



Ashley Junior School

Aspiration • Resilience • Respect • Responsibility

3rd October 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

You may be aware that we have suffered significant vandalism and intrusion to the school site over recent months. This has resulted in damage to the roof and exterior of the building, regular damage to the playground area and potentially dangerous acts of breaking bottles etc. that threaten the safety of the children and staff at the school.

Mr. Covey, our Site Manager, and his team have had to work tirelessly to ensure the site is safe and clear of debris. Over the weekend, vandals gained entry to our Boiler Room. Such an intrusion requires significant forethought as the entrance is securely padlocked. You may have seen the paint that was strewn across the carpark - this was stored in the Boiler Room. Though there was no damage done to the boilers, such an act was potentially very dangerous and costly to the school. Staff had to spend substantial parts of the weekend to clear and repair the damage as best they could. It also had an impact on members of the community who hire out the facilities as we had to keep them off site whilst the clear-up took place.

Such vandalism is so frustrating, saddening and very difficult to understand. The Police have been informed but are having difficulty investigating in any detail.

We have been aware for some time that our beautiful site is somewhat open which leaves us vulnerable to such acts. The Governors have now sold the former Site Manager's house and we will be using some of the proceeds of the sale to erect perimeter fencing around the site. The fencing will be substantial and, though it will change the 'feel' of the school initially, will make the site secure and safe.

The fencing is one part of a whole school development plan that will utilise the sale of assets to improve the site and the learning experience for your children. It has been difficult to invest in improving the site when we couldn't be certain that any investment would not be damaged. We are awaiting planning permission and hope to get started on the fencing as soon as possible.

We take the safety of all members of our school very seriously and appreciate it is the most important thing. If you have any questions or any knowledge of the perpetrators of the vandalism we would be very happy to hear from you.

Yours faithfully,

Ian Rix
Headteacher

<Tp/parentletter/wholeschool/2018-2019/vandalism>