THE SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN

You will be aware of the growing concern over the safety of our children on the road outside and around school at the start and end of the day.

You may know that there was an incident involving a vehicle and a child in Year 6 recently, also an older child was knocked off his bike in the early evening, this happened right outside our school, we are keen to ensure this is not repeated. You will have seen in the local press that we want to work together with the community to improve the traffic and parking around school.

We have seen a big increase in traffic using the road and people cut through to avoid other congestion. The road is a bus route and this means that when cars are parking and there is a lot of traffic, it becomes clogged quickly, drivers become impatient and then drive quickly to make up time. We are concerned that it is inevitable that there will be a more serious accident and we cannot contemplate a child being seriously hurt outside our lovely school.

As a school we are limited in what we are allowed to do on a public highway however, we have invested in some **"A" board signs** which we will put on the road **requesting** that drivers **do not park** along the road opposite school. We will be putting them on the pavement and road opposite the school entrances at the start/end of the day, in the hope this encourage drivers to park further away and walk to school - this will allow for some passing places and hopefully will reduce the anger and frustration seen on the road outside school.

We rely heavily on **your** support for any change to be successful, so we kindly request that you support our efforts to reduce congestion and avoid parking along the section opposite the school entrance. If you can, **please** walk to school and if you have to drive please park your car some distance from school and walk the remainder of the journey.

PLEASE DO NOT PARK OUTSIDE HOMEHAVEN. DO NOT STOP YOUR CAR ON THE ROAD OUTSIDE THE GATES OUTSIDE SCHOOL AND LET YOUR CHILD OUT INTO THE ROAD. THIS IS DANGEROUS TO YOUR CHILD AND TO OTHERS.

Also please do not park across driveways or on grass verges, at junctions or on yellow lines.

We are very keen to work together to make the road safer and that we will be part of the "School streets" initiative, where the street closes at certain times for example 8.30- 9.15 and 2.45- 3.30. We know local councilors are keen to support this proposal too. We do hope a lollypop crossing person will be appointed soon to improve the safe crossing of our children.

Please be aware that the "**A** boards" (no parking) will be going out as soon as they arrive, understand why we are doing this and support this effort to improve the flow of traffic.

HELP PROTECT OUR CHILDREN BY MAKING SENSIBLE AND THOUGHTFUL CHOICES WHEN DRIVING AND PARKING AROUND OUR SCHOOL.

Many thanks, from the whole school team.