

6th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you today as we have had two incidents at school that were very disappointing. The incidents took place at the end of break time and the end of lunch time and involved two separate, unrelated arguments between two different pairs of female students.

Because of social media, you may have already heard something about lunch time behaviour today. I want to assure you that there was not a lock down at the school today. There was however very disappointing and out of character behaviour that we will be addressing.

Sometimes children fall out and very occasionally this can become a physical argument. However, this is a very rare occurrence and is not behaviour that we normally see at The Mandevice School.

The main reason I am writing to you however, is not about these two events. They are being addressed directly, and Senior Leaders have already been in contact with students' parents. I am writing to you because of the immature reaction and behaviour of many other students at both break and lunch time, to these events.

When there is an altercation between two students, it is very common for other students to crowd around to try and see what is happening. But today students' behaviour in relation to this was unacceptable. As a result, some students created extended false alarms and encouraged other students to run to another area of the school to create a disturbance. This led to a very dysregulated end of both break time and lunch time. It is clear that a small number of students engineered this behaviour, probably because they thought it was funny. I can assure you that we do not see it as funny and we will now have to take steps to address this behaviour and the disruption to learning. Once students returned to lessons, they were calm and re engaged in their learning.

It was overheard that some students were planning to cause a disruption again during the lesson 4 - 5 change over. Because lesson 4 started later than usual, we decided to run a double lesson across period 4 and 5 to allow the students "excitement" to clear. We also decided to operate a staggered dismissal from school to ensure that students leave the building in an orderly and well-behaved manner. While we do not anticipate any unruly behaviour in the local area, we have also informed Thames Valley Police and ensured a strong staff presence outside and around school.

On Wednesday, there will be rolling assemblies with all year groups to reset expectations. Behaviour at The Mandevice School has been excellent in recent years. Like at all schools there can be falling outs between students, but generally behaviour is good at this school. Today, the students let themselves down.

Head of School: Mrs Sara Durose

The Mandevice School, Ellen Road, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP21 8ES

Tel: 01296 745400 - www.mandeville.bucks.sch.uk - email: office@mandeville.school

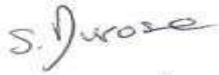
There will be further consequences for some students as a result of their behaviour today. Students at school need to follow the instructions of staff. As I am sure you will agree this is non-negotiable. Some students today did not do this and that helped to fuel the inappropriate behaviour. I would appreciate it if you could speak to your child about today and support us by reinforcing that behaviour at school is non-negotiable and a clear expectation.

Some of our students will have been worried and concerned about some of the behaviour they saw today. Students with SEND may have been particularly upset or overwhelmed by the behaviour at lunch time. The SEND Team were out in lessons during period 4 and 5 to check on students. Some students joined the team in the SEND Base as they felt more comfortable there. These students should not have been allowed to be made feel uncomfortable in school by other students engaging in silly and disruptive behaviour. This will be addressed in our Assemblies across tomorrow.

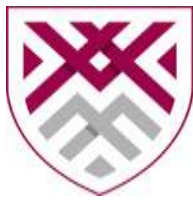
I would like to thank you for your support and would like to assure you that we will be directly addressing today's behaviour, issuing strict sanctions to those who were involved and taking clear steps to ensure that it does not happen again.

I also would like to thank and celebrate the staff at school. They acted with absolute professionalism and patience today. What has also been very positive to see is that when students returned to class, it was clear that the relationship between staff and students was still firmly intact.

Yours sincerely



Sara Durose
Head of School



THE
**MANDEVILLE
SCHOOL**
BELIEVE · ACHIEVE · SUCCEED

Head of School: Mrs Sara Durose

The Mandeville School, Ellen Road, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP21 8ES

Tel: 01296 745400 - www.mandeville.bucks.sch.uk - email: office@mandeville.school