



Monday 26th November 2018

Dear Parent and Carers,

It has come to our attention that there is now a large number of children who attend after school sports clubs on the junior site. This is particularly the case on a Tuesday evening when we have football and gymnastics clubs which involves nearly 70 children, all leaving school at around 4.45pm. We also have our After School club (PALS) children on site who are picked up, and the teachers have their weekly staff meeting on Tuesday, which means over 20 staff cars might be either in the car park or leaving at 4.45pm when the meeting finishes.

This means that there is a huge demand on the car park and a large number of cars moving around the site at that time. This traffic combined with dark afternoons makes the car park a potential hazard for children and adults.

Last Tuesday, when it was raining, a large number of parents collecting children from the various clubs waited in their cars (and flashed their headlights) with the expectation that children would walk through the car park and come to them. Some of the cars were parked on the drive itself and not in the actual bays. The volume of traffic, haphazard parking, poor weather conditions and the dark night undoubtedly placed the children in a potentially dangerous position and Mr Palmer had to stop unaccompanied children from walking through the car park.

In order to improve the safety of our children we would like your support with the following;

- Please would you consider whether you really need to park in the car park in order to pick your child up from a club? There will be space in Buckingham Road at that time of the day and it will probably be quicker and safer to collect your child without having to queue in and out of the car park.
- Children will only be allowed to leave a club at 4.45pm if personally collected from the sports coach by an adult. The children will wait inside the foyer until adults come in to the building to collect them.

Many thanks for your co-operation in ensuring that the safety of our children remains everyone's number one priority.

Mr Campen

Deputy Headteacher – Junior Department

St Thomas' CE Primary School

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