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## PINEDENE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## **NOTICE 27 OF 2022: SAFETY ALERT**

19 October 2022

Dear Parents,

I am informed that, this morning, before school – a Grade 7 learner of our school was robbed at gunpoint. As it is related to me, it happened as he was walking to school this morning – in Maskew Street. I have already spoken to the parent of the individual parent, but I need to address this matter with the broader Pinedene Community.

It is not safe to let your children roam the streets freely. This is exactly why we so often ask that, when learners are dropped off at school, they HAVE to enter the school grounds and stay inside. I have handled numerous incidents this week where learners get dropped off and then, instead of entering the school yard, they wander off elsewhere — to a friend's house or to a shop. The school cannot accept any responsibility for your child's safety if the rules of the school are so blatantly ignored.

Similarly, in the afternoons after school – learners must be collected from school as soon as possible. We, as a school, try our best – we have educators on duty in the Pick and Drop to do our best to ensure the safety of our learners. Unfortunately, the situation becomes more difficult to control – learners simply do not listen, run across the road and back again, there are incidents of bullying occurring after school; and our staff members sometimes suffer verbal abuse. This is not acceptable. And the answer is simple – learners need to go home after school. After all, it is your children's safety that is at risk here.

PLEASE DO NOT LET YOUR CHILD AND OUR SCHOOL BECOME PART OF THE AWFUL STATISTICS WE SO OFTEN HEAR ABOUT IN THE NEWS.

Kind regards

B. D. Du Pont (Principal)