



11<sup>th</sup> May 2011

Dear Parents,

In accordance with our policy of recent years and current guidelines, I am writing to advise you that if your child takes part in a contact sport such as rugby or hockey, then, whilst participating, a ***suitably constructed mouthguard*** should be worn.

It is important that the mouthguard is made to a specific standard by a dental surgeon. In the past, one has been able to purchase self mouldable mouthguards, but these no longer meet the minimum standard required. Sub standard mouthguards not only fail to provide the protection needed by your child, but are potentially dangerous as they can be easily dislodged and swallowed.

So, as usual, in conjunction with O - Pro, an organisation of Dental Surgeons who specialise in the provision of sports mouthguards, I am inviting parents to have the sports mouthguards made here at school. The quality of the mouthguards, which are individually named, is excellent, and in addition, the model of your child's mouth is kept by the O - Pro laboratory, so that should one be needed, a replacement can be easily supplied at a lower cost. The mouthguard price also includes very comprehensive dental insurance in the event of injury.

Whilst some children may already have a mouthguard, please take a moment to check that it still fits - a child's growth does limit their lifespan!

As per last year I have arranged for O - Pro to send a dentist to take the impressions on two dates, once this term (Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June), in order to ease congestion in early September and so that the mouthguards are ready for use on the first day of the new term. The second will be during the first week of the new school year (Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September). The mouthguards will then be manufactured and delivered back one week later.

**Please take time to look at the leaflet that will be distributed to the pupils during the week.**

**If you wish your child to have a mouthguard made by O - Pro, please complete the form and send it, immediately ( but no later than 24th June for this term's fitting) to O - PRO (not to the school). DO NOT SEND PAYMENT WITH THE FORM – the school will settle the invoice and charge the cost to your school bill.**

Yours sincerely,

Chris Fitzpatrick  
(Director of Sport).

Visit: <a href="http://www.opro.com">www.opro.com</a> Leaflets available from the School Office
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