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29th January 2019

**Dear Parents and Carers** 

It is with deep sadness that I am writing to confirm the death of one of our much-loved pupils, Ebony Gould in Year 8, Ebony died as a result of a tragic car accident at the weekend.

Our school community is heartbroken by this tragic accident and we are very keen to be able to offer support to all our pupils and families at this difficult time.

Our student support team and teachers are available to support all of our pupils in school but we are also working closely with The Bereavement Office and additionally, Cancer Care in Lancaster are offering bereavement counselling to pupils who need additional support.

In order to support your children at home, a range of resources are available which I would like to share with you here:

Child Bereavement UK have an excellent website with lots of guidance and support for young people available at <a href="https://www.childbereavementuk.org">www.childbereavementuk.org</a> and a free phone helpline at 0800 02 888 40;

Child Bereavement UK also recommend an app which is suitable for Apple or Android phones which has been designed by bereaved young people for bereaved young people. The app is called "Grief: Support for Young People";

Winston's Wish is a service dedicated to children and young people and their support may be accessed through www.winstonswish.org they also have a free phone link available of their website;

The Bereavement Trust have a free phone helpline available which may be accessed to support adults and children, their number is 0800 435 455.

We are very happy to talk to you about support you think your child may need in school, please do not hesitate to get in touch to discuss. Your child's House Tutor, Head of House or allocated Student Support Officer are the people that know your children best in school and will be happy to hold initial discussions with you.

As a school community we are very keen to support Ebony's family and we are also very mindful of their desire for privacy at this difficult time. We will keep you informed as to how we plan to support the family through activities in school in due course. If you would like to make a donation in Ebony's memory, a 'Just Giving' page has been set up: <a href="https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/ebony-gould?utm\_id=107&utm\_term=64J82BkVG">https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/ebony-gould?utm\_id=107&utm\_term=64J82BkVG</a>

Kind regards

Nicola Hall Headteacher

