St. Augustine's Catholic Primary School

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05 December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

We have been informed by West Midlands about an attempt to abduct a child from the Handsworth Wood/Lozells area of Birmingham which occurred on 4 December 2024.

The child, a Y5 pupil, was walking to school on Wednesday morning and was approached by an unknown and unrelated individual. No further details are known at present, and West Midlands Police are still currently investigating the incident.

Events like these remind us of the importance of ensuring children are aware of "stranger danger," especially when walking to and from school unaccompanied. We address this in school as part of our safeguarding measures, and today, teachers are reminding children of the basic rules to stay safe:

- Never talk to strangers
- Always ignore strangers who ask questions or tell you to do something
- Avoid walking alone whenever possible
- Speak only to trusted adults if you are concerned about anything

As parents and carers, we know you want to stay informed. Should a similar situation arise in our area, we shall inform you immediately by letter/e-mail/website. We advise you to discuss safety rules with your children, especially if they travel to and from school unaccompanied.

Thank you for your support. If you see anything suspicious in the local area, please contact the police and the school. West Midlands Police can be contacted via Live Chat at <u>West Midlands Police</u> between 8am and midnight or by calling 101.

Yours sincerely

Mrs MM Stanley Headteacher





Mrs. M. M. Starley













