Heed the warning signs

FLASHES of lightning and claps of thunder are signs that there will be rain soon. After a downpour, they can still be seen and heard. It is common knowledge that lightning will strike before, during and after a wet spell.

Standing under a tree during lightning and thunder is not a good idea as two Form Four students from SM Seksyen 16 Shah Alam found out (“Student killed by lightning” – The Star, April 4).

They were under a tree at a football field near Universiti Putra Malaysia in Serdang waiting for the school bus after completing a match in the inter-school football competition.

One of the students died in hospital while the other was admitted in a semi-critical condition.

It is common sense that anyone standing or waiting under a tree during a thunderstorm runs the risk of being struck by lightning.

We should all be indoors when there is lightning and thunder, even when it is not raining.

School heads should always remind their students about the dangers of a lightning strike while outdoors.

Parents should also do the same with their children.

Not only children, but adults too, should be aware of the danger being in an open area during a thunderstorm.

This is the rainy season and what better time than this for students to be informed by their school heads during assemblies on the dos and don'ts during a thunderstorm.

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