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Dear Parents,

It has been brought to our attention that some of the children in Year 6 are communicating with each other using Whatsapp, and that there have been occasions when their comments to each other have been hurtful or unkind. We have spoken to the children in school about the safe and appropriate use of social media, and we would be grateful if you could follow this up with them at home. You may find the information on <http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/social-networking> of interest, and the following extract from the WhatsApp guide for parents:

“As of May 2018, WhatsApp’s **minimum age of use is 16 years old** if you live in the European Union, or a country that has adopted the [GDPR](#), as the UK has. It was previously 13 and WhatsApp has not yet said what will happen to users between 13 and 16 who already held accounts under the old terms and conditions. By using WhatsApp, a user agrees to provide certain personal information such as their mobile phone number, billing and mobile device information.

If WhatsApp learns that identifiable information of a child under 16 has been collected on the WhatsApp Site or WhatsApp Service, then WhatsApp may deactivate the account.”

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Goddard and Mrs G Stray
Co - Headteachers