

## Issue 5 – Autumn Term 2017

Our Safeguarding team includes all Pastoral Managers and our interpreter team:

- **Mr. Gerard McKenna**  
(Headteacher)
- **Ms. Manderson**  
(Deputy Headteacher & Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- **Ms. Minott-Statham**  
(SENCO & Designated Safeguarding officer)
- **Ms. Lazare**  
(Assistant Headteacher & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- **Mr. Hart**  
(Assistant Headteacher Digital Technology and Online learning)
- **Ms. Edwards**  
(PSHEE Coordinator)
- **Ms. Flora Copson**  
(HR Manager)
- **Mrs. Mona Shah**  
(Governor with responsibility for Safeguarding)

### Recent events

**Fire Drill:** November saw the repeat of successful fire drills. Students and staff modelled exactly how we would all keep safe and respond in the case of any emergency. We would like to commend our students on their diligent and responsible attitudes.

**Safety Arch:** On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November, we worked alongside our community police officers to set up a safety arch and conduct a process to check that no illicit items were being brought onto the school premises. We are pleased to say that nothing was found and the students were grateful for the process commenting that this made them feel even more 'safe' seeing the staff and police working together.

**Personal details** – a reminder that if any of your personal details have changed, parents must notify the school. This is especially important in the case of new telephone numbers, both mobile phones and landlines. The names of any new carers or designated contacts must be with school. We will not be able to keep students in school without an identified contact with up-to-date personal contact information as this will create a safeguarding concern and put staff and students at risk.



## Does your child really need a SMART phone?

So, you have bought your secondary aged child a SMART phone. You are doing your bit as a parent, monitoring the use and reviewing their app list. However, have you considered the clever ways in which SMART phones are used? A SMART phone exposes your child to information, websites and apps which are not always child-friendly. It also means that they have continuous access to communication with friends and others at any time of the day, which can lead to inclusion in illicit text messaging and information-sharing activities. Parents, you have every right to check your child's mobile phone regularly. You may also choose to provide your child with a standard mobile phone which is not a SMART phone. It may interest you to know that your child may also be hiding apps from the main facia on the phone which you will not be able to see on first glance. These are known as 'hidden apps'. In order to find hidden apps, you may go to the 'settings' icon on an iphone or android device, and look for any apps which are similar to the image below. **If they are hiding it, then they know they should not be using it!** A new type of smartphone application looks like a regular, harmless app, but is actually designed to hide information. See this link for further information: <http://mamabearapp.com/hidden-apps-and-how-to-find-them-on-your-childs-phone/>



## **BE safe** Road Safety

It's getting darker so we would like to ask all parents to speak to their children about keeping vigilant and safe on the way to and from school. It is advisable for the students to wear jackets with a high visibility strip, carry a high visibility keyring and where possible to travel with friends. Please remind your children about the importance of not loitering outside the shops and bus stops but to go straight home immediately after the school day has ended. Please also ensure your child is appropriately dressed for the cold weather. Please speak to the Pastoral Manager if you have any queries about appropriate outdoor clothing which should be in line with the school uniform.

## Medication Review

For any students who require medication to be kept on site, please we urge you to regularly check with your doctor if updates are required.

Any expired medication such as epi-pens or inhalers must be collected by the parent and replaced in order for us to safely administer any medication or first aid to your child. **As we are a split-site school, please request 2 sets of medication if your child is required to attend both sites for lessons.**

In the event of an emergency we want your child to be safe and we want to be confident that we are doing all we can to aid your child and not cause any further distress.

Please contact the School secretaries for any further information or to make arrangements to update our records for your child's medical information. You can contact them at: [office@alperton.brent.sch.uk](mailto:office@alperton.brent.sch.uk)