

6th September 2012

Dear Parents

In order to increase parental awareness about internet safety we have organised an E Safety meeting for parents with children in Years 1, 2, 3 & 4. Parents will be shown a DVD and then be given the opportunity to ask questions or discuss any concerns they may have. The meeting will take place in the IT Suite on **Thursday 20th September 2012 at 2:00pm** and should last about half an hour. The meeting will be led by Sophia Khan an LA IT Consultant.

The internet has become an excellent resource for information gathering and entertainment for children, but there is also risk involved. Internet content may be inappropriate and bullying can be an issue through internet chat sites. Please read the points below that will help you to safeguard your children.

1. Keep access to the internet in a room where all the family can be, not a bedroom
2. Be proactive and show an interest in what your child is doing on line
3. Put time limits on your child's internet activity
4. Use a good anti virus program and always keep it up to date
5. Check your internet browser to see what sites have been accessed
6. Teach your child to be as careful about strangers on line as they are in the street.
7. Ask your child to share their online user name and password.

Social networking sites such as Facebook and MSN Messenger are for anyone aged 13 and over, so if your child is a member of such a site, they have given false information. Please make your child aware of the following information.

1. Only accept people you know as friends. If you don't know them, don't invite them.
2. Make sure your privacy settings do not allow people who are not your friends to access your information including viewing and copying your photos.
3. Think about others. Do not publish photos or comments about people you know if you think it will embarrass them. Ask permission first
4. Do not use websites to bully others.
5. Don't publish private information such as addresses or phone numbers.

Last year children in Year 4 took part in E Safety training led by an LA IT Consultant. During the session the children discussed their use of the internet at home and it became apparent that a number of children were accessing U-tube, which has a lot of inappropriate content.

If you come across a website that concerns you because of content or online activity you feel is inappropriate, you can contact the Internet Watch Foundation at www.iwf.org.uk

The following website will help to keep your child safe www.ceop.gov.uk

I hope that you are able to attend the meeting.

Yours sincerely

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