

17 June 2026

Dear Year 5 Parents and Carers,

### Re: Whatsapp Concerns

We have been made aware of a number of group chats that children have been added to, which have unfortunately led to unkind and, in some cases, quite concerning and threatening messages being exchanged. We understand that not all children are involved, and we greatly appreciate the support of families in managing their child's online behaviour.

At school, we are continuing to raise awareness about the importance of a positive and respectful online presence, and the significant impact that unkind or inappropriate messages can have on others. As many of you will know, the legal age for WhatsApp use is 13. This age limit exists because of the level of responsibility and maturity required to navigate online communication, particularly in large group settings where tone and intent can easily be misunderstood.

We would therefore strongly encourage parents to discuss this issue with their children, and consider removing WhatsApp or at the very least helping their child to leave large or unnecessary group chats.

If you have any concerns or would like to speak to me further about this, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

**Mrs Tamsyn Lawlor**  
Headteacher

