Dear Parents and Carers,

**Inconsiderate parking around the school**

I never enjoy having to start the week with a moan, but I have received emails from two local residents today, one in New Farthingdale and one in The Meades, both of whom felt the need to bring some inconsiderate parking by parents to my attention.

While I know that this is not everyone, but is the reserve of a small minority of parents, I cannot emphasise enough the need for parents and carers to be mindful of the fact that our school is situated in a quiet residential area of the village. As such, it is vital that all vehicles are parked with due consideration, both at the start and at the end of each school day. We work hard to maintain a positive relationship with our local residents, and I would be extremely annoyed if this were to be jeopardised by the thoughtlessness of just a few members of our school community.

Our ‘Stop ‘n’ Drop’ scheme has helped to reduce the need for parking in the mornings, but at this stage, we do not have the capacity to staff a similar scheme in the afternoons. Therefore, I must urge you to think carefully about parking somewhere that will not cause a disagreement or confrontation with local residents. More seriously, I cannot have parents or carers parking across driveways, as has been reported to me, as this could place the resident in serious jeopardy, should an emergency services team need to gain access to a property quickly.

In New Farthingdale, it is clear that parents are taking short cuts by driving up onto the grass verges, which is causing considerable damage to the grass.

I am not surprised that these residents have contacted me, and I feel that their complaints are justified. Please know that we will always keep your children safe in school until you arrive, should you need to park a little further away and walk down to the school site or if you need to drive around the block a couple of times until a parking space becomes available.

I welcome your support in this matter and hope that we can work together to be vigilant and improve this car parking situation immediately.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Stokes