

## Hazelgrove Elementary School

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October 15, 2020

Dear families,

The district has became aware of a suspicious circumstance involving a stranger who approached a group of children in the Clayton Heights area on the evening of October 8. This individual interacted with the children and offered to let them take pictures of his vehicle. The children are safe and the Surrey RCMP is investigating.

This incident serves as an important reminder to discuss "Stranger Danger" safety precautions with our children. We have discussed these at school, but it is also important that these discussions take place at home.

Please remind your children of the following points:

- Be aware of your surroundings. If you notice anything or anyone suspicious, notify a parent or another trusted adult (like a teacher or grandparent).
- 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 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.

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,

Paul Marsden, Principal

