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Dear Parent/Carer

It's that time of year again where communities will soon be enjoying celebrations including Halloween, Diwali, and Bonfire night. Children and young people will soon break up from school and whilst this provides an opportunity for families and friends to spend some enjoyable time together, I want to remind you of the dangers that this busy period poses. The darker nights will soon be upon us, so ask yourself if you know where your child is going, who they are with and what they are doing.

Fireworks provide wonderful entertainment as part of an organised display. However, they can be very dangerous when used inappropriately. Remember that in order to buy fireworks you must be over the age of 18 years old, and they can only be purchased from registered retailers. Please remind your child of this: any child or young person found in possession of, or letting off fireworks in public commits a criminal offence. More importantly, they also place themselves and members of the public in unnecessary danger.

Also, please be mindful of the vulnerable members of our community who may be fearful at this time of year. I would ask you to ensure that your child does not cause unnecessary distress through their actions, whether by involving themselves in anti-social behaviour or associating with those engaging in such behaviour.

Sandwell Police are very proud of our relationship with the young people of Sandwell and our wider communities. We encourage families to spend time with each other and enjoy the celebrations.

At the same time I would ask you, as parents/carers, to ensure that the whole of Sandwell can enjoy this time together, and that the actions of a few do not spoil the enjoyment of many. If we all ensure our own child is safe, then we can be sure others are safe too.

Regards

Sandwell Police Partnerships Team
West Bromwich Police Station