



1st February 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

Just a quick message from me passing on some of the messages shared with students this week in assemblies.

The focus of my assemblies this week has been our school community and the values that are essential to it being one in which all are treated with genuine mutual respect and feel safe and valued.

I reminded students that we show each other respect every day using STEPS, using names, Sir or Miss, just like at home saying 'thank you', 'excuse me' and 'please' and being warm, welcoming and friendly towards each other. I will send a separate message about the single point of entry and exit as I know there have been a number of questions raised about it which I will seek to address in that message.

However, one of the real positives I have seen on the gate in the mornings and after school is that all members of the school community are greeting each other respectfully and positively as they enter and leave school as well as moving about the school, which makes a real difference to that sense of community.

Last week some members of our school community did some things that damaged our community. In my assembly, I made it really clear that using physical force to deal with an issue is totally unacceptable at school and will always lead to serious sanctions for those who do this. Failing to follow staff instructions and being part of a large group moving around the school is not acceptable, dangerous and will always lead to sanctions for those involved.

I reinforced to all students that these actions significantly affect our whole community and the right for everyone to feel safe, respected and valued as part of our community. For the individuals who get involved the consequences can be life-changing. Either due to possible injury caused or the serious sanctions from the school or in some cases the police. Good friends never encourage their friends to fight or use physical force. They help their friends to talk their problems out, not add fuel to the fire.

Rather unusually for me, I delivered my assembly with my Hi-Vis Vest on, to encourage students to remember the Hi-Vis is a powerful visual symbol. It says that we are here to help and keep us all safe. If you have an issue, tell us. If you are told to stop, follow instructions, so we can keep us all safe. If you hear a whistle, just like with a lifeguard at the pool, stand still, do not move from where you are and allow the staff to manage the situation to keep us all safe.

I would like to stress to you, as I did to the students. I am talking about a minority within our community as the majority are polite, respectful and do the right thing every day. As I said to them, you may be sitting and thinking this assembly message isn't for me... but that is not the case. It is for those members of our community who deserve better, who should be able to use toilets that are not vandalised, who should be able to feel safe at all times and respected at all times that I am repeating these expectations.

Headteacher: Mr P Foster BA (Hons) MA NPQH FCCT
Address: Tithepit Shaw Lane, Warlingham, Surrey, CR6 9YB
Telephone: 01883 624067 Email: Info@WarlinghamTLT.co.uk
Website: www.WarlinghamTLT.co.uk

Tandridge
Learning Trust

Thank you, as ever, for your support in maintaining the values that are so important to our school community and supporting as parents the need to be polite, respectful, thoughtful and safe in all our interactions with each other.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Foster', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr P Foster

Headteacher