

John Perry Primary School
Charles Road
Dagenham
Essex
RM10 8UR
Tel: 020 8270 4622
Email: office@johnperry.bardaglea.org.uk
Head Teacher: Mr W Pedro



8 October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of pupils in Years 5 and 6,

We have had a good start to learning this term after the period of school closure in March. The children have adapted well to new school routines and ways of working in a changed school environment.

We want all our pupils to do well, to be learning in school, free from distraction and we also recognise that you want your child to be and feel safe on their way to and from school. However, the use of mobile phones at home has become a big distraction to children's behaviour and learning in school. In spite of the Mobile Phone Agreement that we have put into place, that pupils and parents/carers have agreed to and signed, we find that a large number of pupils are not adhering to this agreement. We are having to deal with inappropriate and quite alarming messages being sent on social media groups to individual and groups of pupils. These incidents originate at home and are being brought into school. Children are continuing with messaging immediately after school, sometimes on their way home. We have also seen children taking photographs in groups before school and we have learned that a phone had been snuck into class and a selfie taken.

We are concerned about the mental health and well-being of our pupils. The nature of some of the messages that we have seen and heard is causing undue stress and anxiety to many of our pupils. Our duty of care is to safeguard our pupils and to ensure that their mental health and well-being is not being affected by events that take place outside school hours.

Therefore, from Monday, 12th October, pupils will not be allowed to bring mobile phones to school. Our staff will confiscate any mobile phones whether they are switched on or off should a child be seen with one on the school premises. The phone will be returned to the parent or carer; it will not be returned to the child.

We appreciate your support and understanding in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Mr W Pedro
Head Teacher

