



**Rye Community Primary School & Pugwash Nursery**  
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Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Rye Community Primary School offers our deepest condolences to the Stapley/Pierce family, their friends and loved ones. We are saddened to learn of the death of Alfie's dad. This loss will be felt by many in our tight-knit community. Whilst we know a tragedy such as this will bring people together in support, we ask everyone to respect the family's privacy during this extremely difficult time.

We pride ourselves on making the well-being of our pupils, families and colleagues a priority. On behalf of the family, thank you for the many condolences received. However, we would like to reiterate the family's wishes that this sad loss not be discussed at school. Our school must be a safe place, where the family can still be a part of day-to-day life, but also have the space to grieve in private, knowing support is there when needed.

We are aware many of the children in Alfie's class have already been informed by their parents about this tragedy. We have reminded pupils in his class to be very sensitive toward their friend, be there to support him but not discuss the loss or ask questions. Pupils are more than welcome to speak to any members of staff about this privately at any time.

The family would appreciate you discussing this at home with your children as well as your own discretion when talking to Alfie, his siblings or the wider family.

Thank you for your understanding.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'k martin' with a long, sweeping underline.

Kelly Martin

Head of School