

Headteacher: Mr D. Whales | Chair of Governors: Mr T. French

31st January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you following the assemblies that took place today. We started our 'Safer February' campaign with an anti-violence and anti-knife presentation from Alison Cope. Alison is the mother of Joshua Ribera who was stabbed to death in 2013. She visits schools across the country to share her message of safe choices, which is very powerful!

The reason I write is to prepare you for possible conversations your son/daughter might want to have with you this evening. I personally attended the session today and it is without question one of the most moving and hard-hitting presentations I have ever heard.

Asking Alison to speak to our students was without question the right thing to do, the messages she shared, I hope, will resonate with your children. The information she shared was around social media and its potential impacts; the importance of making good choices; and surrounding yourself with good people. Perhaps the strongest message of all was to remind us all how important being kind is and about taking time to show how important our loved ones are to us!

During the presentation, and following it, there was plenty of emotion from both students and staff; as I have mentioned above the messages were very moving! As a parent myself sitting through the assembly, it shook me to my core. At the point of writing this, I am already thinking about getting home to my children to let them know how much they mean to me!

If you do have any conversations, and you feel we can be of further assistance please let us know.

You can find more information about Alison's story and her presentations on her website - www.AlisonCope.com



Mr D Whales
Headteacher