

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing in response to a news story that has been covered by the local, national and international press. As Halloween approaches, a few people are choosing to dress as Clowns in our communities and are using their anonymity to cause distress to children and adults. Some of these 'Clowns' are also causing damage to property and are dressing with the intention of deliberately scaring the public.

We have spoken to some classes and individual pupils in general terms as some children have been talking about this. They have possibly acquired knowledge of this through social media/news programmes or from other people.

**As a Parent/Carer; the decision whether to talk to your child directly about this matter is entirely your choice.** However, as a school we feel that we still need to respond as **some of our children are aware and are showing anxiety**. We understand that more children are likely to find out through talking with others, access to social media or watching further news reports.

Therefore during this week we will remind children that they can talk to an adult in school about their worries or concerns. We will also remind them of adults to talk to at home. You may also wish to discuss this with your child to reinforce this message.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school if you have any queries or questions with regards to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sukhi Gill  
Safeguarding Lead