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31<sup>st</sup> January 2023

Dear parents and carers

Please may I remind you that we do not allow buying and selling of **any items** in school between students. This includes sweets, drinks or any other items.

Wherever possible we keep cash in school to a minimum – we know that students having money with them can easily lead to it being lost or in more serious circumstances, being taken or even demanded by other students. We have very rarely had any of these kind of incidents over the past ten years due to our use of cashless systems for lunches and a proactive stance which prevents this from happening.

In particular I am very concerned about the appearance in school of 'Prime' drinks. We have always been clear that fizzy and energy drinks are not to be brought to school, so on those grounds alone we will confiscate them to be collected by parents/carers. However, a real worry is that these drinks are being sold for at least twice what they can be bought for in a shop and some students are feeling under pressure to buy them because they are currently a trend on social media. We regularly teach students about the need to be sceptical of claims on social media and websites but teenagers find it even more difficult than adults to resist the lure of an effective advertising campaign.

Please can I ask you to ensure that your child does not bring Prime drinks or anything similar into school; that they do not have large amounts of cash with them and that they understand that school is not an appropriate place for buying and selling goods.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Sue Gaston  
Head Teacher