

Tuesday 31st March 2020

Dear parent/carers,

The safeguarding of our pupils remains our number one priority at this time and we want to reinforce the importance of children being safe online.

Through Class Dojo, your child/ren's class teacher will keep you fully updated on what your child/ren are being asked to do online, including the sites they will be asked to access (if any) and will make it clear who from the school you and your child will be interacting with on Class Dojo.

However, it is likely that your child/ren will be accessing the internet beyond this. You play a key role in helping your child/ren to stay safe online. **Remember, you don't need to be an expert on the internet to help keep your child safe.**

Our advice and resources are here to support you as you support your child to use the internet **safely, responsibly and positively**. Firstly, it is important that you know what games/sites/apps your child is accessing. Just like you would never let your child leave the house without knowing where they are going, always check what sites your child is visiting on their devices and whether these are appropriate for their age. **Talk to your child about what they do online.**

Safer internet messages are also particularly important. **On our website, and in a separate Dojo message, we'll send you a copy of our online safety rules and a family agreement you can use at home to ensure your children are safe online.**

Please discuss the points below with your child:

- **Privacy settings** – Check that your child knows about the privacy settings of their favourite accounts and check together that these settings protect them from being contacted by strangers.
- **Awareness** – Discuss whether your child knows the rules about how to behave and stay safe on the sites, games and apps that they use. Check they are aware of how to block, mute and report other users that aren't behaving, and encourage them to inform you if they are concerned or upset about anything.
- **Consent** – Discuss the importance of asking others before sharing something about them (including selfies) and remind them that things which we may think are okay or funny might actually worry or upset someone else.
- **Collaborate** – The more that young children interact with parents, carers and other loved ones, the better, particularly in these times of isolation and screen time is no exception.

Alongside this, we would also like to point out some additional support available to you including tips, guides and resources through the following websites:

- [Internet Matters](#) - a site full of parent guides and information on the latest apps and games.
- [NSPCC & O2](#) - Learn how to talk to your children about e-safety.
- [CBBC Own It](#) - A page for Y5 & Y6 children all about e-safety.

- [Children's information](#) - Thinkuknow website with information for parents, carers and children of all ages.

Further support and guidance can be found on the school's website by clicking the 'Staying Safe' section and choosing our 'Online Safety' page.

For any safeguarding concerns, get in touch with us over the phone, on ClassDojo or use please click the 'Speak Out' button on the top bar on the school website and fill out the online form:



Keep well and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Fowlie