Hawthorn West Primary School.

Attention Glenys Williamson, Principal.

hawthornwest.ps@edumail.vic.gov.edu

Dear Ms. Williamson,

As a member of the Jewish community, I want you to know that I am personally **outraged** and offended by the manner in which you have dealt with the ongoing Antisemitic incidents that have taken place by members of your school student community.

I am **outraged** that you are not naming these incidents for what they are- make no mistake, these are not incidents of bullying. This is Antisemitism. Have the courage to call it what it is.

I am **outraged** that the public has not been informed about the way in which this Antisemitic matter has been addressed within your community. It is deeply troubling that this incident occurred with a student as young as five. Why was the victim the one who had to leave the school? Why wasn’t support put in place to ensure that this child was safe? What do you think the long term effects will be for this child?

I am **outraged** that by not naming these incidents for what they are, the leadership team of your school are contributing to the perpetuation of Antisemitism in your community. You are turning a blind eye. This is how the Holocaust started. Do not kid yourself, this is guaranteed to continue in future generations in your community unless you do something about it.

You have a unique opportunity to become a role model for addressing Antisemitism. *Edmund Burke said “ The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing”.*

I suggest that you educate yourself and your community about tolerance and acceptance of multicultural Australia which includes the Jewish community in Melbourne. There are numerous programs on offer either as an incursion or excursion which can assist you:

Anti Defamation Commission : [www.antidefamation.com.au](http://www.antidefamation.com.au)

Courage to Care : [www.couragetocare.org.au](http://www.couragetocare.org.au)

Jewish Holocaust Centre: [www.jhc.org.au](http://www.jhc.org.au)

Gen2Gen: [www.gen2gen.org.au](http://www.gen2gen.org.au)

In the words of Nelson Mandela “*Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”.*

Yours sincerely,