



# Ellendale Elementary School

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Dear Parent / Guardian,

As some of you may already be aware, yesterday our school was in a 'hold and secure' due to a police incident in the area. Our school was in regular communication with the RCMP and followed all protocols.

Please be assured that all students are safe.

This incident serves as an important reminder to discuss "Stranger Danger" safety precautions with the students. We will be discussing this at school, but it is also important that these discussions take place at home.

Please remind your children of the following points:

- If a stranger ever approaches and offers a ride or treats (like candy or toys) or asks for help with a task (like helping find a lost dog), they should step away, yell "No!" and leave the area immediately. Always notify a parent or another trusted adult (like a teacher or grandparent) of what happened.
- Trust your instincts and your feelings. If someone makes you feel uncomfortable or if you feel like something's just not right — even if you can't explain why — walk away immediately and notify a trusted adult.
- Don't take short cuts. Use main routes...avoid lanes, forested or secluded areas.
- Walk with friends.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you will be back.
- Phone home when leaving a friend's house and say when you will be home.
- Trust your instincts and your feelings.
- Phone if you are going to be delayed, or if your plans change.

As you are all aware, communication is key when it comes to child safety. Sometimes it can be difficult to initiate a conversation about possible dangers to your children, but it is essential in preparing them in case of emergency.

Please feel free to contact the school if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Ms. Matthews