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## **Grange Academy**

**Head Teacher: Mr Robert Johnston**

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### **Litter problem**

Dear Parent / Carer,

East Ayrshire Council recently received an enquiry from a local MSP regarding a complaint from a constituent about litter. It would appear that young people from Grange Academy are dropping their litter on their return to school from the chip shop on Bonnyton Road and the SPAR on Munro Avenue at lunchtime. As this is an ongoing problem, local residents are rightly vexed by this situation and the school's lack of success in dealing with it.

This issue, I believe, in the majority of cases, is due to our pupils simply not thinking about their actions and the impact it is having on their surroundings rather than 'bad behaviour' as such. Whatever the underlying reason, it is a problem which we must address.

All pupils will be hearing a consistent message from staff next week in school and through our pupil bulletin about litter and their obligation to ensure that they behave responsibly both in and out with school. I am also asking all parents and carers to reinforce this message at home. Please take a moment to talk to your child about being more self-aware about litter and their behaviour whilst walking to and from shops at lunchtime. Only by improving individual self-awareness of the issue with our young people will we affect a change to this problem.

Young people can receive very unfair criticism in the press and on social media these days when the truth of the matter is that the majority of them are well behaved and a credit to their families and school. Please help us build that positive image in our local community.

Thank you for your support.

Robert Johnston

Head Teacher