them unhappy. I know that the parents I have already spoken to absolutely agree with this also.

I am writing to you to ask that you support us as a school, to help support your children in understanding what affect certain words and actions may have on others. There have been reports of very inappropriate language being used by some children and a general feel from the children themselves that this is coming from social media influences. Please can I ask that you check what social media your children are accessing and double check you have the right restrictions in place.

Please do come to speak to me further about anything in this letter if you wish to, or if you have any concerns.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Head of School

