

SAFER SCHOOLS & YOUTH ENGAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

We hope your child has had a pleasant start to the new academic year. We are already approaching the October half term, and with darker evenings drawing in we would like to take this opportunity to give you and your child some important information.



OCT 21

OPERATION AUTUMN NIGHTS

With Halloween and Bonfire night fast approaching Operation Autumn Nights is the MPS plan to crack down on anti-social behaviour and associated crime. This annual operation will see an increase of police presence in priority areas. It is a great opportunity for our officers to engage with our communities while preventing and detecting crime and ASB. Some incidents of low level ASB can quickly escalate into criminal allegations, such as throwing eggs at an address is classed as criminal damage. Please remind your child to behave appropriately and be mindful of this.
We want everyone to enjoy this Autumn safely and considerably.

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

East Area operate the CHANCE system that is used for students participating in low level anti-social behaviour. In the first instance students will be given yellow cards with conditions attached to support them to improve behaviours. Their behaviour will be monitored for 3 months and they will receive a certificate at the end if this period is without incident. However students displaying reoccurring anti-social behaviour (or involved in more serious incidents) will receive a red card. This then triggers other agency involvement. We work closely with our partners to identify problem individuals from CCTV. Please help us educate your children that anti social behaviour will be tackled robustly.

Safer Transport Team – YOUTH ENGAGEMENT TEAM

The Safer Transport Team have a newly formed Youth Engagement Team that will work across East Area BCU. Their role is to engage with the community through community stalls at transport hubs and by attending different venues including schools to give advice on crime prevention and travelling safely on the bus network. Presentations will also be given to students to educate them on the free Zip Travel card scheme and about the terms and conditions that they will need to adhere to.

ZIP CARDS

At aged 11 students can apply for their ZIP card. It is important to remember that there is a behaviour code that students MUST adhere to in order to use this scheme. If this behaviour code is breached further action is triggered which ranges from warning letters being sent home, to TFL applying for the child's free travel to be revoked. It is important that your child is aware of this.

THINGS TO KNOW:

YOUTH PRODUCED SEXUAL IMAGERY

Did you know that 40% of teens think it is normal to share nudes with their peers?

Not only are they committing criminal offences by taking, possessing or distributing images of children (even if it is an image of themselves), they are exposing themselves to real risk.

There are some fantastic resources out there to educate you and your child on how to keep them safe.

Please have a look at the following two sites:

<https://parents.thorn.org/>

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>

SOCIAL MEDIA

Our school officers spend an extensive amount of time educating students on the appropriate use of their social media.

As the contract holder it is important that you have access to this safety advice too. Please have a look at the website

www.thinkuknow.co.uk