CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL

Respect. Resilience. Responsibility

22 March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Ball Games on the MUGAs

I hope that this letter finds you well. I am writing to inform you about an important decision that has been made regarding students playing ball games on the MUGAs during break and lunchtime.

Over the past term, we have made significant progress in promoting student safety and creating a calmer environment within our school. It has become increasingly evident, however, that there has been a decline in behaviour standards when students are playing football and other ball games on the MUGAs. Since the start of the academic year, we have purchased over 100 footballs. Sadly, we are now left with two. A number of balls have been kicked into bushes on purpose to prevent others from playing, or balls have intentionally been taken from other students to ruin what was an enjoyable game. This has led to a number of incidents occurring on the MUGAs which threaten to undermine the improvements we have made around student safety.

To address these concerns and ensure the safety of our students during break and lunchtime, we will be implementing a more structured approach to football games on the MUGAs, including designated time slots for different year groups, and clearer expectations around sportsmanship and respect for others when playing.

Whilst we work on finalising these arrangements, it is necessary to stop all ball games until we return after Easter. It is essential that we work closely with students to ensure that they understand what safe play looks like, and the importance of complying with instructions from staff who are there to supervise. This decision has not been taken lightly but is necessary.

We understand the importance of physical activity and social interactions for our students, and our aim is to create a safe and enjoyable environment for all students, whilst maintaining a high standard of behaviour.

We kindly request your support and understanding as we work towards reinstating ball games on the MUGAs. We believe the changes we make will ultimately benefit our students and contribute to a positive atmosphere within our school.

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We will keep you updated on the progress of our new approach and inform you as soon as the MUGAs are reopened for ball games. In the meantime, we encourage parents and carers to reinforce the importance of good behaviour and respecting the decisions made by the school.

We greatly appreciate your cooperation in ensuring the wellbeing and safety of all students at Cornelius Vermuyden.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Miss N Ounzain
Deputy Headteacher

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