

1 May 2009

TO: PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Dear Parent/Guardian

You will be aware of the tragic deaths of two Year 10 students in St Albans this week and of a third student who is critically ill. Two of the students were from Sandringham and one from Loreto. Some Beaumont students knew one or more of the students concerned and are obviously very upset. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families, friends and schools at this time.

Tutors at Beaumont have spoken to their classes today about this and have reminded them of the 'worry box' outside the finance office which can be used confidentially by students to alert a member of staff to any problems. I have asked students to speak to staff at school if they are upset or have any concerns about these incidents or they feel their friends need extra support.

May I also take this opportunity to alert you to a number of telephone numbers which you may already have to hand:

Youth Talk is a free and confidential counselling service for 14-25 year olds based in St Albans. The telephone number is 01727 868684 and the website is <http://www.youthtalk.org.uk/>

Parentline Plus is a national charity working for and with parents. The telephone number is 0808 800 2222 and the website is <http://www.parentlineplus.org.uk>

Our *Nexus* Extended School Consortium offers a wide range of support services for children, parents and carers. These can be accessed via their website which can be found on our school website or by contacting Jo Maher, the Extended Schools Coordinator, care of Fleetville School, telephone number 01727 855134.

Please do contact us if you wish to alert us to any more individual concerns you may have or contact your own GP who can direct you to a range of additional services including counsellors.

We will do everything possible to support the students at school and, as always, we appreciate your support.

Yours sincerely



Elizabeth Hitch (Mrs)
Headteacher