

17 October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Fire Safety

I hope you are all well and that students are looking forward to the upcoming half-term.

We are aware that as Bonfire night and Halloween approaches there are usually increased instances of injuries to young people, due to home-made bonfires and firework misuse. To support parents and carers, we have attached some guidance from our safeguarding team about how young people can stay safe this autumnal season.

In addition to this, following recent issues with firework misuse in Bristol city centre, the local police have asked all schools to issue some information on their behalf.

The following message is shared on behalf of our colleagues at Avon and Somerset Police, highlighting the risks associated with fireworks misuse, the potential consequences, and the appropriate channels for reporting concerns.

"The misuse of fireworks is extremely dangerous, particularly in built-up areas where large numbers of people are present. Such behaviour can lead to serious and life-changing injuries. The police will be adopting a zero-tolerance approach to anyone found misusing, unlawfully carrying, or purchasing fireworks. Should fireworks be used irresponsibly in or around the city centre - whether over the coming weekend or at any other time - officers will use the full range of available resources to identify and, where appropriate, prosecute offenders. Offences may include assault, criminal damage, and breaches of public order. Where prosecution is not appropriate, Anti-Social Behaviour legislation may be used to prevent further incidents. This could have longer-term consequences for young people, including restrictions on their ability to access and enjoy the city centre beyond the bonfire night period.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our communities safe."

To further support parents and carers, there is a link provided below that explains the law regarding firework purchase and use for young people, the firework code and further guidance and advice for having a safe and fun-filled bonfire night.

<https://www.rospa.com/home-safety/fireworks-safety>

We will be giving further safety guidance and education to our students in the coming week.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Jon Pike

Assistant headteacher: Safeguarding, Attendance and Belonging.

St Mary Redcliffe & Temple School