



THE WHITSTABLE SCHOOL

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2 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you following an incident outside school this morning whereby a pupil was knocked down by a car whilst crossing the road. A number of parents and pupils witnessed the incident and I want to provide assurance that the pupil, although bruised and shaken, is well.

I feel it is important to remind parents, and inform new parents, that if you are driving your child to school you should drop them off at a safe location. Cars should not stop or park on the yellow lines on Bellevue Road along the front of the school, doing so causes congestion, creates air pollution and endangers pupils crossing the road. The visitor car park to the front of the school should only be used by those parents/carers who need to use the disabled bays or who are entering the school. When using this car park please keep to a 5mph speed limit.

Many parents avoid congestion by choosing to park at Tesco, children can then use the footbridge to safely cross the Old Thanet Way.

Driving children to school is seen as the most convenient choice for parents with busy lives and many parents take the view that by driving their children to school they are keeping them safe. Yet the combination of each individual decision makes an increase in vehicle traffic and congestion, especially around the school site. We would strongly encourage parents who live locally to agree to allow their child to walk to and from school.

If it is necessary for you to drop your child outside of the school please ensure that you are driving at a safe speed limit, are courteous of other road users and our neighbours and remain vigilant.

Staff are on duty outside the front of the school at each end of the school day and at times, our local PCSO will be there. Let us all take some personal responsibility and work together to ensure our school is a safe place.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs AM Gibson
Headteacher



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