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Headteacher
Miss K Greenway

10th March 2017

Posting photos and videos on Social Media

Dear Parents & Carers,

Please forgive the serious tone of this letter, but you will understand that the safeguarding of all the children under our care is the number one priority of any school.

It has come to our attention that several parents have been posting photos and videos of school events (such as school plays and the reindeer run) that contain children that they are not responsible for onto Facebook and other social media. You will recall that Miss Greenway and the other teachers (and sometimes even the children) always explain that this should not happen.

We recognise you do have the right to post images of your own children, (although we recommend you do not), but some of the other children in the school should not appear in any form of social media for various reasons. It is our legal responsibility as a school (Staff and Governors) to do our best to ensure this does not happen.

Many schools have taken the approach of simply banning any photos or videos being taken during all school events. This is something that we do not want to impose as it would be a real shame, but we will, if we feel it is the only option available to us.

Having discussed this with the governing body and Miss Greenway we have come to an agreement that we need parents to understand, and comply with this policy, but if we find that images and videos continue to be posted, we will need to adopt a complete ban.

Please consider this the "final warning". For now, there will be no change on the school's approach, so you will still be able to take photos and videos of your children at school events. However, we will continue to monitor the situation, closely, and we would ask that if you have posted anything like this in the past that you delete them.

I really do hope that the small number of parents involved will stop, and we will not have to impose a blanket ban, but it is important that I make you aware that we will, if we are left with no sensible alternative.

Just for clarity, the school policy regarding this is as follows;

- Photos and videos may be taken of children under your care at school events
- No photos or videos that contain other children should be posted onto social media or anywhere else on the internet without the consent of each parent / guardian of each child included in the media.

Apologies again for the serious tone of this letter, but I am sure that you will agree with me that this is something that we all need to get right so that we can keep on enjoying all the events that the school puts on. If you would like to discuss this with me in more detail, I am more than happy to do so.

Regards

Chris Waters
Chair of Governors
Parsonage Farm