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Headteacher: Miss T. Smith

Dear parents and carers,

We have been made aware of a worrying new trend on TikTok which encourages young people to remove the blade from a pencil sharpener and use it to cause harm to themselves or others. We are aware that this information may be more relevant to the parents of older children, but felt it would be beneficial to share it more widely with our school community.

We would not encourage you to speak to your child directly about this unless there is evidence that they are already familiar with the trend as it may encourage them to ask their friends or try to locate the content themselves. However, you may find it appropriate to ask your children about any recent or concerning content that they have witnessed online or heard other children discussing. It may also be necessary to be more vigilant of their online habits or any signs of self-harm at this time.

Although no specific information has been shared about how this equipment could be used, children in upper school have been spoken to today regarding the proper use of pencil sharpeners and are aware that any evidence of their misuse will result in them being banned in the relevant classes or year groups.

If there is any evidence of this impacting your child specifically, we will contact you directly. Please get in touch if you have any concerns or further information which would be relevant to the school.

As always, we thank you for your cooperation and support in these matters.

Kind regards,
Miss Smith

