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Headteacher/Pennaeth: **Mr. S Rayer**

April 23rd 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I have been asked by the Schools' Community Police Liaison Officer, to make you aware, particularly if you are a parent of one of our older pupils who accesses TikTok, of a potentially alarming viral rumour currently circulating.

This post originated, stating that 24th April 2021 is 'National Rape Day' and has since been shared worldwide via several platforms. Although there is no suggestion that there will be any sexual offence attempts locally, it could potentially have been viewed by pupils or the parent community and be causing anxiety or raising questions by your children; Gwent Police have received a number of reports linked to this post over recent days and therefore have determined that a proactive approach is needed in advance of the weekend.

The attached link is from the Safer Schools website and provides further information; it may prove helpful in addressing this concern within your family, should the post have been viewed by pupils in Key Stage 2.

[Safeguarding Alert - Viral Rumour - Safer Schools](#)

I must reiterate that this is not a matter specific to our local area but in matters of safeguarding, it is important to be proactive wherever possible to ensure our children have clear understanding and are open about their worries and anxieties.

Whilst these platforms are not designed for children of primary school age, I am aware that many of our children will be using them to stay in touch with friends and as part of their daily lives. Whilst most will use these tools positively, young people may be curious or explore risky behaviours online.

There are links here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/> with advice for parents to help support your child.

Talking to your child about what they're doing or sharing online can help you to understand any risks and keep them safe. Please look at the website link that I have included in this letter - it contains lots more information about ways in which you can support your child to stay safe.

We would never allow our children to cross the road without teaching them to do it safely. Let's help them navigate the internet safely too.

Kind regards,

Steve Rayer
Headteacher

